Book of the Month

Lola Loves Stories, by Anna McQuinn
Lola loves Saturdays because that is the day she and her father go to the library. Each day they read a new story, and Lola’s imagination runs wild! Simple text and large, bright pictures make this book just right for sharing. Also available in Spanish.

More books by author Anna McQuinn

Lola at the Library (also available in Spanish)
Wanda’s Washing Machine
The Sleep Sheep

More books to spark imagination:

Giraffes Can’t Dance, by Giles Andreae
Higher, Higher! by Leslie Patricelli
It Looked like Spilt Milk, by Charles G. Shaw
Isabella: Star of the Story, by Jennifer Fosberry
My Garden, by Kevin Henkes
Not a Box, and Not a Stick, by Antoinette Portis
Oliver, by Birgitta Sif
Pete’s a Pizza, by William Steig
Quick as a Cricket, by Audrey Wood
Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak

Imagine That!

In order for children to understand what they are reading, they must be able to imagine what the characters are doing, why they are doing it, and what they might do next. If children have never engaged in imaginative play, it is very difficult for them to do this. Singing, talking, reading, playing, and writing/drawing with your young child every day will help her develop the skills she needs in order to learn to read. Here are some things you can do:

• Encourage your child to draw their own pictures on blank paper, rather than use coloring books.
• Make up silly songs to familiar tunes.
• Join in “pretend” play with your child.
• Read books that spark your child’s imagination.

Idaho Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is “Imagine the Fun at Your Library.” Libraries across the state are planning fun events that celebrate family reading.

Your library can help you find lots of great books that spark your child’s imagination. The library also offers storytimes, and 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!
More fun with *Lola Loves Stories*

**Book to Book Connections...** At the end of the book Lola’s dad reads her a story about a “wild and wicked monster.” The monster is actually a boy named Max dressed in a costume, and the story is *Where the Wild Things Are*, by Maurice Sendak. Look for this great book at your local library and help your child see the connection between the two books.

“**Play Literacy”**... Children enjoy trying out adult roles when they play store or doctor or house. Adults use their reading skills everyday, when shopping, working, using the telephone, visiting the doctor, so why not children? Including literacy in children’s pretend play helps make the experience richer. Children are learning when they are playing.

Here are some ideas for pretend play:

- **Veterinarian clinic**— Make signs, an appointment book, medicine bottles, a nametag for the doctor, etc. The patients are your child’s stuffed animals.
- **Grocery store**—Make a list and “shop,” adding items from around the house to a basket. You can label the items with price tags and pay with pretend money.

**Action Rhyme**

“**Storytime**”

When the sun lights up the sky  
(wave arms above head)

I sit right up and rub my eyes  
(rub eyes)

I dress myself with greatest care  
(pretend to step into pants)

I brush my teeth and comb my hair  
(pretend to brush teeth and comb hair)

Then off to story hour I go,  
(march in place)

To hear the stories  
that I love so.  
(open hands like a book)

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**Action Song**

**The Story Stomp**

First you touch your nose, then you touch your toes  
Stomp-Stomp! (stomp feet)

Then you bend your back and you start to clap  
Clap-Clap! (clap hands)

That’s the way it’s done, it’s a lot of fun  
Stomp-Stomp! (stomp feet)

Doin’ the wiggle-waggle story stomp! (wiggle hips)

Repeat 3 times, changing first line to:

Next you touch your lips, then you touch your hips  
Stomp-Stomp! ...

Then you touch your tummy and hop like a bunny  
Stomp-Stomp! ...

Now you touch your eyes and you wave bye-bye  
Stomp-Stomp! ...

**To see this song in action go to:**

http://tinyurl.com/storystomp

~Washington County Cooperative Library Services (Oregon)

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

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week!

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