Night at the Fair by Donald Crews
The large format of this picture book and its bustling illustrations perfectly capture the Fair at night. The text is very sparse and several wordless pages offer a wonderful opportunity to encourage children to talk about what they notice about the illustrations and their own experiences at the Fair. And Donald Crews himself makes a cameo appearance at the Fair. All ages.

Other fun books about Fairs:
Roller Coaster by Marla Frazee—Frazee’s illustrations about a roller coaster ride will have everyone laughing. All ages.
Angelina at the Fair by Katharine Holabird—The beloved mouse is forced to experience the fair with her young cousin. Preschool and young school age.
The Pumpkin Fair Problem by Katharine Kenah—Triplets all want to pursue different Fair experiences in this easy reader. All ages.
At a Fair by Dana Meachen Rau—Rebus text and bright photographs show the many experiences one might have at a Country Fair. All ages.
The Roller Coaster Kid by Mary Ann Rodman—A really sweet story about family, loss, facing your fears, and yearly visits to a Fair. Young school-age.
Minerva Louise at the Fair by Janet Morgan Stoeke—The intrepid chicken visits the County Fair and, as in her other books, her adventures will have everyone laughing! All ages.

Poem of the Month

The Animal Fair
I went to the animal fair,
The birds and the beasts were there,
The big baboon by the light of the moon
Was combing his auburn hair.
The monkey bumped the skunk,
And sat on the elephant’s trunk;
The elephant sneezed and fell to his knees,
And that was the end of the monk,
The monk, the monk, the monk.

— Traditional

Rhyme of the Month

Tommy O’Flynn

Tommy O’Flynn and his old gray mare
(bounce child on knees)
got to see the county fair.
The bridge fell down
(drop knees to floor)
and the bridge fell in
(open knees and let child fall gently through)
and that was the end of Tommy O’Flynn!

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 Collages

What you need:
- Different colored paint sample cards
- Bag for collecting items
- Magnifying glass (optional)
- Light colored cardstock
- Glue

What You Do:
Bring a selection of paint sample cards to the classroom.
Give the paint cards to the children and encourage them to search for those colors outside and collect items that match and place them in their bags.
Once back inside spread one bag at a time out on a table and talk together about them. (If you have a magnifying glass, give the children time to explore the items using the glass.)
Talk about different characteristics of the treasures such as texture and size.
Once all the bags have been examined and discussed, encourage the children to glue paint cards and matching color items onto the cardstock to create nature paintings.

Autumn Tree Paintings

You will need:
Acrylic paint in fall colors like red, yellow, brown etc.
Construction paper

Directions:
Using a brush, paint each child’s hand and arm (a few inches below the wrist) in brown.
Press the hand on the construction paper to get a hand mark. This will be the trunk of the fall tree, with the fingers acting as its branches.
Set out paint in leaf colors and model for the children how they can use their fingertips to create leaves.

~From the Jumpstart website~

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)