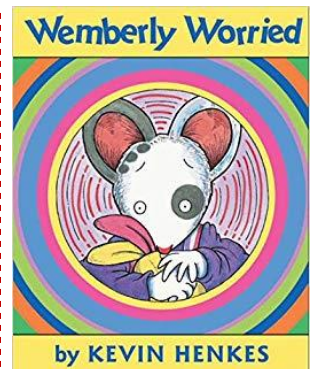


BOOKS OF THE MONTH

Wemberly Worried by Kevin Henkes – A classic!

Wemberly is a little mouse who worries about everything, especially the first day of school. But when she meets another worrywart in her class, she begins to realize that school too fun to waste her time worrying. Ages 4-7.

Brave by Stacy McAnulty – What does it mean to be brave? This touching story explores both the more traditional shows of bravery and the unconventional. Ages 4-7.



OTHER BOOKS ABOUT Overcoming Worry and Fear

First Day Jitters by Julie Dannenberg – Sara Jane Hartwell is very very nervous for the first day of school. She will be starting in a new school where she doesn't know anyone. But, despite her nervous tummy, she finds that the transition to a new school is easier than she thought – this book has a BIG SURPRISE at the end! Ages 5-7.

Froggy Goes to School by Jonathan London – Here is another story about the first day of school but this one is filled with silly sounds and a very funny Froggy who claims to never be nervous... Ages 4-7.

Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall – Today is the day that Jabari will jump off of the high dive into the swimming pool. He has passed his swim test and he is a great jumper. But as the time approaches, Jabari hesitates. With gentle reassurance from his father and baby sister, however, Jabari is able to do it. This is a wonderful story about overcoming your fears with the help of a loving parent. Ages 4-7.

The Dark by Lemony Snicket – A clever take on addressing an extremely common fear of childhood – the dark. In this story, the dark itself actually guides Laszlo (the little boy in the tale) down to the basement where there are replacement lightbulbs for his night light that has burned out. In this way, Laszlo views the dark differently and stops feeling so scared. Ages 5-7.

The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade by Justin Roberts – Almost no one notices Sally, the smallest girl in the youngest grade at school. But, one day, Sally has had enough of all the bullying she's noticed and decides to take a stand in a very noticeable way. Ages 3-7.

Tickle Monster by Edouard Manceau – Similar to the much loved *Go Away Big Green Monster!* By Ed Emberley, this story allows children to take apart the scary monster until he is gone. In this case, though, the parts of the monster's face and body create a whole new picture... Ages 3-6.

Walk On! A guide for babies of all ages by Marla Frazee – This book is all about learning to take your first step – whatever kind of step that may be... Ages 3-8.

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

The next STARS Class will be on Saturday, September 28th – topic "Circle Time Help."

Song and Rhyme of the Month

Happy Face, Happy Face, What Do You See?

Adapted from Bill Martin's

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

Sing to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star...

Happy face, happy face, what do you see?

I see a sad face looking at me.

Sad face, sad face, what do you see?

I see a mad face looking at me.

Mad face, mad face, what do you see?

I see a scared face looking at me.

Continue with sleepy face, surprised face, and any other emotions you want to include.

Finish with...

I see all my friends looking at me!

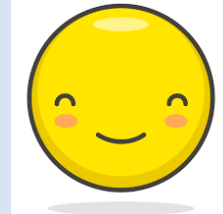
If You Chance to Meet a Frown

If you chance to meet a frown

Do not let it stay

Quickly turn it upside down

And smile that frown away!



Learning Activities for September

Get to Know You Games

Here are two game/activity ideas you could try for the first month of school. These can help children learn each other's names and get to know each other in general.

Bean Bag Toss

Stand in a circle and toss the bean bag to a child. That child says their name and their favorite ice cream flavor. Then they toss it back to you and you can toss it to another child. This game can be played each day and you can change the question each day – favorite pizza topping, favorite animal, favorite story, etc. If a child is too shy to say their name aloud, you can say it for them.

Guess Who's Missing

Decorate a large cardboard box – children can help you – or use a small tent. During circle time, invite children to close and cover their eyes. Then, quietly tap one child on the shoulder. That child will crawl into the box or tent. Then, after children open their eyes, they must guess who is missing from the circle. Emphasize the importance of keeping your eyes closed the whole time and not peeking!

Source for both of these games – came from the Teachers.Net Gazette, <https://gazette.teachers.net/>

Two Name Activities

Source – PreKinders,

<https://www.prekinders.com/>

First Letter with Stickers

Write the first letter (largely) of each child in your class's name on a piece of construction paper. Provide a large number of mini stickers. Children can stick mini stickers all over the first letter of their name.

Wax Resist Names

Write out each child's name on construction paper. Children will trace over their name with an oil pastel crayon. Then paint over it with water colors. Their name will show through the paint nicely. You can display these around your classroom after they dry. Another opportunity for children to learn each other's names and practice early writing.

