



For grades
K-1

The Bookworm



From your
local library
and Idaho's Read
to Me program

September, 2009

Welcome to the Read to Me *First Book* program!



Your child has received a free book today as a part of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' and your local library's Read to Me First Book program. Your child will receive a free book each month as part of the program. Your library also has some fun activities planned for parents and for families. You will be hearing more about these later in the year.

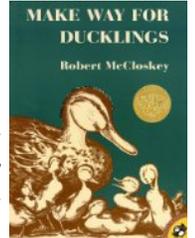
We hope you will take time to visit your library and meet the wonderful people who work there. The library has many great resources for families, and staff can find the perfect book for your child's age and interests. We hope you enjoy reading these books and sharing special time together.

Reading Tips for Parents

- Choose a quiet spot for you and your child.
- Keep books and other reading materials where your child can reach them.
- Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- Show your child how you read every day for fun and work.
- Talk about the books you are reading with your child. Help him or her make connections to what they are reading.

Book of the Month

Make Way for Ducklings, by Robert McCloskey



For more than fifty years, children have been entertained by this warm and wonderful story of the Mallard family's search for the perfect home. The award-winning illustrations help pre-readers enjoy the book with a grown up or on their own.

Other books by Robert McCloskey to enjoy:

Time of Wonder (Caldecott),

Blueberries for Sal
(Caldecott Honor),

Lentil, Homer Price



Choosing quality books: Caldecott Medal

The Caldecott Medal, named in honor of illustrator Randolph Caldecott, is awarded each year to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

Though there are many picture books that are considered high-quality for children, choosing award-winning books such as Caldecott Medal books or Caldecott Honor books are a good way to begin introducing your child to the best children's literature.

Look for the gold or silver medals at your local library.

More fun with *Make Way for Ducklings*

Geography: On a map of the United States, help your child find Idaho, then the setting of the story, Massachusetts. Explain that Idaho is in the West, while Massachusetts is in the East. Which state looks bigger? Older children can also find maps of Boston and trace the Mallards' journey.



Science and nature: Help your child make a list of questions she has about ducks. Visit your local library to check out books from the children's section. Here are a few questions to get you started: How many days does it take for a duck egg to hatch? How many eggs does a female duck usually lay?

Out and about: What are some other rhyming names for the baby ducks? You may need to choose the first name and ask your child to find others that rhyme (Mike, Ike, Pike or Finn, Winn, Chinn). This is a great game to play in the car or during "waiting" times!

Poem Behold the Duck!

Behold the duck.
It does not cluck.
A cluck it lacks.
It quacks.
It is 'specially fond
Of a puddle or pond.
When it dines or sups,
It bottoms up.

by Poet/Author Ogden Nash

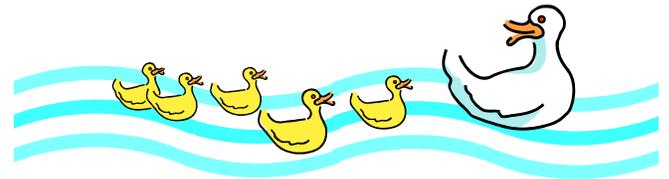


Song Six Little Ducks

Six little ducks that I once knew,
Short ones, skinny ones, fair ones too.
But the one little duck
with the feather on his back
He led the others with his quack, quack, quack!
Quack, quack quack! Quack, quack quack!
He led the others with his quack, quack, quack!

Down to the river they would go,
Wibble wobble, wibble wobble to and fro.
But the one little duck
with the feather on his back
He led the others with his quack, quack, quack!
Quack, quack quack! Quack, quack quack!
He led the others with his quack, quack, quack!

To hear the tune, go to www.kididdles.com



What your library can do for you...

"Early literacy" is what children learn about reading and writing before they learn to read and write. Children learn these skills before they start school. Check with your librarian to find out what resources are available to parents to help promote early literacy.

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