BOOKS OF THE MONTH

**Look and Be Grateful** by Tomie dePaola – Super simple, super important message about being grateful for each day. Ages 4-6.

**Giving Thanks: a Native American Good Morning Message** by Chief Jake Swamp – This is a Native American Thanksgiving address by a Mohawk Chief offered to Mother Earth thanking her for her bounty. Ages 5-8.

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT GRATITUDE and GIVING THANKS

**Thank You, Bees** by Toni Yuly – A beautiful, simple book about appreciating the often “unseen” things around us! Perfect for ages 2-4.

**Gracias = Thanks** by Pat Mora – Another story that celebrates everyday things and being grateful for them. This book is a bilingual book – Spanish and English! Ages 5-8.

**Before We Eat: from farm to table** by Pat Brisson – How much do we really know about the amount of work it takes (and people involved) in getting a simple meal onto our tables? This book explains each step... Ages 4-7.

**Grateful: a song of giving thanks** by John Bucchino – The text in this book is based on a song and the music is included in back. A beautiful reminder that “Whatever song life may sling, we can moan...or we can sing!” Ages 4-9.

**Singing in the Rain** by Tim Hopgood - The message of joy and gratitude in this song story is contagious! A great introduction to the popular song from the musical “Singing in the Rain” too. Ages 1-4.

**All the World** by Liz Garton Scanlon – This book takes place over the course of one day as family members discover the importance of the big and small things in their world – of course, the most important being the connections we all have to each other. Ages 3-6.

**The Thank You Book** by Mo Willems – Piggie is grateful for so many friends and for so many things but she keeps forgetting the most important one in her life, the one right in front of her – her wonderful friend Gerald! Yet another wonderful Elephant and Piggie story. Ages 4-7.

**Giving Thanks: more than 100 ways to say thank you** by Ellen Surrey – A fun and creative thank you activity book with ideas that children can practice and make at home! Ages 4-7.

**Bear Says Thanks** by Karma Wilson – All of Bear’s friends bring over gifts of food for a friendship feast but Bear has no food to share – his cupboards are bare! His friends remind him the he can share his stories and, of course, his friendship! Ages 4-7.

**The Thank You Book** by Mary Lyn Ray – A sweet and unconventional take on the messages of gratitude and friendship. Ages 5-8.

FREE STARS trainings are listed at [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://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](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org). The next STARS Class will be on Saturday, December 7th – topic NEW PICTURE BOOKS 2019!
Learning Activities for November

Gratitude Tree Scavenger Hunt

What you need:
- Paper (large and small/colorful paper)
- Glue sticks
- Pencils, crayons, or markers

Draw the outline of a tree on a large piece of paper. Invite the children to color in the tree or draw the tree themselves and decorate it. Cut out leaves of all sizes, shapes, and colors. On the leaves, write what you are thankful for. Children can write out what they are thankful for or tell you for you to write on a leaf.

Everyone gets to hide their leaves around your classroom or home! You can hide extras for children to discover. As children find the leaves, read aloud what each leaf says and they glue the leaves onto the tree. The child who finds the leaf can choose where that leaf goes on the tree and glue it on.

This is a fun activity for teaching about gratitude but it is also great for talking about different colors, shapes, comparing sizes of the leaves, and practicing writing!

Gratitude Quilts and Paper Chains
[https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/gratitude_activities_for_the_classroom](https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/gratitude_activities_for_the_classroom)

- **Quilts** – Give each child a 5” X 5” blank piece of paper to draw a picture of something that they are thankful for. Mount each square on a 6” X 6” colored piece of paper and then piece the squares together. This will create a wonderful classroom gratitude quilt! Display on a wall around your room.

- **Paper Chains** – Invite children to write down or draw a picture of what they are thankful for on long strips of colorful paper. They can write down or draw as many as they like. Combine all the pieces of paper to create a long paper chain across your classroom. Can you go from one table to the next? One wall to the next?? How long can you make it – keep adding on!!

Song of the Month

Thanks a Lot by Raffi
*From Raffi’s Baby Beluga CD*

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Thanks a lot,
Thanks for the sun in the sky.
Thanks a lot,
Thanks for the clouds so high.
Thanks a lot,
Thanks for the whispering wind.
Thanks a lot,
Thanks for the birds in the spring.
Thanks a lot,
Thanks for the moonlit night.
Thanks a lot,
Thanks for the stars so bright.
Thanks a lot,
Thanks for the wonder in me.
Thanks a lot,
Thanks for the way I feel.
Thanks for the animals, thanks for the land,
Thanks for the people everywhere.
Thanks a lot,
Thanks for all I’ve got, thanks for all I’ve got.
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