Books of the Month

**Sector 7** by David Wiesner
A young boy meets a little cloud on the top of the Empire State Building and they head off on an adventure. This is an award-winning wordless picture book by one of our finest and most creative Author/Illustrators. Encourage children to tell you the story as they study the vibrant illustrations. Perfect for preschool and young school-age.

Other fun books about Clouds:
- **Down Comes the Rain** by Franklyn M. Branley—This excellent book demonstrates all aspects of clouds and rain (which might have great appeal for children in the Northwest!) Older preschool and young school-age.
- **Little Cloud** by Eric Carle—A lovely yet very simple picture book about clouds. This would be a perfect book to read before cloud-watching together. Toddlers and Preschoolers.
- **The Cloud Spinner** by Michael Catchpool—An interesting folk-tale like story about a boy who spins cloth from clouds and the greedy King who learns a lesson. Older preschool and young school-age.
- **It’s Cloudy Today** by Kristin Sterling—Another wonderful book from the Lightning Bolt publisher that features straightforward information and vivid photographs; this time, all about clouds. Preschool and young school-age.
- **It Looked Like Spilt Milk** by Charles G. Shaw—There is a reason this 1947 book is still in print—the clear illustrations, the simple text, and the appealing nature of looking at clouds. All ages.
- **Elsina’s Clouds** by Jeanett Winter—A young South African girl paints on the walls of her family’s home to call the ancestors to bring clouds and rain to the sky. Preschool and young school-age.

Rhyme of the Month

**Five Little Clouds**
Five little clouds up in the sky, Drifting, floating way up high, One disappeared from the sky so blue, When a big gust of wind came blowing through. *(Everyone make blowing wind sounds)*
Four little clouds... Three little clouds... Clear Sky!

Poem of the Month

**Dragon Smoke**

- Breath and blow
- White clouds
- With every puff.
- It’s cold today
- Cold enough
- To see your breath!
- Huff!
- Breathe dragon smoke today!

~Lilian Moore

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 November:

**Mirror, Mirror**

**Supplies:**
One small mirror for each child

1. Give a mirror to each child.
2. Ask the children to look in the mirror and make silly faces.
3. Ask the children to describe what they did to make their silly face. For example, did they stick out their tongues, puff out their cheeks, or wrinkle their noses?
4. Encourage the children to do the following things:
   - Look in the mirror and describe the color of their eyes. What is something in the room that is the same color?
   - How many eyes do we have and what color are they?
   - Smile—how many teeth do you see?
   - Stick out your tongue, wiggle it.
   - What color is your hair? Is it long or short? Straight or curly? Wavy or nappy?
5. Ask a child to begin giving the directions to the rest of the children. This is a perfect opportunity for you to observe any difficulties in following directions.

From—Giant Encyclopedia of Preschool Activities for Four-Year-Olds

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**Shapes and Art**

This is a great shape recognition activity for preschool kids that also involves color recognition and hand-eye coordination. It encourages children to explore new shapes by themselves and paint without any limitations or guidelines which is fun learning!

You will need:
- White Paper
- Crayons
- Water colors
- Paintbrushes

Directions:
Encourage the children to use the crayons and draw as many shapes as they can on the paper. This part of the preschool activity will help them discover new shapes by chance!

Next, ask them to dip their paintbrushes in water color and paint over the shapes that they made with crayons.

The shapes will pop up from the layer of water color and the paintings will look like a beautiful masterpiece!

Use the painting to talk about shapes with your children and then pin the creations up around the classroom.

~From the Jumpstart website ~

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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)