

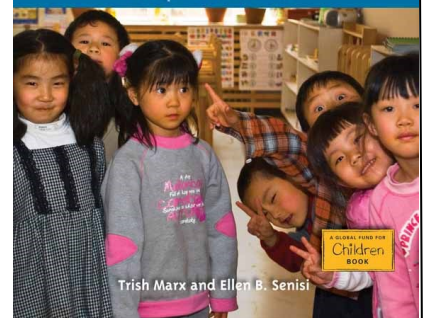
Books of the Month

Kindergarten Day: China and the USA by Trish Marx

A two-in-one book begins with a photographic look at a typical Kindergarten in the United States. Halfway through, you flip the book around, turn it over and read about a typical day in a Kindergarten in China. The photographs are vibrant and the text should interest children who are curious about starting school. Preschool and young school-age.

Kindergarten Day China and USA

A Flip-Me-Over Book



Other fun books about School

This is the Way We Go to School: A Book About Children Around the World by Edith Baer—This is a nicely illustrated, simple look at children around the world and how they get to school. Preschool and young school-age.

It's Time for Preschool by Esme Raji Codell—All aspects of a preschool day are covered in this vibrantly illustrated picture book. Comparisons with your own classroom would make this a very interactive read. Preschool.

First Day Jitters by Julie Danenberg—The surprise ending of this story will entertain everyone. Available in an English or a Spanish version. Preschool and young school-age.

School by Emily Arnold McCully—When all the older mice go off to school, little Bitty tags along. A sweet look at elementary school. Preschool and young school-age.

Rain School by James Rumford – This book follows a young boy on his first day of school in Chad, Africa. Comparing schools in the United States with his school might spark interesting observations and conversation. Preschool and young school-age.

Dinosaur vs. School by Bob Shea – Another hilarious addition to the Dinosaur vs. series. Preschool.

Mom, It's My First Day of Kindergarten by Hyewon Yum—A young boy's mother is skittish about his starting school for the first time in this interesting take on first day of school. Preschool and young school-age.

Rhyme of the Month

I AM

(Tune: "Frere Jacques")

I am _____,

I am _____,

That's my name,

That's my name,

I am glad to be here,

I am glad to be here,

At school today,

At school today.

Poem of the Month

Big

Now I can catch and throw a ball

And spell

Cat. Dog.

And Pig.

I have finished being small

And started being big.

Dorothy Aldis



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 September:

Nature Color Hunt

Print or paint the name of different natural colors on paper bags (if possible, use the color paint to match the color name.) Let the children select a bag and encourage them to collect items from outside that match the color that they chose.

At circle time, examine and talk together about the items that each child collected. What are they? What color? How are they useful in nature? Etc. When you have examined all the items, put out pieces of cardboard and glue and have the children create nature collages using their items.



School

Engage the children in a conversation about school. What do they know about it? Do they know someone who is currently in school? What have they heard about it? Are they excited about school? Scared? Compare your classroom with what children might find in a Kindergarten classroom. Look for the things that are similar and different and talk about them together.



Seeds

Gather seeds, leaves and fruits from a variety of different plants and trees for the children to explore. Match the seeds to the real trees if you can see them, or photos of the trees if they are not near you. Engage the children in a conversation about the life cycle of these plants. What stage in the life cycle happens in September? What is the next stage? What are the children's favorite plant foods? Etc.

Using a healthy amount of glue, write the first letter of each child's name on separate pieces of paper. Place a bowl of birdseed with a spoon in it on the center of the table and let the children decorate their letters with the seed.

Place a bowl of seeds and an empty bowl out on a table with a few spoons and some tweezers. Encourage the children to move seeds from one bowl to another. This gives them the chance to practice scooping and pinching which are both wonderful pre-writing practice skills.

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)