



Age Group
Kinders

The Bookworm

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

September 2013

What is Early Literacy?

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing *before* they actually learn to read and write. Helping your child develop early literacy skills will build a foundation for reading so that when they are taught to read they are ready. You can start at birth!

Reading with your kindergartener every day and teaching them about the world around them are practices that help prepare children to learn to read. This monthly newsletter will help you become more familiar with early literacy skills, and contains tips and activities you can try at home with your child. *The Bookworm* is published monthly for three age groups: Birth to 2; Preschool (3-5); and Kindergarten. You can find more Bookworms, as well as versions in Spanish, at

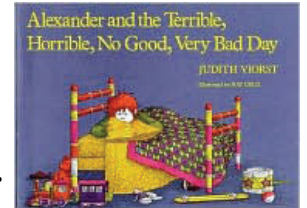
<http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/bookworm>.

Reading Tips for Parents

- Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 - 20 minutes each day.
- Keep books and other reading materials where your child can reach them.
- Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- Show your child how you read every day for fun and work (novels, newspapers, magazines, etc.).
- Visit the library or bookstore with your child to attend storytimes and choose books to read at home.

Book of the Month

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day, by Judith Viorst



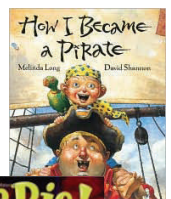
Alexander wakes up with bubble gum in his hair...and from there the day only gets worse! Teacher trouble, fights with brothers, dentist visits, lima beans... sometimes kids just have bad days— even in Australia. This is a great read-aloud for the whole family!



Judith Viorst has written several favorite children's books, including *Alexander Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday* and *Alexander Who's Not (Do You Hear Me? I Mean It!) Going to Move*

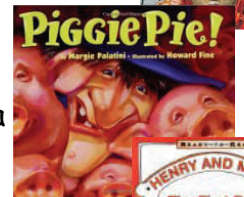
More great read alouds:

How I Became a Pirate, by Melinda Long



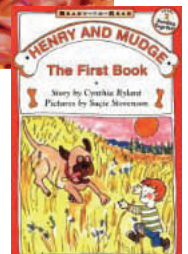
Too Many Toys, by David Shannon

Piggie Pie, by Margie Palatini



True Story of the Three Little Pigs, by John Scieszka

Fancy Nancy series, by Jane O'Connor



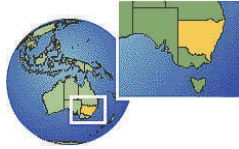
Junie B. Jones series, by Barbara Park

Henry and Mudge series, by Cynthia Rylant

More fun with *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*

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

In the story, Alexander wants to move to Australia. Help your child find Australia on a map or globe.



Math connections... Who needs 16? Sixteen is the number Alexander forgot in the story. Here are some fun problems to work out with your child:

Which will be longer, the *Alexander* book you just read, or a row of 16 pennies? Guess first, then check your guess.

Collect 16 pennies. Ask your child, "Can you share 16 pennies between two people? How many would each person get? How about three people? Four people?"

Make a collection of 16 objects (noodles, stones, cereal pieces, etc.). If the objects are different, sort them into piles that are alike.

Rhyme

Read to Me

by author Jane Yolen

Read to me riddles and read to me rhymes.

Read to me stories of magical times.

Read to me tales about castles and kings.

Read to me stories of fabulous things.

Read to me pirates and read to me knights.

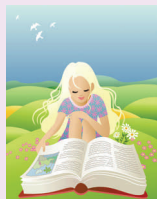
Read to me dragons and dragon-book fights.

Read to me spaceships and

cowboys and then

When you are finished-

please read them again.



Song to sing with your child

I Like to Go to School!

(To the tune of Farmer in the Dell)

To hear the Farmer in the Dell tune go to <http://bussongs.com/songs/the-farmer-in-the-dell.php>

I like to go to school.

I like to go to school.

Heigh-ho-the-derry-oh,

I like to go to school.

I like to sing new songs.

I like to sing new songs.

Heigh-ho-the-derry-oh,

I like to sing new songs.

Additional verses:

I like to play with friends...

I like to read my books...

I like to build with blocks...

I like to draw with crayons...

Make up your own verses!



What your library can do for you...

Your library offers many free resources to help you build your child's early literacy skills: age-appropriate books, music CDs, storytimes, parent workshops, booklists, take-home information, and events for the whole family!

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