

Storytime Newsletter

Baker, Bradford, Union County Libraries

The Essentials of Early Literacy

February 2017

Continued from the January Newsletter these are three of the six early literacy skills that children must develop in order to increase their likelihood of reading success.

The first skill, **print motivation**, is the child's interest in, and enjoyment of, books. This is essential because when children are interested in books and enjoy them, they will want to learn to read them. Some ways in which caregivers can increase print motivation with children are: read to children early; make book sharing time a special time; let the child choose the story to be read; and do activities together, such as making a snack using a recipe and relating the importance of reading the recipe.

The second skill, **phonological awareness**, is the child's ability to hear the smaller sounds in spoken words. This is important because when children learn to distinguish the sounds within words, they are learning to read. Rhyming and singing are important activities that foster this skill. For babies and toddlers, nursery rhymes can be used to emphasize rhyming words or word families. Songs are also essential for development of this skill. Because songs often have different notes for each syllable in a word, they can make it easier for children to hear the different sounds with a word.

The third skill, **vocabulary**, is simply knowing the names for objects and ideas. Vo-

cabulary development is important for a couple of reasons. First, a child will know he is reading a word correctly if he recognizes the word and has heard it before. Second, children with larger vocabularies are better able to make sense of what they are reading. There are many ways that a child's vocabulary can be developed and enriched. Reading with children daily, pointing to objects in a book's illustrations and naming them, and talking to the child about what is going on around him are ways in which a child's vocabulary can be developed. Caregivers can also explain unfamiliar words that are contained in a book that is being read or look at picture dictionaries together.

...www.cslpreads.org

February – National Children's Dental Month

How Much Do You Know About Taking Care of Your Teeth and Gums?

Did you know that YOU hold the key to a healthy smile? And the key to avoiding many dental problems is prevention. Your smile will last a lifetime if you take good care of it. Read along

and fill in the seven missing clues to a healthy smile.

Brushing and Flossing: To prevent cavities, make sure you brush your teeth after every **m_ _ _** with toothpaste that has fluoride. Brushing will remove plaque that can lead to tooth decay. **F_ _ _ _ _**

once a day will help you get rid of any extra plaque and food that your toothbrush cannot reach.

Visiting the Dentist: Your dentist plays an important role in keeping your smile healthy and bright. It's important to (continued on page 2)

Storytimes at the Libraries

Bradford Co. Public Library

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays

10am

Toddler Time

Fridays

11am

904-368-3911

Union Co. Public Library

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays

10am and 1pm

386-496-3432

It's story
TIME
@your library™

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)

Books to Share

Hokey Pokey: Another Prickly Love Story

By: Lisa Wheeler

Cushion (the porcupine)



loves Barb (the hedgehog), but trouble is brewing in the relationship. Barb loves to dance, but "Cushion's rumba was rumped, his waltz wobbled, and his tango was totally tangled." Cushion requests dance lessons from other denizens in the petting zoo. A couple yield quite witty results, but all go nowhere. Cushion's quills quickly put an end to the proceedings. "My bottom looks like a dartboard!" says Biddy the hen while trying to teach him the funky chicken. "You're a cluck-cluck-clutz!" Of course, Cushion finds help in the place where he should have started: he and Barb wind up doing the title dance.

Amelia Bedelia's First Valentine

By: Herman Parish

Literal-minded even as a child, Amelia Bedelia muddles through Valentine's Day with her heart on her sleeve, trying to make sense of strange greetings at school and home, and ever on the

look-out for the arrows of Cupid.

The Biggest Valentine Ever

By: Steven Kroll

Best friends Desmond and Clayton want to make the perfect valentine for their teacher, Mrs. Mousely. Can Desmond and Clayton find a way to work together to make the biggest and best valentine ever?

Not This Bear!

By: Bernice Myers

Herman has made plans to visit his aunt Gert, so he sets out in his fur coat for her house. But on his way, a passing bear mistakes Herman for the Bear family's cousin Julius. The bear invites Herman home for a visit, and all the bears think Herman is Cousin Julius! Can Herman convince the Bear family that he is definitely not their cousin and most definitely not a bear?

Elmer and the Lost Teddy

By: David McKee

When Baby Elephant loses his teddy bear, it's Elmer to the rescue. Is the lost bear with Lion? With Tiger? With

Crocodile? It's getting late. Will Elmer find the lost bear in time for bed? Young children will love the gentle suspense and will rejoice in the thoroughly happy ending of Elmer and the Lost Teddy.



Reuben Runs Away

By: Richard Galbraith

Reuben, a teddy bear, believes he isn't always treated with the respect he deserves. Sometimes Anna, his owner, washes him in the sink, then hangs him from the clothes line; sometimes she tosses him out of her treehouse with a handkerchief parachute. On the day that Reuben's ear is chewed up by Anna's dog, he has had enough. Reuben runs away to the city and discovers that life at home probably wasn't as terrible as he had thought.

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



February – National Children's Dental Month

(continued from page 1)
have a dental checkup **t** _ _ _ _ a year. Remember, your dentist is a friend who is there to keep your teeth and gums looking and feeling their best!

Nutrition: Eating the right food will keep you and your mouth healthy. For a balanced diet, you should eat from the **f** _ _ _ food groups including fruits, vegetables, breads and cereals, dairy, and meat, fish and chicken. Stay away from too many

sweets like sticky candy and chocolate. Too much sugar can cause **c** _ _ _ _ _ .

Mouthguards: Millions of **t** _ _ _ _ are knocked out every year while kids are playing sports. Mouthguards, or mouth protectors, will help you prevent injury to your mouth, especially to your teeth, lips and tongue. Mouthguards should be worn while you are playing contact sports, including baseball, basketball, football, **s** _ _ _ _ , rollerblading, and

while riding your bicycle or scooter.
So how did you do? Were you able to fill in all the missing clues? You can check your answers below. Just remember, the key to a healthy smile is to brush, floss, eat right, visit your dentist regularly, and wear a mouthguard when playing contact sports.

Answers: 1. Meal 2. Flossing
3. Twice 4. Five 5. Cavities
6. Teeth 7. Soccer

...massdental.org