Every family has a story, and children love hearing about theirs. It’s important to hear tales of when they were younger, or where they have lived. If you have a map, globe, or access to a computer, you can show them where their ancestors came from. It is hard for children to make the connections between family relationships. You can help them by showing them family photos or creating a family tree. Make sharing family stories a family tradition!

Every April there is a celebration of children and reading, El día de los niños/El día de los libros. It is a day “for remembering the power of words and books in the lives of our young people and for honoring all the languages spoken in the homes of this country,” says Pat Mora, children’s author. Ask your librarian about special events or programs planned for El día de los niños/El día de los libros in your community.

Did you know...

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Read

**Tiger in My Soup, by Kashmira Sheth**

What kind of an adventure can be found in a book about tigers? This young boy will never know until he can get his older sister to read the book to him. Meanwhile he discovers a tiger is in the soup he is served for lunch. Where will it show up next?

Other books by this author...

**Choose Books**

Other books that celebrate children, reading, and diversity...

*Charlie Cook’s Favorite Book,* by Julia Donaldson

*Library Mouse: A World to Explore,* by Daniel Kirk

*Tomas and the Library Lady,* by Pat Mora

*Dear Primo: A Letter to My Cousin,* by Duncan Tonatiuh

*Last Stop on Market Street,* by Matt de la Peña

*All the Colors of the Earth,* by Sheila Hamanaka

Here’s how...

- Read to your child in the language that is most comfortable to you.
- Read books that feature different cultures or words so your child can be introduced to the diversity of the world they live in.
- Listen to music or watch videos from different cultures. Your local library is a good source for CDs and DVDs to borrow.
- Attend local cultural events in your community so your child can experience new food, new music, or new dancing. It is especially meaningful to attend events that reflect your family’s heritage.
Introducing your child to maps and globes is an effective way of showing them how big and diverse our world is. Children are interested in their communities and like to find places they are familiar with on maps. You can explore your community and find your own house on Google Earth: [www.google.com/earth/](http://www.google.com/earth/)

**Write**

If you have family or friends who live in different communities, states, or countries than you do, help your child write a short note or draw a picture to send to them. It is always fun for children to get mail, and they may want to become pen pals that write to each other on a regular basis. It’s a great way to practice writing skills, learn more about the world, and develop new friendships.

**Talk**

Learn to say ‘Hello’ in different languages. Make it a game to use a different language every day so your child becomes familiar with the words.

French– Bonjour (which means ‘good day’)
Spanish– Hola
Swahili– Jambo
Hebrew– Shalom
Mandarin Chinese– Nea How
Japanese– Kon-nichiwa
Italian– Ciao

Listen to a song using some of these words, “Hello to All the Children of the World”

[http://tinyurl.com/world-hello-song](http://tinyurl.com/world-hello-song)

**Sing**

**The More We Get Together**

The more we get together, together, together.
The more we get together, the happier we’ll be.
‘Cause your friends are my friends and my friends are your friends.
The more we get together, the happier we’ll be!

**En Español**

Mientras más estemos juntos, juntos, juntos
mientras más estemos juntos, más felices seremos.
Tus amigos son los míos, Y los míos son los tuyos.
Mientras más estemos juntos, ¡Más felices seremos!

**At your library...**

Your librarian can help you find books in other languages at the public library, get them on loan from other Idaho libraries, or help you access them online.