



Spring 2011 Early Literacy Newsletter



Gardening



Spring is here! Longer days, warmer temperatures, and more rain showers bring sprouting flowers and plants. Kids like to see that they can have an impact on the world around them, and gardening can provide them with the opportunity to make a positive impact. They can see the "fruits" of their labor grow.

Here are some book suggestions to inspire young gardeners:

The Curious Garden by Peter Brown



Growing Vegetable Soup by Lois Ehlert

Vegetable Garden by Douglas Florian

Daisy's Garden by Mordcai Gerstein

Flora's Surprise by Debi Gliori



The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss

One Watermelon Seed by Celia Barker Lottridge



Bumblebee, Bumblebee, Do You Know Me?: a garden guessing game by Anne Rockwell

Mortimer's First Garden by Karma Wilson



Lenny in the Garden by Ken Wilcox-Max

Inch By Inch: The garden song by David Mallett

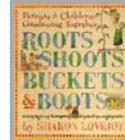
Kids' First Gardening Book J 635 Hendy



Kids Garden: The anytime, anyplace guide to sowing and growing fun J 635 Hart

A Backyard Flower Garden for Kids J 635.9 Leavitt

A Backyard Vegetable Garden for Kids J 635 Leavitt



Roots, Shoots, Buckets, and Boots: gardening together with kids 635.083 Lovejoy

Talk to kids about the garden, and have fun while helping them develop important language skills.

Early Literacy Tip

Sharing books about how characters behave in various kinds of relationships can help children think about their own behavior and how they interact with others. Take the opportunity books offer to talk about what your child thinks and what he might do.

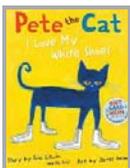
From *The Early Literacy Kit* by Betsy Diamant-Cohen & Saroj Ghoting (ALA Editions, 2009)

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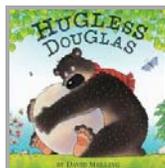
Staff Favorites

Curtis' Pick:



Pete the Cat by Eric Litwin

Dana's Pick:



Hugless Douglas by David Melling

Heidi's Pick:



Spring is Here by Will Hillenbrand

Kristin's Pick:



Little White Rabbit by Kevin Henkes

Peik-Kuan's Pick:



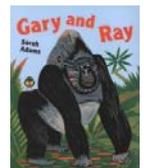
Snow Rabbit, Spring Rabbit by Il-Sung Na

Robin's Pick:



The Quiet Book by Deborah Underwood

Ruth Rose's Pick:

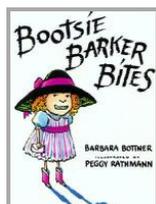


Gary and Ray by Sarah Adams

Bullies and Bullying

According to the article "Teasing and Bullying: No Laughing Matter" by Diana Townsend-Butterworth in the **Scholastic Parents Magazine**, bullying "cuts across socio-economic, racial/ethnic and cultural lines", and it can begin as early as preschool. Bullying not only takes the form of physical actions, but also includes behaviors such as name-calling, making threats, excluding children, and spreading rumors. The conscious intention to hurt another child is what makes teasing bullying, according to the author.

Communication with your child and the other important people involved in your child's life, such as teachers, school counselors, and friends, is key in helping him or her deal with bullying. The following book suggestions may open the door to more conversations and problem solving with a child who may be a victim of bullying. Teaching young children about feelings and empathy may also prevent a child from escalating teasing behaviors.



Picture Books:

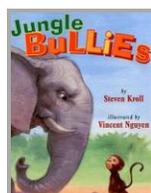
Bootsie Barker Bites by Barbara Bottner

Bootsie Barker only wants to play games in which she bites, until one day her friend comes up with a better game.



Chester Raccoon and the Big Bad Bully by Audrey Penn

When Chester tells his mother about the school bully, she asks him to gather his friends to hear a story about getting along with people who are prickly.



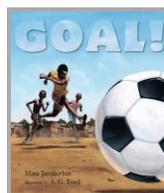
Jungle Bullies by Steven Kroll

To get what they want, the larger jungle animals bully the smaller ones until Mama Monkey shows them all the benefits of sharing.



Painting the Fire by Liz Farrington

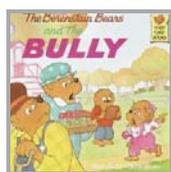
With the help of Mrs. Murgatroyd's magical paints, Ryan learns to deal with his anger and to confront the class bully.



