Read to Me News

From Your Public Library & Idaho's Read to Me Program

El Día de Los Niños / El Día de Los Libros

Children's Day/Book Day

Throughout Latin America, children are honored on a special day of the year. In most Latin American countries El Día de los Niños (Day of the Child) is celebrated on April 30th. This day is set aside to value and uplift children.

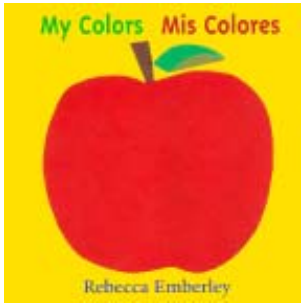
As a way of stressing the importance of bilingual literacy, several educational organizations have co-sponsored this initiative by linking the *El Día del Niños* celebration to books, libraries and reading; thus, the expanded title *Día de Los Niños/Día de Los Libros* (Day of the Children, Day of the Books).

Idaho is the first state in the nation to have an official Children's Day! It became effective in 2003 and is now a permanent observance. Many Idaho libraries and their community partners have been celebrating El Día de los Niños the past few years.

Children's days are celebrated in other nations, including Japan and Korea on May 5, Canada on November 20, Turkey on April 23 and Mexico on April 30. This is a day to celebrate the joys and wonders of childhood and the importance of books in our lives.

Book of the Month

My Colors / Mis Colores
by Rebecca Emberley



The books feature one or two words in English and Spanish on each page along with a cut-paper collage in bright colors. The simple pictures with sharply contrasting colors are ideal for infants and toddlers. Children will enjoy reading this book again and again, testing themselves in English and Spanish.

Rebecca Emberley is the author and illustrator of many books for young people and has written a whole series of bilingual board books similiar to *My Colors*. Ask your librarian for more titles by her. They include:

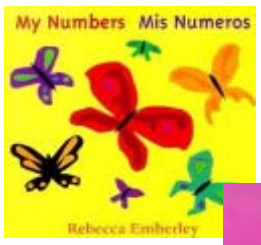
· My Numbers/ Mis Numeros

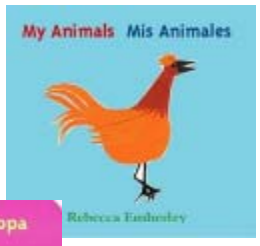
· My Animals/ Mis Animales

· My Food/ Mi Comida

· My Clothes/ Mi Ropa

· My Shapes/ Mis Formas





As author Pat Mora said, "Let's make April 30th a day for remembering the power of words and of books in the lives of all our young people. One in five children in this country come from a home in which a language other than English is the home language. By honoring these languages, we celebrate our linguistic and cultural wealth."

Bouncy Rhyme

Leg Over Leg

Leg over leg
Dog went to Dover
He came to a wall
Jump! He went over.

Cross your legs and hold baby on your ankle. Bounce baby to rhythm, lifting leg up on "Jump" or bounce baby on knees and lift on "Jump".

Song of the Month

The Bear Went Over the Mountain

To the tune of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow"

The bear went over the mountain,
The bear went over the mountain,
The bear went over the mountain,
To see what he could see.
To see what he could see.
To see what he could see.

And what do you think he saw? (spoken)

The other side of the mountain,
The other side of the mountain,
the other side of the mountain,
Is all that he did see.

So the bear went down the mountain,
The bear went down the mountain,
The bear went down the mountain,
Very happily!

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