Family Reading Week: November 14—20

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 through the years.

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...at no cost!

Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is “Join the Curious Crowd—Read Aloud.” Libraries across the state are planning exciting events celebrating curiosity and reading aloud. So Join the Curious Crowd this November and have fun reading aloud with your child!

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Book of the Month

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day, by Judith Viorst

Alexander wakes up with bubble gum in his hair...and from there the day only gets worse! Teacher trouble, fights with brothers, dentist visits, lima beans...sometimes kids just have bad days— even in Australia. This is a great read-aloud for the whole family!

Judith Viorst has written several favorite children’s books, including Alexander Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday and Alexander Who’s Not (Do You Hear Me? I Mean It!) Going to Move

More great read alouds:

How I Became a Pirate, Melinda Long
Too Many Toys, David Shannon
Piggie Pie, Margie Palatini
True Story of the Three Little Pigs, John Scieszka
Fancy Nancy series, Jane O’Connor
Junie B. Jones series, Barbara Park
Henry and Mudge series, Cynthia Rylant
More fun with *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*

Where in the world? “Geography” is the study of people, places and locations.

In the story, Alexander wants to move to Australia. Help your child find Australia on a map or globe.

**Math connections…** Sixteen is the number Alexander forgot in the story. Here are some fun problems to work out with your child:

Which will be longer, the Alexander book you just read, or a row of 16 pennies? Guess first, then check your guess.

Can you share 16 pennies between two people? How many would each person get? How about three people? Four people?

Outside, can you find 16 of anything?

How many tens and how many ones are in 16?

What grade will you be in when you turn 16?

### Some Counting Rhymes

#### Skip Counting — Evens

If I start with number zero (*Hold up fist*)
And jumped to two, I’d be a hero. (*Raise 2 fingers*)
And four and six and eight and ten (*Raise fingers accordingly*)
And then I’d start it all again.

#### Skip Counting — Odds

If I start with number one (*Hold up one finger*)
And skip the next one, just for fun, (*Hold up 2 more fingers*)
I’d land on number three, then skip
To five and seven and nine, then quit. (*Raise fingers accordingly*)

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**Song**

*It's a Small World*

It’s a world of laughter
A world of tears
It’s a world of hopes
And a world of fears
There’s so much that we share
That it’s time we’re aware
It’s a small world after all

**Chorus:**

*It’s a small world after all*  
*It’s a small world after all*  
*It’s a small world after all*  
*It’s a small, small world*

There is just one moon  
And one golden sun  
And a smile means  
Friendship to every one  
Though the mountains divide  
And the oceans are wide  
It’s a small world after all

**Chorus**

- Robert and Richard Sherman, 1964

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**What your library can do for you…**

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week, November 14—20.