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!

Book of the Month

Curious George, by H.A. Rey

George was a good little monkey and always very curious! This is the story of how it all started. George’s first adventure with the Man in a Yellow Hat began over 70 years ago, and children have loved reading about this lovable little monkey ever since!

About the author:

Hans and Margret Rey escaped Paris on makeshift bicycles just hours before the Nazi invasion during World War II, carrying with them a little food and the manuscript for Curious George. They eventually landed in New York City, where they published their first book in 1941. The books have sold more than 25 million copies.

Look for more Curious George books and other stories by H.A. and Margaret Rey at your local library!

More curious read-alouds:

The Curious Garden, Peter Brown
Harold and the Purple Crayon, Crockett Johnson
Corduroy, Don Freeman
Mama, Do You Love Me? Barbara Joosse
What Can You Do With a Paleta? Carmen Tafolla
More fun with Curious George...

Kitchen Science... Letting your little chef help you in the kitchen can help them build literacy skills. Here are some simple things that can go with the banana bread recipe below:

- Can you get the butter for Mommy? What do you hear at the beginning of “b-b-butter?” That’s right, a ‘buh’ sound. The letter B makes that sound. Here is the letter B on the box.
- What are some other things on the counter that start with a ‘buh’ sound? Yes, bananas! What else?
- Let’s see if we can find the word “butter” on the recipe.

Curious George Banana Bread

Ingredients
3 or 4 ripe bananas, smashed
1/3 cup melted butter
3/4 cup sugar
1 egg, beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
Pinch of salt
1 1/2 cups of all-purpose flour

Directions: No need for a mixer for this recipe. Preheat the oven to 350°F. With a wooden spoon, mix butter into the mashed bananas in a large mixing bowl. Mix in the sugar, egg, and vanilla. Sprinkle the baking soda, cinnamon and salt over the mixture and mix in. Add the flour last, mix. Pour mixture into a buttered 4x8 inch loaf pan. Bake for 1 hour. Cool on a rack.

Fingerplay

Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed

Five little monkeys jumping on the bed.
(5 fingers up)
One fell off and bumped his head.
(bump self on head)
His momma called the doctor
And the doctor said,
(motion of dialing or holding phone to ear)
“No more monkeys jumping on the bed!”
(shake finger, scolding)
Continue with 4, 3, 2, 1
Same as above until:
Zero little monkeys jumping on the bed.
None fell off and bumped their head.
Momma called the doctor
And the doctor said,
“Put those monkeys straight to bed!”
(pretend to go to sleep)

What your library can do for you...

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

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