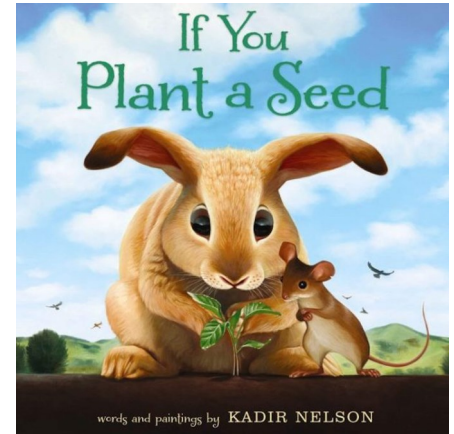


Books of the Month

If You Plant a Seed by Kadir Nelson

Kadir Nelson is beloved for his gorgeous illustrations and this book is indeed beautiful, but it is also a funny story with an excellent message. Using gardening as a metaphor for kindness and empathy, the concept of 'planting' generosity is made clear for young children. The wordless pages lend themselves to conversation and the joyful tone will bring readers back again and again. Preschool.



Other fun books about Animals

Zooborns! By Andrew Bleiman—Adorable photos of baby animals at the Zoo are the stars of these picture books. The series highlights many areas of learning and the photographs are simply wonderful. All ages.

Animales salvajes by Animalitos—This is the wild animals edition of this adorable board book series. The others include Farm Animals, Animal Colors, and Numbers—all board books in Spanish. Infants.

Wild About Us by Karen Beaumont—An amusing look at the ways that particular animals are special. Preschoolers will enjoy the wonderful illustrations and the idea that we are all unique and wonderful.

Who Has These Feet? by Laura Hulbert – This informational book is adorable and interactive. Children love calling out the answers to the questions. Preschool.

The Baby Beebe Bird by Diane Redfield Massie—The animals in the Zoo are not pleased when the new Beebe bird decides to stay up all night singing. A classic for preschoolers.

If You're Hoppy by April Pulley Sayre - This retake on "If You're Happy and You Know It" features many sorts of animals and is very fun to sing!

The Animals are Sleeping by Susan Slade— A gorgeous look at sleeping animals. Toddlers and Preschool.

Spectacular Spots by Susan Stockdale – This wonderful book features a number of spotted animals showing how their spots are useful.

Rhyme of the Month

Here is a Bunny

Here is a bunny
(hold up one hand with two fingers as ears)
With ears so funny
(wiggle the finger ears)
And here is her hole in the ground
(form a circle with the other hand)
When a noise she hears, she pricks up her ears
(Straighten finger ears)
And dives in her hole in the ground
(Dive 'bunny' hand into the hole)

Poem of the Month

Giraffes

Giraffes don't huff
Or hoot or howl.
They never grump,
They never growl.
They never roar,
They never riot,
They eat green leaves
And just keep quiet.

Karla Kuskin



Free STARS trainings are listed at www.piercecountylibrary.org

You may register for STARS classes by clicking on the date of the class on the **Calendar** of the

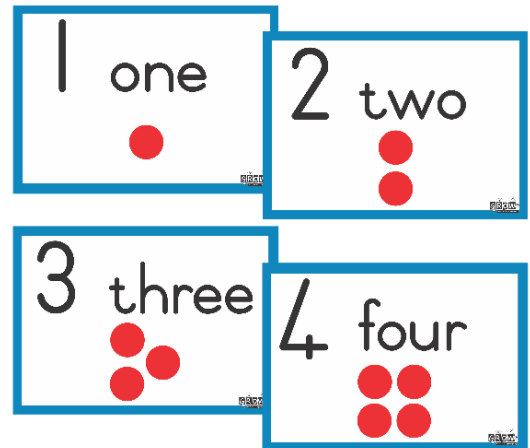
Pierce County Library website: www.piercecountylibrary.org

Learning Ideas for July:

Animal Science

Encourage each child to choose an animal. Each week, focus on finding out information about that animal.

- ◆ Engage the children in a discussion to determine what they know about that animal already and any experiences they have had with it.
- ◆ Select books about the animal from the library.
- ◆ Look up information on the Internet.
 - What does it eat?
 - Where does it live?
 - Who are its predators?
 - What are its habits?
- ◆ Print off photographs for the children to examine.
- ◆ Together, act out how the animal behaves and what sounds it might make.
- ◆ Encourage them to draw pictures of that animal.
- ◆ Make up a classroom story about it.
- ◆ Once you have explored each child's animal, talk with the children about what they remember about each one.



Numbers and Counting

Supplies

- Large index cards or pieces of paper
- Markers
- Container of small items—buttons, paper clips, beans, etc.

Write the numbers 1–10 on the index cards with their printed word as well.

Spread the cards onto a table with the container of small items.

Encourage the children to count out the number of small items that corresponds with each numeral on a card.

Count aloud at times.

Compare quantities and talk about how they are alike and how they differ.

You can find a myriad of early learning information at our website:

<http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/>

(in the parents/caregivers section of the Kids/Teens menu)