El día de los niños/
El día de los libros
(Children's Day/Book Day)

In Latin America children are honored on a special day of the year. In most Latin American countries El día de los niños (Day of the Children) is celebrated on April 30th. This day is set aside to value and uplift children. As a way to stress the importance of bilingual literacy, several organizations worked together to link El día de los niños to books, libraries, and reading, and called the celebration “El día de Los niños/ El día de los libros” (Day of the Children, Day of the Books), or “Día” for short.

Author Pat Mora, one of the founders of Día, says, "April 30th has become 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."

Let your child know how special he or she is to you by snuggling up together with a favorite book... today and every day!

Ask your librarian about special events or programs planned for El día de los niños/ El día de los libros.

Book of the Month

Hello World! (It's a Small World series) illustrated by Nancy Kubo

Friends from around the world say, "Hello" in this colorful book. Bright illustrations will hold your little one's attention as you talk about the people, animals, and other objects on the pages. Look for other books in the It’s a Small World series at your library:

More books that celebrate children:

Carry Me, from Star Bright Books
Counting Kisses, by Karen Katz
Everywhere Babies, by Susan Meyers
Fiesta Babies, by Carmen Tafolla
Global Babies, from Global Fund for Children
Guess How Much I Love You? by Sam McBratney
I Can, Can You? by Marjorie W. Pitzer
Mama, Do You Love Me? by Barbara Josse
Pretty Brown Face, by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Ask your librarian about special events or programs planned for El día de los niños/ El día de los libros.
More fun with Hello World...

Talk about it... Talk about some of the things on the pages that your child likely has never seen before, such as the castle, the pyramid, or the Statue of Liberty.

Outside fun... Let your toddler lay on her back on the sidewalk or porch, and trace her body with a piece of sidewalk chalk. Help her color in her hair, face, clothes.

Tech time... You can find and listen to children's books in other languages at uniteforliteracy.com. Explore books in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Karen, Karenni, Korean, Navajo, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. Many of the books are nonfiction with photographic illustrations.

Rhyme for Babies

Say this rhyme with your face close to baby's:

Hello, hello, I love you very much.
Hello, hello, my fingers they can touch.
Hello, hello, I'll touch your little nose.
(touch baby's nose)
Hello, hello, I'll kiss your little nose.
(kiss baby's nose)
Repeat with baby's eyes, ears, cheek, lips

Action Rhyme for Toddlers

On my face I have a nose, (point to nose)
And way down here I have 10 toes. (touch toes)
I have two eyes that I can blink. (blink eyes)
I have a head to help me think, (hands on head)
I have a chin and very near, (point to chin)
I have two ears to help me hear. (hands on ears)
I have a mouth I use to speak, (point to mouth)
And when I run, I use my feet. (run in place)

Song

It's a Small World
- Robert and Richard Sherman, 1964

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!

Sing Chorus Again

What your library can do for you...

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.

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.

Printed 2014