



Did you know...



During the summer our schedules change and routines are sometimes harder to keep. It is important to keep reading, talking, singing, writing, and playing with your child so their early literacy skills can continue to grow. Studies show that children who do not continue reading routines over the summer can *lose* many of the skills he developed during the school year. Look for programs at your library or in the community that will be fun and provide opportunities for your kindergartner to learn.

Most Idaho libraries offer summer reading programs, and many will have a theme this year about heroes— what better way to be your child's hero than reading to her every day and signing her up for summer reading at the library?!



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Here's how...

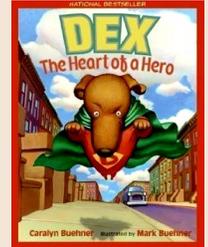


- ✦ Keep books in your purse, car, and around the house for easy access to reading for your child.
- ✦ Get your child (or family) a library card at your local public library. It's free for most people and some libraries offer free summer cards for those who live out of district.
- ✦ Let your child pick out books they enjoy, even if you have to read them over and over! When children choose books they enjoy, they learn to love reading and become better readers in school.
- ✦ Help your child set a goal of how many books they want to read over the summer and encourage them to meet that goal.

Read

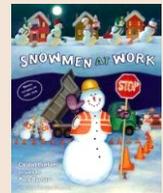


***Dex: The Heart of a Hero*, by Caralyn Buehner**



Dexter is a little dog who has big dreams. He wants to be a superhero, but he is not taken seriously by his friends because of his size. He decides to make his dream a reality by reading how to be a superhero, training to be a superhero, and buying a superhero suit. Will Dexter's dreams come true when he is needed the most?

Other books by Caralyn Buehner:



Choose Books



Superhero ABC, by Bob McLeod

Ninja! by Arree Chung

Kid Sheriff and the Terrible Toads, by Bob Shea

Officer Buckle and Gloria, by Peggy Rathmann

The Lion and the Mouse, by Jerry Pinkney

Firefighters A to Z, by Chris Demarest

Traction Man Is Here! by Mini Grey

Mercy Watson to the Rescue, by Kate DiCamillo

Talk



Talk with your child about what it means to be a hero. Do you have to have super powers to be a hero, or can average people be heroes, too? Help your child recognize heroes in:

- ✦ Sports
- ✦ Community helpers
- ✦ Leaders in the community, state, or nation
- ✦ Family members
- ✦ Animals

Write



Ask your child to think about some tips to keep your family safe around your home. Help her write a list of three to five Safety Tips and post on the refrigerator or other well-seen place.

Play



Down By the Bay

Down by the bay,
Where the watermelons grow.
Back to my home,
I dare not go.
Because if I do,
My mother will say,
"Did you ever see a bear combing his hair?"
Down by the bay.

Down by the bay,
Where the watermelons grow.
Back to my home,
I dare not go.
Because if I do,
My mother will say,
"Did you ever see a goose kissing a moose?"
Down by the bay.

This song was originally posted at:

<http://bussongs.com/songs/down-by-the-bay.php>

Sing



What Is My Job?

(to the tune of "Frere Jacques")

What is my job? What is my job?

Can you guess? Can you guess?

I help people get well,

I help people get well,

Can you guess? Can you guess?

(Other verses: *I can fix the water pipes; I deliver letters, I can teach you new things, etc.*)

<http://tinyurl.com/preschoolcommunityhelpers>



At your library...



You can read hundreds of free online books with your child by visiting your local library's website and clicking on TumbleBooks™.

