



For ages
3-5

The Bookworm



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

November, 2009



Family Reading Week: November 15–21

Many parents become library users when their children are toddlers and preschoolers. Many also know how important it is to read aloud to children in order to support their reading development. However, as their children get older and become readers themselves, parents often depend more on teachers for reading support, and become less aware of how libraries can continue to support their children and themselves through the years.

There's so much to see and do at your library! The library is a place the whole family can enjoy. In addition to reading and storytimes, 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!

Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is "Idaho is Wild About Reading!" Libraries across the state are planning exciting nature-themed events. Whether you plan to hike the trail to your local library or camp out at home, we hope your family enjoys time reading books together!

Book of the Month

Big and Little, by Steve Jenkins

The pictures in this book show animals that are related to each other but are very different in size. Kids love books about animals, and this is a great book to help your child get "wild about reading!"



Author Steve Jenkins has written lots of nature books, such as:

Biggest, Strongest, Fastest

What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?

How Many Ways Can You Catch a Fly?

Brothers and Sisters

...and many more!

More great nature authors

Jim Arnosky

Jean Craighead George

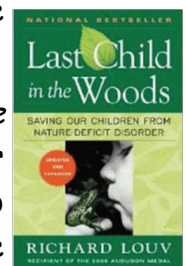
Eric Carle

Nancy Tafuri

Just for Grown-ups

Does your child have "nature deficit disorder?"

Check out *Last Child in the Woods*, by Richard Louv, for great ideas about how to re-connect your child to the great outdoors.



More fun with *Big and Little*

Math connection... Comparing the size of two objects is an important skill for young children to practice. Choose five objects in your child's room or toy chest. Hold up two of them and ask your child which is "bigger" or which is "littler." Next time change the words to "larger" and "smaller." Ask your child to put the objects in order from "littlest" to "biggest." Later compare using other words, such as "heavier" and "lighter."

World Wide Web... Here are some great internet sites for nature activities. *Tip: Your library has free internet access!*

Kids Planet: www.kidsplanet.org/games/
One fun game on this site is called, "Who Am I?"

Here are some other great nature sites:

Be Outside Campaign:
www.beoutsideidaho.org

National Wildlife Federation:
www.nwf.org/outside/

Song

"Going Camping"

(sung to I'm a Little Teapot)

I am going camping.

(point thumbs to chest)

Time to pack

(point to wristwatch)

My tent, my bedroll,

*(make tent with hands;
then fold hands to cheek)*

And a snack.

(pretend to eat)



I'll sit by the campfire

(warm hands over the fire)

Its glow so bright.

(fan and wiggle fingers)

Then snooze in my tent

(pretend to snore)

'Til the morning light!

(form sun over head)

Why Kids Need Non-Fiction

- Information books and magazines can play an important part in motivating children to read.
- There are some great, high-quality information books available now for children of all ages.
- Many kids enjoy information books as much as story books.
- Non-fiction can be a way for parents to share their interests with their children.
- Information books expose children to special vocabulary and concepts, which helps build language.
- Reading non-fiction now can help children prepare for reading these types of books later in life.



What your library can do for you...

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week, November 15–21.

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