Goal! by Mina Javaherbin

In a dangerous alley in a township in South Africa, the strength and unity which a group of young friends feel while playing soccer keep them safe when a gang of bullies arrives to cause trouble.

For more picture book titles, please see our picture book list under the subject [Bullying](http://covallis.libguides.com/picturebooks) (go to <http://covallis.libguides.com/picturebooks>, and click on picture book lists).



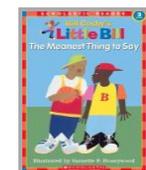
Early Readers:

Pinky and Rex and the Bully

E-R Howe, James

The Berenstain Bears and the Bullies

E-R Berens, Stan

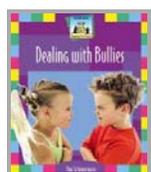


Baseball Ballerina Strikes Out

E-R Crista, Kathryn

The Meanest Thing to Say

E-R Cosby, Bill



Non-Fiction:

Stop Picking on Me—J 302.34 Thomas

Dealing with Bullies—J 303.69 Scheunem

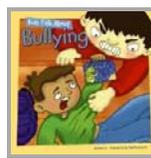
Good-bye Bully Machine—J 371.58 Fox

Kids Talk About Bullying—J 303.69 Finn

Dealing with Bullying—J 303.69 Johnston

How to Deal with Teasing—J 302.34

Fiedler



Additional Resources for Parents, Caregivers and Educators

DVDs:

Bullies are a Pain the Brain—
J DVD 302.34 Romain

Kelly Bear Teaches About Bullying—
J DVD 613 Kelly

Veggie Tales: A lesson in dealing with bullies— J DVD Veggieta

Web resources:

PBS Kids— www.pbs.org/parents/itsmylife/resources

Stop Bullying Now— www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids

Out on a Limb: A guide to getting along— urbanext.illinois.edu/conflict

Kids' Health— kidshealth.org/parent/emotions/behavior/bullies.html

Bullying in Preschool: What parents need to know—
www.education.com/magazine/article/bullying-preschool

Developing Empathy

Empathy is developed, just like most anything in a child's life, through a combination of biological or neurological maturation and social interactions with the world.

In order to develop empathy, a child must understand that another person can think and feel differently from him—a sense of "self and others". The child must be able to put himself in another person's place, and then identify how that person may feel or think in a particular situation. This ability is called the "Theory of Mind". Sounds pretty complicated, doesn't it?

Fortunately, most children develop a Theory of Mind by around 4 years old. Regardless of their age, all children can benefit from our role modeling of how to show compassion for others, and from a discussion of feelings.

Literature is a good way to assist children in learning about empathy.

"Through stories, children are able to bring meaning to their lives and make sense of their world"

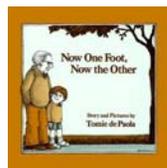
Source: Susan W. Cress, "Developing Empathy Through Children's Literature". Education, 2000.

Here are some picture books that may help:

Oma's Quilt by Paulette Bourgeois

Stellaluna by Janell Cannon

Now One Foot, Now the Other by Tomie DePaola



Cold Paws, Warm Heart by

Madeleine Floyd

Wilfrid Gordon

McDonald Patridge by Mem Fox

Jamaica's Find by

Juanita Havill

Alfie and the Birthday

Surprise by Shirley Hughes

The Peanut-Free Café

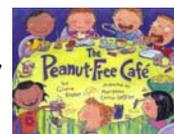
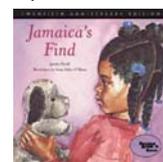
by Gloria Koster

Ian's Walk: A Story About Autism by Laurie Lears

Yes We Can by Sam McBratney

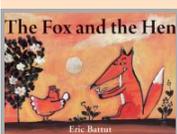
Sam's New Friend by Thierry Robberecht

Bear Feels Sick by Karma Wilson

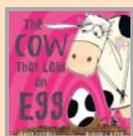


"Egg"static Stories

Square eggs, dinosaur eggs, pink eggs, goose eggs, and eggs that climb walls. Are there any other kinds? Read some of these and find out:



The Fox and the Hen—E Battut, Eric



The Cow That Laid an Egg—E Cutbill, Andy

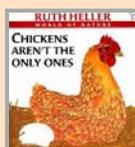


Little Grunt and the Big Egg: A prehistoric tale—E DePaola, Tomie

The Odd Egg—E Gravett, Emily

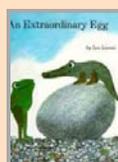


The Most Wonderful Egg in the World—E Heine, Helme



Chickens Aren't the Only Ones—E Heller, Ruth

Little Lumpty—E Imai, Miko



The Extraordinary Egg—E Lionni, Leo



The Egg—E Roberts, M.P.

