Family Reading Week: November 11–17

Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is “Snuggle Up and Read.” Libraries across the state are planning exciting events celebrating family reading. Your library can help you find lots of great books to snuggle up and read with your children this winter. 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!

Why Read Aloud to Your Child?

- It creates special memories and closeness between you and your child.
- It helps your child pay attention longer.
- It helps your child be curious, creative, and see pictures in her head.
- It helps your child become a better listener.
- It teaches your child about people, places, and things he has not seen.
- It helps your child learn new words.
- It supports your child’s learning, both inside and outside of school.
- It helps your child learn about himself/herself.
- You become a reading role model for your child.
- It’s fun!

Book of the Month

Snowmen at Night, by Caralyn and Mark Buehner

Have you ever wondered why your snowman looks droopy and a little worn out when you wake up in the morning? Why, it’s because of the fun-filled night adventures he’s had! Your child will be delighted to see what the snow people are up to while she is sleeping snug in her bed.

Other Snowmen books by the Buehners:

Snowmen All Year
Snowmen At Christmas

New in 2012: Snowmen at Work

Snuggle up and get cozy with these favorites...

The Snowy Day, Ezra Jack Keats
Snowballs, Lois Ehlert
The Mitten, Jan Brett
Arthur and the Big Snow, Mark Brown
Bear Snores On, Karma Wilson
Snow, Uri Shulevitz
Katy and the Big Snow, Virginia Lee Burton
Over and Under the Snow, Kate Messner
Time to Sleep, Denise Fleming
Snowflake Bentley, Jacqueline Briggs Martin
More fun with Snowmen at Night

I spy... In the back of the book are some hidden pictures for your child to look for within the illustrations. How many can you find together?

In the kitchen... Warm snowman snack: Use refrigerated biscuit dough. Give your child three of the biscuits to place next to each other in a straight line on a piece of foil (to look like a snowman). Let her use pretzel sticks and raisins for the snowman’s arms, eyes, nose, mouth, and buttons. Place foil on a cookie sheet and bake as directed on the biscuit can. Serve with butter or honey and share the treat. Enjoy on a cold winter day!

Science connections... If you’ve got snow on hand, let your child scoop some up to make some snowballs and see how long they last. Have your child use an ice cream scooper so that each snowball is the same size. Set each snowball in a pan or dish to catch the drips and then place them in different places around the room - a sunny windowsill, in a cabinet, near a heating vent. Ask your child which snowball she thinks will melt first? Visit the snowballs every 20-30 minutes and talk with your child about what is happening to each one. Why did some snowballs melt faster than others?

Song

Snowkey Pokey
(Sung to the tune of the Hokey Pokey)

You put your right mitten in, you take your right mitten out, you put your right mitten in and you shake it all about.

You do the snowkey pokey and you turn yourself around. That’s what it’s all about.

Additional verses:
You put your left mitten in . . .
You put your right boot in . . .
You put your left boot in . . .
You put your hat in . . .
You put your snowself in . . .

To listen to the tune of the Hokey Pokey visit http://bussongs.com/songs/hokey-pokey.php

Fingerplay

Five Snowmen
(To the tune of “Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed”) Match actions to words

5 happy snowmen riding on a sled,
1 fell off and bumped his head.

Frosty called the doctor and the doctor said,
“No more snowmen riding on that sled!”

Repeat with 4, 3, 2, 1

What your library can do for you...
Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week!

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