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!

Book of the Month

Say Hello! by Rachel Isadora
As a family walks through their neighborhood, they share greetings with their friends in many different languages. A guide in the back of the book tells how to pronounce each greeting. Each page contains beautiful cut-paper illustrations that have lots of details to talk about with your child.

Books that celebrate a world of children...

Bein’ With You This Way, by W. Nikola-Lisa
Book Fiesta, by Pat Mora
Can You Say Peace? by Karen Katz
The Colors of Us, by Karen Katz
Grandma Calls Me Beautiful, by Barbara Joosse
I Like Myself! by Karen Beaumont
It’s OK to Be Different, by Todd Parr
Shades of People, by Shelley Rotner
The Skin You Live In, by Michael Tyler
What I Like About Me, by Allia Zobel Nolan
Whoever You Are, by Mem Fox

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

Talk about it… Point out the ways print is used in the illustrations: on shop windows, street signs, etc. Then take a walk through your neighborhood and point out similar print on shop windows, etc.

Math connections… Help your child build a neighborhood out of blocks. Talk about the different shapes and sizes. Stacking, balancing, and sorting are important math skills for preschoolers. If you don’t have blocks at home check with your library. Many Idaho libraries now have blocks for families to use in their children’s areas.

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.

Action Rhyme

Here Are My Ears

(Suit actions to words.)

Here is my nose.
Here are my fingers.
Here are my toes.
Here are my eyes,
Both open wide.
Here is my mouth
With white teeth inside.
Here is my tongue
That helps me speak.
Here is my chin,
And here are my cheeks.
Here are my hands
That help me play.
Here are my feet
For walking today.

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.

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