



For ages
3-5

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.

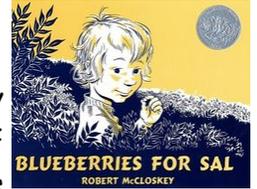
Reading Tips for Parents

- 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

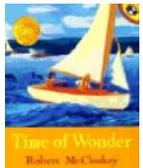
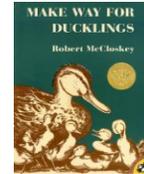
Blueberries for Sal, by Robert McCloskey

With its gentle animals, funny noises, and youthful spirit of adventure this book is perfect for reading aloud. The charming illustrations, which earned a Caldecott Honor award, will leave you and your child craving a fresh pail of blueberries of your own!



Other books by Robert McCloskey to enjoy:

Make Way for Ducklings,
Lentil, *Time of Wonder*



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 *Blueberries for Sal...*

Math connection... Give your child a handful of blueberries (or other small foods) and a small container. Ask her to count them as she puts them in the container. Counting by one's is called "one-to-one correspondence" and is an important first math skill. For older children, put a small amount of berries in two containers. Ask, "Which has more? How can we find out?" Comparing amounts is also an important skill.

Around the house... A blueberry pancake recipe you and your child can make together:

Ingredients:

1 cup flour, 1 Tbl sugar, 2 tsp baking powder, 1/4 tsp salt, 1 beaten egg, 1 cup milk (plus a little more if needed), and as many blueberries (or Idaho huckleberries) as you can fit in a pancake.



Directions:

In one mixing bowl stir together dry ingredients. In another bowl stir together wet ingredients. Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and stir until just blended and slightly lumpy.

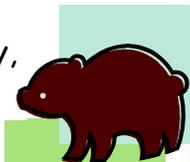
At this point you can stir the blueberries into the batter or add the blueberries to each individual pancake (a good way to make sure there are berries in every bite!).

Pour about 1/4 cup of batter onto a hot buttery griddle or frying pan. If you are adding the berries to each pancake, add them now. When the pancake turns bubbly and looks solid around the edges turn it over and cook the other side. Enjoy!

From <http://www.wondersomestorytime.com/>

Silly Tongue Twister

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear
Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair.
Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't fuzzy,
Was he?



Action Rhyme

Grizzly Bear, Grizzly Bear



Grizzly bear, grizzly bear,
Where have you been?
Over the mountains

(put one hand over eyes, pretend to look over mountains)
Such things I've seen!

Grizzly bear, grizzly bear,
What have you done?

Eaten fresh blueberries *(pretend to be eating)*
Made ripe by the sun.

Grizzly bear, grizzly bear,
What have you found?

Ice-cold spring water *(pretend to drink)*
Deep from the ground.

Grizzly bear, grizzly bear,
What do you dream?

Sweet tasting salmon *(make a swishing motion with hands)*
Swimming upstream.

Grizzly bear, grizzly bear,
Where do you creep?

Into my dark cave *(pretend to creep into a cave)*
Now let me sleep!



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.

Funding for this project is made possible by the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me program, and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under a provision of the Library Services and Technology Act.

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