

Families for Literacy Program Newsletter

February, 2018

Tutors: please go over this newsletter (whatever is appropriate) with your adult student and encourage him/her to visit the Story Times with their children, it's a lot of fun!



Redbud Library, 14785 Burns Valley Rd. Clearlake, **Thursday, 11:00 am**

Middletown Library: 21256 Washington Street, Middletown, **Tuesdays, 11:30 am**

Lakeport Library, 1425 N. High St. Lakeport, **Fridays, 10:15 am and 2:30 pm**

Upper Lake Library, 310 2nd St, Upper Lake, **every 1. Thursday of the month, 2 pm**

Your toddler loves to get positive attention from you.

Singing is a great way to give attention and share an activity with him or her:



♪ When you sing to your baby, they bond with you and your voice. Singing makes yours the first and most important voice in her life. Your baby learns that you LOVE him/her!

♪ Babies feel safe when life is predictable. A song for waking up, for sleeping, and other routine transitions and activities helps them know what comes next.

♪ While you sing and hold your baby, you introduce new vocabulary. When you hold up a stuffed dog as you sing about a dog, baby learns to associate the name of that toy with the words you sing. When you sing about parts of the body and kiss your baby's feet or tickle her tummy, she learns new words.

♪ Like reading, singing is an activity that requires listening. It's another opportunity for your baby to begin to understand language and feelings expressed through sing-play.

♪ Music includes rhythm and rhyme, which is part of any language. In time, babies will recognize rhymes and rhythms.

♪ Singing is a great way to involve older siblings in welcoming a new baby to the home. Singing to and playing with the baby builds a bond between siblings. Make singing a family activity!



LOVE - All of the above boils down to using your singing voice as a way to express love. Babies don't care if you are a great singer, or if they understand the lyrics. They only care that you are singing to THEM! In their eyes (and their ears), you'll be a star!

Valentine's Day is approaching fast and what could be a better time to let your little ones know that you love them with a song?



Valentine Song (sung to: Love me Tender)

You're my rainbow, you're my star,
you're my bright red cookie jar.
You're my goldfish, you're my pie,
you're the apple of my eye.
You're my daisy, you're my vine,
you're my own true Valentine!

Draw pictures of each:
rainbow, star, goldfish,
etc. to help the children
remember the words.

Love, Love, Love

(sung to: 3 Blind Mice)

Love, love, love, love, love, love
see how it grows, see how it grows.
I love my friends and they love me.
We love each other, that's plain to see.
There's plenty for a big family.
Love, love, love, love, love, love.

Be my Valentine (sung to: Row Your Boat)
 Yes, yes, I love you, be my Valentine.
 Here's a heart just for you,
 won't you please be mine?

Do You Know My Valentine?(sung to:The Muffin Man)
 Do you know my Valentine, my Valentine, my Valentine?
 Do you know my Valentine? His/her name is...
 (Child's name)

There's a Big Red Heart Fingerplay (sung to: It's a Small World)
 There's a big red heart down inside of me. (Draw heart shape in air, then point to chest)
 There's a big red heart no one else can see. (Cover eyes with hands)
 It is filled to the brim with love from within, (Spread arms)
 and now I give it to you. (Point to another person)



Make a Heart: A Valentine fingerplay

I put my hands together,
 this is how I start;
 I curve my fingers right around
 and I can make a Heart!



♪ Sing during everyday activities like driving in the car or during bath time together, and try to find as many possibilities during the day. Music can also be a calming resource in a stressful situation: standing in the check-out line or waiting in the doctor's office can be times when a distraction is needed - a verse of your child's favorite song can change frowns to smiles and make the moment successful.

Activities for even the youngest:

Yes, you can make a pretty **Valentine cards** using an empty toilet paper roll!

What you need:

- Toilet paper roll or any other empty cardboard tubes,
- Card stock,
- Red and pink paint (Crayola Washable Paint washes out of everything!)



What you do:

Squish and fold the cardboard tubes until they look like a heart. Wrap a piece of tape → around the tube to keep the shape. When the stamps are ready, let the little ones dip the end of it in red, pink, or purple paint (you can pour a bit of paint onto a couple of plastic lids) and stamp the dipped end onto the card stock. Cut the card stock to double the size of an envelope and fold each in half. Pretty Valentine cards ready to go!



The Lake County Library is partnering with the Lake County Office of Education (LCOE) and **Bloom** to create special Storytime programming for an entire week for "Read Across America" and Dr. Seuss' Birthday (March 2nd). Bloom, the educational program of LCOE focusing on kindergarten readiness for 0 to 5 year olds, will be providing snacks, games and prizes during our storytimes. Come join the fun and take home your FREE Dr. Seuss book!

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