Family Reading Week: November 16—22
AR-R-R-R-RE
You Reading?

Many parents become library users when their children are toddlers and preschoolers. Many also know how important it is to read aloud to children in order to support their reading development. However, as their children get older and become readers themselves, parents often depend more on teachers for reading support, and become less aware of how libraries can continue to support their children and themselves as they grow older.

There’s so much to see and do at your library! The library is a place the whole family can enjoy. In addition to reading and storytimes, many libraries offer game nights, arts and crafts, workshops, kids’ clubs, adult clubs, teen programs, computer access, video games, movies, music, and more.

Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is "AR-R-R-R-RE You Reading?" Libraries across the state are planning exciting pirate-themed events. Whether you plan to set sail for your local library or batten down the hatches at home, we hope your crew enjoys time reading books together!

Book of the Month

That’s Not My Pirate... written by Fiona Watt and Rachel Wells (Usborne series)

This book is just one in an award-winning series of board books with simple, repeating storylines and squishy, furry, hairy, shiny and bobbly textures to touch and feel.

Check out more of Usborne’s "That’s Not My..." books:

If your child enjoys pirate books, here are some other board books to look for at your library:

Maisy’s Pirate Treasure Hunt, Lucy Cousins
Pirates!, Board Buddies Board Books
My Pirate Ship, Peep-Through Play Books
Ahoy, Pirate Pete, Change-the-Story Books
More fun with  
_That’s Not My Pirate…_  

**Around the house…** The author uses words such as “soft,” “bumpy,” and “fluffy” to describe how things feel. As your little one touches things, help him develop words that describe how things feel. “The cat feels soft.” “This toy feels bumpy.”

**Talk and point…** Did you notice that there is a tiny mouse in each picture? Ask your child, “Where is the mouse?” and encourage her to place her finger or hand right on top of it. This will help make her hand-eye movement strong.

**Make a touch book…** Cut cardboard into same sized pieces. Put three holes in the pieces on the left side. Tie pieces together with yarn or string. Put one thing your baby or toddler likes on each page (keys, ribbon, spoon, a leaf). Talk about the things while your child touches them. “This is a shiny spoon; this is a soft, pink ribbon.”

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**Rhyme for Babies**

_A Sailor Went to Sea_

A sailor went to sea, sea, sea-  
(Hold infant in your arms as if he/she were lying in a boat and gently rock them in your arms)

To see what he could see, see, see  
(While holding infant, pretend to look around with your hand at the top of your forehead.)

But all that he could see, see, see  
(While holding infant, pretend to look around with your hand at the top of your forehead.)

Was the bottom of the deep blue sea, sea, seal  
(Tickle the infant’s belly.)

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**Fingerplay for Toddlers**

_Pirates, Pirates_

Pirates, pirates everywhere, _Motion around room_  
Pirates climbing stairs, _Climb stairs_  
Pirates giving stares, _Hand above eyes_  
Pirates shouting "Ahoy There!" _Cup hands_  
Pirates sitting on chairs. _Pretend to sit down_  
ARGH! _With frustration_  
Pirates washing hairs! _Rub hands on head_  
Pirates, pirates everywhere! _Motion around room_

(Adapted by Leila Raven Parrish, from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, 2003)

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**What your library can do for you…**

Ask your librarian about special events planned for Family Reading Week, November 16-22!

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