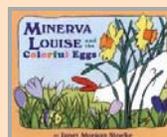


First the Egg—E Seeger, Laura



Horton Hatches the Egg—E Seuss, Dr

Minerva Louise and the Colorful Eggs—E Stoeke, Janet



SPRING RHYMES

Five Baby Chicks

My Aunt has

Five baby chicks.

One jumps,

One peeps,

And three sing

A chorus

Cinco Pollitos

Cinco pollitos

Tiene mi tía.

Uno le salta,

Otro le pía,

Y tres le cantan

La sinfonía.

Butterfly (tune: "Up on a Housetop")

First comes a butterfly and lays an egg,
Out comes a caterpillar with many legs.

Oh see the caterpillar spin & spin,
A little chrysalis to sleep in.

Ho, ho, ho, wait and see.

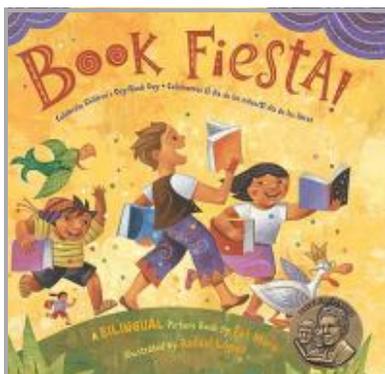
Ho, ho, ho, wait and see.

Out of the chrysalis, me oh my,
Out comes a pretty butterfly!



El día de los niños * El día de los libros Children's Day * Book Day

El día de los niños is a day created by librarians and educators as a celebration of childhood and bilingual literacy. It emphasizes the importance of advocating literacy for every child regardless of linguistic and cultural background. The celebration is cross-cultural and intergenerational. In the words of one of the founders of this annual event, author Pat Mora: "April 30th has become a



Book Fiesta!
By Pat Mora

day for remembering the power of words and books in the lives of your young people and for honoring all the languages spoken in the homes of this country. One in five of our school children comes from a home in which a language other than English is spoken. By honoring these languages, we celebrate our linguistic and cultural wealth."

Saturday, April 30th
At the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Main Meeting Room

11:00a.m.

Multilingual Storytime (English, Spanish and Mandarin)

1:30p.m.

East West Dance Celebration (children's dance group)

3:00p.m.

Clifford the Big Red Dog



Change in Bilingual Storytime

The monthly **La Fiesta de su Biblioteca** (a bilingual English/Spanish storytime program) held at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library will take place on the **2nd Saturday of the month** starting in March 2011. This is a change from the 3rd Saturday of the month. The time will remain at 11:00am. Please join us for songs, stories, crafts, and food. Children of all ages and their families are welcome.

Growing Families Together

Why Art?

A hands-on art workshop for families and kids ages 7 to 12, led by Chris Neeley of The Arts Center.

Saturday, April 16th, 2011

11 a.m. — 1 p.m.

At the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library Main Meeting Room

Growing Families Together, Free Programs on Parenting is sponsored by Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, Albany Public Library, Samaritan Health Services, LBCC, City of Corvallis Parks & Recreation, Albany Parks & Recreation, and OSU Extension.

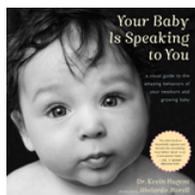


Early Literacy Activities

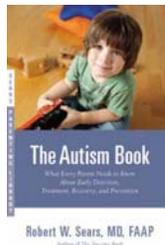
Go on a **nature walk** and collect objects along the way. When you return from your walk, have your child organize the found items into categories such as soft, hard, feathery, prickly, bumpy, smooth, edible, non-edible, or alive (bug). This is a great way to introduce new vocabulary and increase your child's narrative skills as she describes each object. You can further extend this activity in the following ways:

- Make a "feely box" using a shoe box with a lid. Make a small hole on the side of the box just big enough for a child's hand to fit through. Make a flap for the hole using a piece of cloth or paper. Put one of the found objects in the box (ask your child not to peek!), and have him describe how the object feels and guess what it may be.
- Sort the found objects into categories based on their beginning sounds. For example, feathers and flowers can be put in the beginning with /f/ sound pile, rocks and river stones in the /r/sound pile, and cattails in the /c/sound pile.

