



Age Group
Kinders

The Bookworm



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

November 2013



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!

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.



Book of the Month

Skippyjon Jones, by Judy Schachner



Skippyjon Jones is a Siamese kitten who doesn't want to be an ordinary cat. While having a time-out in his room, his imagination turns him into a superhero—the great Spanish sword fighter "Skippito," who happens to be a Chihuahua. This is a wild, crazy and over-the-top adventure that is fun to read aloud. The colorful pictures, Spanish words and phrases, and funny text make it a favorite for both children and grown-ups!

If your child enjoyed this story, check out some of the other **Skippyjon Jones** books:



Skippyjon Jones in the Doghouse

Skippyjon Jones in Mummy Trouble

Skippyjon Jones and the Big Bones



Skippyjon Jones: Lost in Spice

Skippyjon Jones: Class Action

Skippyjon Jones: Cirque de Ole

More books to spark imagination:

If I Ran the Zoo and *If I Ran the Circus*, by Dr. Seuss

Isabella: Star of the Story, by Jennifer Fosberry

Not a Box, by Antoinette Portis

Oliver, by Birgitta Sif

Perfect Square, by Michael Hall

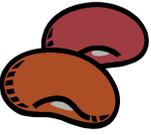
Roxaboxen, by Alice McLerran

Traction Man Is Here! by Mini Grey

Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak

More fun with *Skippyjon Jones*...

Math connection... Skippyjon pops Alfredo Buzzito like a balloon, and every kind of bean comes out! Give your child a container of mixed dried beans. Let her sort them so that "each pile is alike in some way." Encourage your child to find new ways to sort them each time, such as color, type, size, shape. Being able to sort things by different "attributes" is an important math skill!



Print motivation... Check out an information book from the library about Siamese cats or Chihuahuas.

Where in the world? "Geography" is the study of people, places and locations.

- In the story, Skippyjon travels far away to old Mexico. Help your child find Mexico on a map or globe.
- There are lots of Spanish words in the story: *muy* (much), *frijoles* (beans), *¿Por qué?* (why?), *Yo quiero* (I want), *vamos* (go/leave), *Hola, muchachitas* (Hey, girls), *Buenas noches, mis amigos* (Goodnight, my friends). Can your child find others?



Song

When Skippyjon sings his song, "Oh, my name is Skippito Friskito," he is singing to the tune of the *Mexican Hat Dance*, or *Jarabe tapatío*.

The song has become a folk dance popular throughout Mexico and the Southwestern United States as a symbol of the national pride and honor of the Mexican people.

You can hear the tune at

<http://www.janbrett.com/piggybacks/hatdance.htm>

Action Song

Here We Go Looby Loo

Here we go looby loo,
Here we go looby light,
Here we go looby loo,
All on a Saturday night.

You put your right hand in.
You take your right hand out.
You give your hand a shake, shake, shake,
And turn yourself about.

Repeat...

You put your left hand in...
You put your right foot in...
You put your left foot in...
You put your whole self in...

You can hear this song at
<http://bussongs.com/songs/here-we-go-looby-loo.php>

What your library can do for you...

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

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