

Storytime Newsletter

Baker, Bradford, Union County Libraries

December – Safe Toys & Gifts Month

December 2015

Sharp or pointed edges, small removable parts and even pull strings longer than 7 inches can pose a health threat to small children. Do you know what toys are safe for your children?

Take a look at some tips for selecting safe toys for children.

- Consider the child's age, interests and skill level. Look for quality design and construction, and follow age and safety recommendations on labels.
- Use a small parts tester to determine whether small toys may present a choking hazard to children under age 3. Small parts testers can be

purchased at toy or baby specialty stores or you can use the cardboard core of a toilet paper roll - if a toy can pass through, it is too small for young children and may cause them to choke if swallowed.

- Avoid toys with sharp points or edges, toys that produce loud noises, and projectiles (such as darts).
- Avoid toys with strings, straps or cords longer than 7 inches that may pose a risk for strangulation for young children.
- Avoid electrical toys with heating elements for children under age 8.

Consider The Facts!

- Falls and choking cause most toy-related deaths. Choking alone causes one third of all toy-related deaths—most often from balloons.
- Children 4 years old and younger account for almost half of all toy-related injuries and almost all deaths.
- Children younger than age 3 are at the greatest risk of choking because they tend to put objects—especially toys—in their mouths.

Remember...the best way to keep your child safe while playing with toys is to BE THERE!

...hap.org

Storytimes at the Libraries

Bradford Co. Public Library

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays in December 2nd & 9th

10am and 1pm

Toddler Time
Fridays in December

4th & 11th @ 11am

904-368-3911

Union Co. Public Library

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays - December 3rd @ 10am & 1pm

10th @ 10am

386-496-3432

TumbleBooks

Online book service, watch a picture book or read along with the audio.

www.newriver.lib.fl.us

Dial a Story

Stories for young children, changed weekly.

496-2542

or

1-888-4ATALE1

(1-888-428-2531)

Author of the Month

Eve Bunting: Birthday — December 19, 1928

Eve Bunting grew up an only child in the village of Maghera, Northern Ireland. Her father was a "tough, gruff, old Irishman," who would read poet-

ry to her while she sat on his lap. Bunting's mother, also an avid reader, started a community lending library out of their home. When Eve was seven, her parents sent her off to boarding school,

where she received a good education and made close friends who became like sisters.

During college, Eve met and married Ed Bunting. The couple (continued on page 2)

Books to Share

Just Right for Christmas

By Birdie Black

In this celebration of the joy of giving, one snowy Christmas eve, a king buys some soft, red cloth to make the perfect Christmas gift for his daughter. Little does he know that the left-over cloth will be used to make presents for many more of the kingdom's inhabitants, right down to the last teeny bit of cloth which is made into a scarf just right for a mouse.

The Bear Santa Claus Forgot

By: Diana Kimpton

A small stuffed bear, who falls out of Santa's sack of toys into the sleigh, realizes that Santa has forgotten him. So all by himself, he must find the house where he is expected as a Christmas present. He bravely jumps out of Santa's sleigh, lands on the right housetop, and slides down the chimney. On Christmas morning, Maddie finds him in some leftover wrapping paper. Although he is somewhat damp and dirty from his adventure, Maddie loves him anyway.

Click, Clack, Ho! Ho! Ho!

By: Doreen Cronin

It's Christmas on the farm and Farmer Brown thinks he hears Santa coming. Unfortunately for him, it's not Santa but that mischievous duck getting on-to the roof and then proceeding to get stuck in the chimney. The rest of the animals try to help Duck get unstuck, only to end up stuck themselves. Who will help all the animals free themselves?



Please Say Please!: Penguin's Guide to Manners

By: Margery Cuyler

Rollicking text and a mischievous crew of playful animal guests make for an irresistible first guide to manners. Penguin is having a party, and his nine adorable animal guests aren't sure about their manners. Proper Penguin's patience is sorely tried, but by the time they say good-bye, his young guests have even learned to say, "Thank you!"

Monsters, Mind Your Manners!

By: Elizabeth Spurr

Illustrations and rhyming text reveal the terrible ways monsters may behave in one's home, on crowded sidewalks, on a bus, or at school as they do what they wish without thinking of others.

Excuse Me!

By: Lisa Kopelke

Frog has a problem. Burping makes him happy, but all the other frogs think it's disgusting. When he finds a town where everyone loves to burp, he finally realizes that the other frogs may have been right after all. This comedy of bad manners will have children laughing out loud. And they will discover, like Frog, that a little manners can go a long way. Lisa Kopelke's lively text and witty illustrations showcase Frog and his overly gassy friends. Burp! Excuse me!

Thanks to Harriet, Children's Library Assistant at New River Public Library Cooperative, for providing content for this newsletter.



Author of the Month

(continued from page 1)
delivered for a number of years in Belfast, where Ed worked as a personnel manager for an American company and Eve stayed home to take care of their three children. Ed's brother lived in the United States and encouraged them to move overseas. It was a tempting offer, because they had been

frustrated with Ireland's depressed economy, religious discrimination, and rainy climate. In 1958, the Buntings packed up and moved their life to California.

Eve Bunting began writing in 1969 when she took a writing class at Pasadena City College. In 1972 she published her first book, the retelling of an Irish

folktale from her childhood. Since then, she has published over 200 books for young readers, ranging from picture books to young adult novels. Bunting's books have received numerous awards, including the Caldecott Medal and the Golden Kite.

