

# Storytime Newsletter

Baker, Bradford, Union County Libraries

August – Children’s Eye Health & Safety Month

August 2017

Eye exams by your child’s doctor are an important way to identify problems with your child’s vision. Problems that are found early have a better chance of being treated successfully.

**What are warning signs of a vision problem?**

**Babies up to 1 year of age:**

- **Babies older than 3 months** should be able to follow or track an object, like a toy or ball, with their eyes as it moves across their field of vision. If your baby can’t make steady eye contact by this time or seems unable to see, let your child’s doctor know.
- **Before 4 months**, most babies eyes occasionally look misaligned (strabismus). However, after 4 months, inward crossing or outward drifting that occurs regularly is usually abnormal. If one of these is pre-

sent, let your child’s doctor know.

**Preschool age:**

If your child’s eyes become misaligned, let your child’s doctor know right away. However, vision problems such as a lazy eye (amblyopia) may have no warning signs, and your child may not report vision problems. That is why it’s important at this time to have your child’s vision checked. There are special test to check your child’s vision even if he cannot yet read.

**All children:**

If you notice any of the following signs or symptoms, let your child’s doctor know:

- Eyes that are misaligned (look crossed, turn out, or don’t focus together)
- White or grayish white color in the pupil
- Eyes that flutter quickly from side to side or up and down
- Eye pain, itchiness,

or discomfort reported by your child

- Redness in either eye that doesn’t go away in a few days
- Pus or crust in either eye
- Eyes that are always watery
- Drooping eyelids
- Eyes that often appear overly sensitive to light

....healthychildren.org

**Let’s talk Eye Safety:**

More than 12 million children suffer from vision impairment, and eye injuries are one of the leading causes of vision loss in children\*. There are an estimated 42,000 sports-related eye injuries each year and the majority of them happen to children.

**Children should:**

- Wear protective eyewear while participating in sports or recreational activities

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**Storytime at the Libraries**

We’ve had a great summer.

Programs are over and will resume in September.

We’re planning a great series of storytimes for the fall season.

Check your library for a schedule.



**TumbleBooks**

Online book service, watch a picture book or read along with the audio.  
[www.newriver.lib.fl.us](http://www.newriver.lib.fl.us)

**Dial a Story**

Stories for young children, changed weekly.

496-2542

or

1-888-4ATALE1

(1-888-428-2531)

# Books to Share

## This Little Pirate

By: Philemon Sturges

Two groups of piggy pirates, five on each side, fight for a big box they find on a desert island until they are so pooped that they make a truce, open the box together, and party with the food, musical instruments, and other stuff they find inside. Walrod's colorful collages join with Sturges' mischievous rhyme in a story of adventure, mayhem, and play. The funny, physical words lend themselves to repeated read-alouds, and preschoolers will discover fresh detail every time they look at the lively double-page spreads filled with dressed-up pigs—first in nasty standoffs, then happy together.



## Tough Boris

By: Mem Fox

Tough Boris is a treasure. This easy-to-read picture book features a repetitive, engaging text; a very popular subject; and an interesting subplot played out in the colorful illustrations.

Boris von der Borch is a scruffy and fearless pirate who is nonetheless tender enough to cry when his pet parrot dies. Boris and his crew dig up some buried loot and divide it (unevenly, of course), squabble over a prized violin, and enjoy the cabin boy's impromptu concert (after he's been caught stealing the instrument from Boris). As the story ends, the boy is taken ashore, mourning his exile from the ship but still clutching the precious violin.

## How I Became A Pirate

By: Melinda Long

Jeremy Jacob is building a sand castle when a pirate ship lands nearby. His parents are preoccupied with other chores, so he takes off for an adventure on the high seas to help the men bury their treasure chest. He learns that buccaneers don't bother with manners or bedtimes, which is just fine with him, but it also means no bedtime stories or being tucked in. He tries to teach the pirates to play soc-

cer, at least until the ball gets swallowed by a shark. When a storm hits, forcing the crew to return to shore, Jeremy solves the dilemma of where to bury the treasure — in his own backyard. He even makes it home in time for soccer practice.

## Pajama Pirates

By: Andrew Kramer

G'night mateys . . . Come bedtime, the pajama pirates know just what to do: put on their pj's and let the treasure hunt begin! They set sail on an adventure that's filled with enemy pirate ships, a sword fight, a streak of lightning, and a storm sent by Mama Nature herself. But have no fear—these pajama pirates will not become shark bait!

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



## August – Children's Eye Health & Safety Month

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- Play with age-appropriate toys. Avoid toys with sharp or protruding parts

One of the best ways to ensure your child keeps his/her good vision throughout life is to set a good health example.

To find more information about Children's Eye Health and Safety,

visit:

[www.preventblindness.org](http://www.preventblindness.org)

[www.aao.org](http://www.aao.org)

\*Nearly 25 percent of school-aged children have vision problems. Of children ages 3 to 5, close to one in 20 has a problem that could result in permanent vision loss if left untreated. The American Academy of Ophthalmology estimates that 80 per-

cent of preschoolers do not receive vision screenings.

....hap.org

