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 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

Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes (traditional song), adapted by Yanitzia Canetti and illustrated by Annie Kubler

Sing along with this popular song as you show your baby/toddler the beautiful pictures that help teach him parts of the body. Here are some other titles in this award-winning series:

More Bilingual Board Books:

Fiesta Babies, by Carmen Tafolla
Rin, Rin, Rin/Do, Re, Mi, by José-Luis Orozco
Te Amo, Bebé, Little One, by Lisa Wheeler and Maribel Suarez
Buenos Dias Baby! by Libby Ellis
Libro!/Book! by Kristine O’Connell George
Global Babies/Bebes del mundo, by Maya Ajmera

Celebrating Children:

Guess How Much I Love You? by Sam McBratney
Mama, Do You Love Me? by Barbara Joosse
Counting Kisses, by Karen Katz
More, More, More, Said the Baby, by Vera Williams

Ask your librarian about special events or programs planned for El día de los niños/El día de los libros.
Help your young child get ready to read…

Did you know that singing with your baby or toddler will help her learn to read later on?

Singing is a natural way to teach young children about words. The rhythm in songs helps children hear syllables. Singing also slows down language so children can hear the different sounds that make up words. This helps when children begin to read printed words later on. Songs also have lots of “rare” words, so you can help your child build vocabulary.

**Singing with Your Child**

A common reason grown-ups don’t sing with children is that they don’t think they have a good singing voice. But young children don’t know a good singing voice from a bad one; they just want you to sing with them!

Here are some ways you can help your children get ready to read by singing with them:

- Sing the alphabet song to learn about letters.
- Sing nursery rhymes so children hear the different sounds in words.
- Practice singing and rhyming at home, in the car, while you play, and during “wait” times in lines or at the doctor’s office.
- Clap along to the rhythms in songs so children hear the syllables in words. Here is an example:

  Twink-le twink-le lit-tle star,

  How I won-der what you are.

**Song in Spanish and English**

De colores,

*De colores se visten los campos en la primavera.*

*De colores, de colores son los pajaritos que vienen de afuera.*

*De colores, de colores es el arcoiris que vemos lucir.*

Painted in colors,

*the fields are dressed in colors in the spring.*

*Painted in colors, painted in colors are the little birds which come from the outside.*

*Painted with colors, painted with colors is the rainbow that we see shining brilliantly above.*

[Listen and watch this song at: www.storyblocks.org/videos/de-colores/](http://www.storyblocks.org/videos/de-colores/)

(Chocolate Libraries for Early Literacy)

**What your library can do for you…**

Your library has picture books with songs and rhymes, music CDs, and musical DVDs that you can check out and take home.

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 2013