



For ages  
**3-5**

# The Bookworm



From your  
local library  
and Idaho's Read  
to Me program

May 2012

## Easy Ways to Keep Your Kids Reading Over the Summer

Summertime can mean new schedules, new caregivers, traveling, get-togethers, and lots of outdoor play... Here are some ways to make reading a part of your family's summer fun:

- Let your children pick out books they enjoy, even if you read them over and over again!
- Get your child (or family) a library card at your local public library. It's **free**! Many libraries offer free summer cards for those who live out of the district.
- Sign your child up for summer reading at your library and enjoy **free** programs with fun activities, storytelling, crafts and more. Many libraries have special reading programs for babies and toddlers.
- Read to your child every day. Children who are read to every day do better when they begin school!
- Set a good example: read on your own and talk to your child about what you are reading.
- Have books everywhere - in the car, in front of the TV, in the kitchen, on the porch...

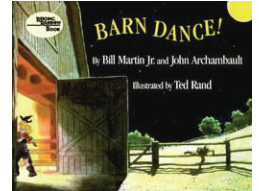
## Dream Big—Read!



This year's summer reading theme is all about nighttime and achieving dreams. Many libraries offer summer reading programs, so check out your local library's summer calendar for free children's events, storytimes, prizes, and more!

## Book of the Month

***Barn Dance!* by Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault**



In an old farmhouse in the middle of the night, a young boy awakens to a voice:

*Come a little closer...Come a little closer...  
Listen to the night... There's magic in the air...*

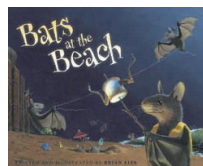
The boy sneaks outside to the barn, and hears the sound of a fiddler and the thumping of dancing feet. Who could possibly be having a barn dance in the middle of the night?!

Check out other books written by Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault:

*Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, Knots on a Counting Rope, The Ghost-Eye Tree*

## 2012 Summer Reading Illustrator:

BRIAN LIES (rhymes with "cheese") has been chosen to provide the artwork for this year's children's summer reading theme. Mr. Lies has written and/or illustrated over 25 books. Look for some of these at your library:



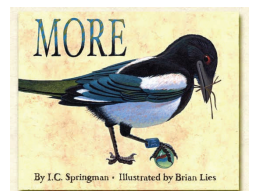
*Bats at the Beach*

*Bats at the Library*

*Bats at the Ballgame*

**New! Spring 2012:** *More*, by I.C. Springman, illustrated by Brian Lies

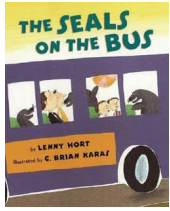
One magpie, lots of stuff, and a few friendly mice show us that less is more.



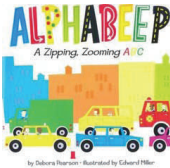
## The Six Early Literacy Skills

Each month *The Bookworm* featured one of the six skills your child should develop in order to be ready to read in school.

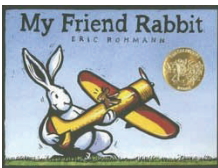
**Phonological Awareness (sounds):** Sing songs, play games, and share rhymes to help your child hear and play with the smaller sounds in words. Ask if two words rhyme, or clap syllables in words.



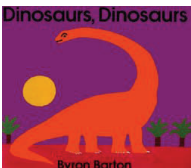
**Letter Knowledge (ABC's):** Write your child's name and talk about the letters. Make letters out of dough or string. Find letters that look the same or different.



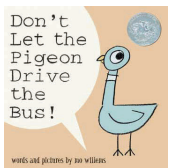
**Narrative Skills (storytelling):** Tell stories together, encourage pretend play, and ask your child lots of questions. Help him learn order: first, next, last. Have her tell you about a picture she drew, or ask what is happening in the pictures.



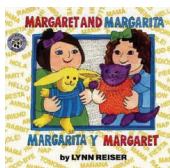
**Vocabulary (words):** Talk with your child about what is going on around her, teach her the names of objects, and ask her lots of questions. Build words by reading information books.



**Print Awareness (using books):** Point to words and pictures as you read, and let your child hold the book and turn pages. Read aloud the print on menus, labels, signs, etc.



**Print Motivation (loving books):** Begin reading to your child when she is a baby; make reading a special, cozy experience, and let your child see you reading, too.



*We hope your family has enjoyed participating in the First Book program with your library!*

## Action Rhyme

*Do the actions as you say the rhyme*

There is a little shadow  
That dances on my wall.

Sometimes it's big and scary, *(stand up tall)*  
Sometimes it's very small. *(crouch down low)*  
Sometimes it's oh so quiet, *(put finger on lips)*  
And doesn't move at all. *(stand very still)*  
Then other times it chases me, *(run in place)*  
Or bounces like a ball. *(jump up and down)*

I'd love to meet that shadow  
Who dances in the night.  
But it always runs away,  
When I turn on my light!

*(From The Big Book of Reading, Rhyming, and Resources, B. Maddigan and S. Drennan, 2005.)*

### What your library can do for you...

Did your child like the books he/she received this year? How can we make the *Read to Me First Book* program better? Be sure to fill out your **First Book Parent Survey** and return it to your child's teacher or local librarian!

*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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