

## Did you know...



Every family has a story, and children love hearing about theirs. It is important to hear tales of when they were younger, or where they have lived. If you have a map or globe, or access to a computer, you can show them where their ancestors came from. It is hard for children to make the connections between family relationships. You can help them by showing them family photos or creating a family tree. Make sharing family stories a family tradition!



Every April there is a celebration of children and reading, El día de los niños/ El día de los libros.

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." Ask your librarian about special events or programs planned for El día de los niños/ El día de los libros.

## Here's how...

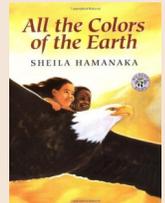


- ❖ Speak in the language that is most comfortable to you, as well as English.
- ❖ Attend special programs that teach about other cultures. Many libraries host programs, so check out their websites.
- ❖ Watch TV shows that talk about other cultures or that feature other languages, such as Dora the Explorer.
- ❖ Try food from different countries.

## Read



### **All the Colors of the Earth, by Sheila Hamanaka**



Children come in a variety of shapes and colors. This book celebrates the variety of colors of skin and hair seen around the world. "The whispering golds of late summer grasses" describes the color of a child from Asia. "The tinkling pinks of tiny seashells by the rumbling sea" describes the color of a young boy of Caucasian descent. Poetic verses using comparisons from nature introduce children to the diversity around us.

## Choose Books



### **Celebrating Children and Diversity:**

*Layla's Head Scarf*, by Miriam Cohen

*Book Fiesta!* by Pat Mora

*Ella Sarah Gets Dressed*, by Margaret Chodos-Irvine



*The Colors of Us*, by Karen Katz

*We'll Paint the Octopus Red*, by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen



*Hands & Hearts: With 15 Words in American Sign Language*, by Donna Jo Napoli

*Ian's Walk: A Story about Autism*, by Laurie Lears

*The Name Jar*, by Yangsook Choi

## Talk



Help your child understand that people speak lots of different languages, especially in America.

You can find and listen to children's books in other languages at **uniteforliteracy.com**.

Explore books in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Karen, Karenni, Korean, Navajo, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. Many of the books are nonfiction with photographic illustrations.



## Write



Computers are a tool that your child will be using in school. If you have a computer at home, allow your child to start using the keyboard so they can identify and find the letters on it. If you don't have a computer, check out Computers for Kids- <http://www.cfkidaho.org/> or go to your local library.

## Play



### Say and Do

Say "red" and touch your head.

Say "sky" and touch your eye.

Say "bear" and touch your hair.

Say "hear" and touch your ear.

Say "south" and touch your mouth.

Say "rose" and touch your nose.

Say "in" and touch your chin.

Say "rest" and touch your chest.

Say "farm" and touch your arm.

Say "yummy" and touch your tummy.

Say "bee" and touch your knee.

Say "neat" and touch your feet.

## Sing



### De Colores

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/)**

## At your library...



Your librarian can help you find books in other languages at the public library, get them on loan from other Idaho libraries, or help you access them online.