

Books of the Month

The Astonishing Secret of Awesome Man by Michael Chabon

This summer it's *Superheroes at the Library* and Michael Chabon's great book features a very endearing hero. Awesome Man wears the traditional red cape and battles such villains as Professor Evil and the Flaming Eyeball. But Awesome Man also has vulnerabilities, he perceives that he has a bit of an anger management problem. How he copes with that, and the book's surprise ending, make this a great choice for Preschool and young school-aged children.



Other fun books about Superheroes

Superworm by Julia Donaldson—A hilarious rhyming book about a thoughtful worm who helps all his bug friends, and the lengths to which they will go to protect him. Preschool and young schoolage.

Mine! by Shutta Crum—Sometimes superheroes are actually the people we are closest to. This practically wordless book will hold great appeal for young children who have a baby in their life. Toddlers.

Niño Wrestles the World! by Yuyi Morales—Adorable and funny book about a young boy and his troublesome twin hermitas!

I'm Mighty! by Kate McMullen – A little tugboat faces many challenges and shows that you don't have to be large to be 'mighty'. Preschool.

Officer Buckle and Gloria by Peggy Rathman—This classic story of a Police officer and his dog holds great appeal for preschool and young school-aged children.

Timothy and the Strong Pajamas by Viviane Schwarz – A little boy does a lot of good deeds with the help of his magic pajamas. A cute story. Preschool.

Widget by Lyn Rossiter McFarland - A little dog in a house full of cats proves his superhero status and finds a true and loving home. Preschool.

Rhyme of the Month

Some People I See

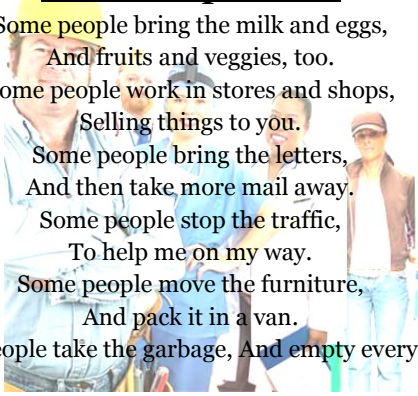
Some people bring the milk and eggs,
And fruits and veggies, too.
Some people work in stores and shops,
Selling things to you.

Some people bring the letters,
And then take more mail away.

Some people stop the traffic,
To help me on my way.

Some people move the furniture,
And pack it in a van.

Some people take the garbage, And empty every can!



Poem of the Month

Happy Thought

The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings.

Robert Louis Stevenson



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 June:

Vocabulary

The more words that a child hears before age 2, the stronger their vocabulary will be. The neuron connections in babies and toddler's brains are wired largely before age 2. These connections are stimulated by conversation, vocabulary building, and hearing the world around them described. The more you talk with young children, the more connections their neurons make and the easier it becomes to learn new words.

So be deliberate! Read, talk, narrate, tell stories whenever possible with the children in your care.



Singing

There are many early literacy skills that are easily developed when we sing with children. The lyrics of songs often rhyme and rhyme is a very important pre-reading skill.

And when we sing, we automatically divide words into smaller parts—the music notes separate and emphasize syllables—another very important pre-reading skill.

Even if you don't like to sing or are self-conscious about your singing voice, try and sing with the children every day.

One idea is to take an hour out of the day every now and then and tell the children that for that hour (or half hour or even 15 minutes) you are going to sing your speech. Every time you say something, you sing it.

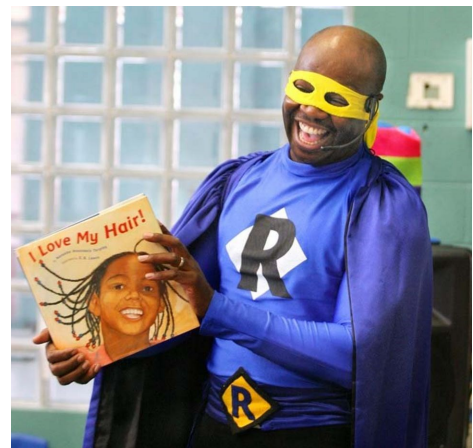
This is quite silly and fun and just may become a regular part of your day.

Superhero Me!

Spread a large sheet of brown paper on the floor. Have each child lie down on the sheet one at a time and draw that child's outline with a black marker.

Once all the children are traced, let the children decorate "themselves".

If you like, encourage them to draw themselves as a superhero. What would their power be?



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)