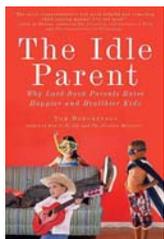
Parenting Picks



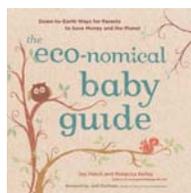
Your Baby is Speaking to You: a visual guide to the amazing behaviors of your newborn and growing baby by Dr. Kevin Nugent



The Autism Book: what every parent needs to know about early detection, treatment, recovery, and prevention by Robert W. Sears

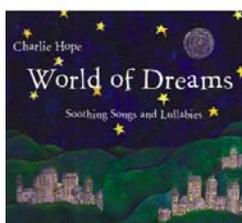


The Idle Parent: why laid-back parents raise happier and healthier kids by Tom Hodgkinson



The Eco-nomical Baby Guide: down-to-earth ways for parents to save money and the planet by Joy Hatch and Rebecca Kelley

Music Picks



World of Dreams: Soothing Songs and Lullabies
By Charlie Hope
J CD 781.523 Hope

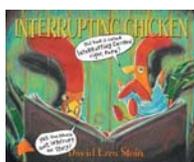


Sing It! Say It! Stamp It! Sway It! (vol. 1 & 2)
By Peter and Ellen Allard
J CD 781.58 Allard

Eleven original, soothing songs and lullabies by Charlie Hope. Transition to sleepy time with songs about a balloon, a teddy bear, dreamland, sailing on the sea, raindrops, and love.

Singable songs, chants, and circle games that are developmentally appropriate and great for story-time or anytime! A Parent's Guide to Children's Media Award Winner.

Feature Author and Illustrator: David Ezra Stein



This year, David Ezra Stein received the 2011 Caldecott Honor for his picture book "Interrupting

Chicken". The Caldecott Medal is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

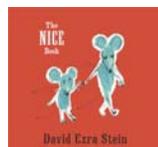
Here are more titles by David Stein to check out:



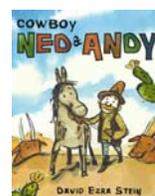
Leaves



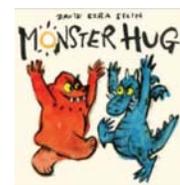
Pouch



The Nice Book



Cowboy Ned and Andy



Monster Hug

You can find out more about this author by visiting his website: www.davidezra.com



645 NW Monroe Ave.
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 Phone: 541-766-6794
 www.thebestlibrary.net

"Bringing people and information together"



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Visit the Birth to Six Blog



www.corvallislibrarybirthtosix.blogspot.com



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The 6 Early Literacy Skills

Early Literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can read or write.

The 6 early literacy skills that form the foundation for learning to read are:

1. Print Motivation: a child's interest in and enjoyment of books.
2. Vocabulary: knowing the names of things, emotions, concepts.
3. Print awareness: noticing print, knowing how to handle a book and knowing how to follow the words on a page.
4. Narrative Skill: the ability to tell a story and describe events.
5. Letter Knowledge: recognizing letters of the alphabet, and knowing that each letter is different and has its own name and sound.
6. Phonological Awareness: the ability to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words.

In the first week of each month, the library staff will highlight one of these pre-reading skills during regular storytimes at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library. This will be followed by a **Storytime Plus** program. Storytime Plus activities are designed to help parents and caregivers reinforce an early literacy skill, and will be geared towards that day's storytime age group. Some examples of activities that have been explored include: making a lift-the-flap book, paper leaf collage, hunt for print around the library, and making rhyming-word cards.

Storytime Schedule for Benton County Public Libraries

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library Storytime Schedule:

Bedtime Storytime

All Ages
 Mondays at 7:00PM

Toddler Storytime

Ages 24 months to 36 months
 Tuesdays at 10:00AM

Infant Storytime

Ages Birth to 12 months
 Wednesdays at 10:00AM

Preschool Storytime

Ages 3 to 5 years old
 Thursdays at 10:00AM

La fiesta de su biblioteca

Bilingual Family Storytime
 Second Saturdays at 11:00AM

Man With the Yellow Hat

Ages 3 and under
 First Saturdays at 11:00AM

Monroe Library Storytime Schedule:

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30AM

Philomath Community Library Storytime Schedule:

Bedtime Storytime

Tuesdays at 7:00PM

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:00AM



"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."

— Emilie Buchwald

