# **Growing Readers**

Early Literacy Newsletter
From McMinnville Public Library



#### Volume 4 Issue 2

### Spring 2012

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What is Early Literacy?
Early Literacy is what
a child knows about
reading and writing
before they can actually read or write.



### Having Fun with Language

From the time they are infants, children learn language and other important skills that will help them learn to read.

Whether your child is four days old or four years old, it is not too early or too late to help him or her develop important literacy and prereading skills. Doing this now will make it easier for your child to learn to read when he or she starts school. Play is one of the practices that the "Every Child Ready to Read" recommends to help your young child get ready to learn to read.

your child can explore the world. "Pretend play helps children think symbolically and develop oral language skills. As children play store or pretend to be an animal, they talk about what they are doing. They practice putting thoughts into words."

- •"Dramatic play helps develop narrative skills as children make up a story about what they are doing. This helps them understand that stories happen in an order: first, next, last."
- •"Make-believe also gives children a chance to act out real-life situa-

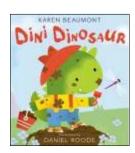
tions, work through worries and fears, and use their imagination to solve problems."

•"Play helps children feel a sense of accomplishment and selfconfidence. This motivates them to try new experiences and not to give up when something seems difficult."

Play is also fun and the more your child associates reading with fun and especially having fun with you.

The above information is from Every Child Ready to Read® is a project of the Association for Library Service to Children and the Public Library Association, divisions of the American Library Association.

### **New Books for Preschoolers**

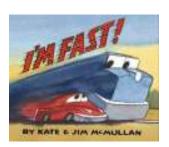


Playing is a way that

<u>Dini Dinoosaur</u> by Karen Beaumont



Boy, Bird and Dog by David McPhail



<u>I'm Fast</u>by Kate and Jim McMullan



## Milestones in Learning the Alphabet

# Milestones for preschool children

Learn to sing the alphabet song.

Understand that the alphabet song is about the shapes we call letters.

Understand that each letter has a name

Recognize their name in print.

Learn the names of the letters used in their name

Begin to write some of the letters in their name.

# Milestones for kindergartners

Learn all the letters of the alphabet.

Match uppercase and

lowercase forms.

Identify every letter in different cases and styles.

Learn to write their first and last name.

Begin to learn the common sounds that each letter represents, beginning

with the consonants.

# Milestones for first graders

Know all the letter names and sounds; identify them quickly and fluently.

Master all letter-sound matches.

Learn how to form all letters correctly.

Learn how to arrange words in alphabetical

order

# Milestones for second graders

Begin to master cursive letter formation so that handwriting is automatic

and fast.

Begin to spell conventionally.

Decode unfamiliar words quickly.

Information taken from
Every Child Ready to
Read® is a project of the
Association for Library
Service to Children and
the Public Library Association, divisions of the
American Library Association.



# Find books in bloom

Spring is in the air. Enjoy some titles about springtime.



And Then It's Spring by Julie Fogliano

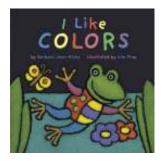


Baby Loves Spring by Karen Katz



Kitten's Spring by Eugenie Fernandes

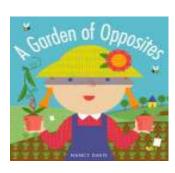
### Flower Favorites







Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert



A Garden of Opposites by Nancy Davis



### CD Pick of the season



Elizabeth Mitchell's second album, "You Are My Sunshine" is a mixture of classic children's songs and Mitchell's original songs influenced by folk, rock, and gospel. Mitchell's husband and young daughter join her in some of the songs

From Amazon.com



# Fun Activities ~ Spring Finger Plays, Songs and Rhymes

One Little Flower,
One Little Bee
One little flower, one little bee.
One little blue bird, high in the
tree.

One little brown bear smiling at me.

One is the number I like, you see

### Spring is here

(tune: Farmer in the Dell)

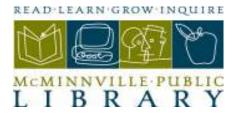
The days of Spring are here,

Warm, sunny days are near, Flowers and bees, and birds in trees.

The days of spring are here.

### It is Spring

It is Spring, it is spring
The grass is turning green
The grass is turning green
Look at all the flowers,
Look at all the flowers
Hear the birds sing,
Hear the birds sing.



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The staff at the McMinnville Public Library's Children's

Services will be more than happy to assist you with ideas and information about early literacy or to recommend age appropriate titles for your child.

Please contact us at the library in person, at our blog,
growingreaders2.blogspot.com or
at our website, www.maclibrary.org
If you want to email us please send your emails to
Diana Anderson, Children's Librarian
Diana.Anderson@ci.mcminnville.or.us





### **Emergent Reader Story Times**

1/2 hour of fun for 4 & 5 year olds that includes lively stories, silly songs, finger plays, crafts and lots of smiles!

10:00 Tuesdays, April 3– May 15

### **Infant - Toddler Story Times**

30 minute sessions with stories, songs, finger plays, storyboards & LOTS OF FUN! The emphasis is on smaller children (infants & toddlers) but older siblings are welcome to tag along.

10 and 10:45 Wednesdays, April 4– May 16

### **Busy Hands and Feet**

Children 6 and younger will enjoy a super high energy half hour of stories, music, movement and sign language.

10:30 Thursdays, April 5 & 19 and May 2 & 16