



KSLA has proclaimed April as

FAMILIES *and* READING MONTH

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WELCOME MESSAGE

March 2023

Dear Families,

Let's read!

Children develop a love of stories and poems when they read or are read to on a regular basis. These experiences enrich and expand their world and encourage imagination. At the same time, you will be building family memories to last a lifetime.

With this in mind, the Keystone State Literacy Association (KSLA) – which is committed to developing a love of reading in all children across Pennsylvania, – is proclaiming the month of April as Families and Reading Month. Throughout the month, families all across the state will be sharing the joys of reading at home. We hope you will join in the fun by reading with your child each day in April.

Throughout Families and Reading Month, we encourage families to engage in reading or reading activities for 15 minutes each day during the month of April. Attached you will find a calendar of ideas and activities to promote reading. The activities are suggestions that can also be incorporated into a reading schedule throughout the year.

As a thank-you for your support and encouragement, we ask, at the end of April, that you sign the attached calendar and return it to your child's teacher. In return, you and your child will receive a Certificate of Achievement.

We hope you will take time to create some special memories during April. Now, let's read!

Sincerely,



Debbie Urso
KSLA Families and Reading
Committee Chair



UN BIENVENIDO

Marzo 2023

Queridas Familias,

!Vamos a leer!

Los niños desarrollan un amor a los cuentos y poemas cuando leen o les leen regularmente. Estas experiencias enriquecen y amplía su mundo y fomentan la imaginación. Al mismo tiempo, se le construyen recuerdos familiares que durarán toda la vida.

Con esto en mente, La Asociación Estatal de Lectura Keystone de Pensilvania (KSLA)- que se compromete a desarrollar un amor por la lectura en los niños a través de Pensilvania - proclama el mes de abril como el Mes de las Familias y la Lectura. Durante todo el mes, las familias en todo el estado va a compartir las alegrías de la lectura en casa. Esperamos que se unan a la diversión de la lectura con su hijo(a) todos los días en abril.

Por medio de las familias y Mes de Lectura, animamos a las familias a participar en la lectura o las actividades de lectura por 15 minutos cada día durante el mes de abril. Adjunto encontrará un calendario de ideas y actividades para promover la lectura. Las actividades son sugerencias de que también se pueden incorporarse en un horario de lectura durante todo el año.

Como agradecimiento por su apoyo y ánimo, nos le pedimos que a finales de abril firme el calendario adjunto y devolverlo al profesor(a) de su hijo(a). A cambio, usted y su hijo(a) recibirán un Certificado de Aprovechamiento.

Nosotros esperamos que usted crea memorias especiales durante el mes de abril. ¡Ahora vamos a leer!

Sinceramente,

Debbie Urso

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KSLA Families and Reading
Committee Chair



READING ALOUD TO YOUR CHILDREN

Reading aloud is a gift you can give to your children from the day they are born until the time they leave the nest. Children's reading experts agree that reading aloud offers the easiest and most effective way to help children become lifelong readers. It will be as much fun for you as it is for your children.

A child whose day includes listening to lively stories is more likely to grow up loving books and wanting to read them. To spark this desire in your children, try some of these suggestions offered by Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), a national nonprofit organization that inspires children to read.

- Set aside a special time each day to read aloud to your children. Fifteen minutes a day is an ideal time.
- Vary your selections. For very young children, look for picture books with illustrations or photographs and print that is simple and clear. Once your child enters elementary school, consider picture books, magazines, and even chapter books.
- Read slowly and with expression. The more you ham it up, the more your children will love it.
- Have your children sit where they can see the book clearly, especially if it has pictures.
- As you read aloud, encourage your children to get in on the act. Invite them to describe pictures, read bits of text, or predict what will happen next.
- Children like a sense of completion, so finish what you begin. If the book is too lengthy to finish in one sitting, find an appropriate stopping point, such as the end of a chapter, and visit it later in the day or the next day.
- Continue to read aloud to your children even after they begin school and are independent readers. There is no age limit to reading to your children.
- Older children may enjoy reading aloud to a younger sibling. They often like to revisit some of their old favorites.



LEYENDO EN VOZ ALTA A SUS NIÑOS

Leer en voz alta es un regalo que le puede dar a sus hijos desde el día que nacen hasta que dejan el nido. Los expertos en la lectura de los niños están de acuerdo que leer en voz alta ofrece la manera más fácil y efectiva de ayudar a los niños a convertirse en lectores de por vida. Será tan divertido para usted, así como para sus niños.

Un niño cuyo día incluye escuchar historias animadas es más probable que crezca amando los libros y queriendo leerlos. Para despertar este deseo en sus hijos, es posible que desee probar algunas de estas sugerencias que ofrece Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) (Leer Es Fundamental), una organización sin fines de lucro que inspira a los jóvenes a leer.

- Reserve un tiempo especial cada día para leer en voz alta a sus hijos. Quince minutos al día es un tiempo ideal.
- Varíe sus selecciones. Para los niños muy pequeños, busque libros con ilustraciones o fotografías, y que la letra sea simple y clara. Una vez que su niño ingrese a la escuela elemental, considere libros con dibujos, revistas, y hasta libros de capítulos.
- Lea lentamente y con expresión. Mientras más lo exagere, más les gustará a sus niños.
- Haga que sus niños se sienten en un lugar donde puedan ver el libro claramente, especialmente si es un libro con dibujos o revistas.
- Mientras lee en voz alta, anime a sus niños a participar. Invítelos a describir las imágenes, leer fragmentos del texto, o predecir lo que pasará después.
- A los niños les gusta un sentido de finalización, entonces termine lo que empezó. Si el libro es demasiado largo para terminarlo en una sola vez, busque un punto apropiado para parar, así como el final de un capítulo, y visítelo más tarde en el día, o al día siguiente.
- Continúe leyendo en voz alta a sus niños incluso hasta después de empezar la escuela y sean lectores independientes. No hay límite de edad para leer a sus niños.
- Los niños mayores pueden disfrutar de leer en voz alta a su hermano menor. A menudo les gusta revisar sus libros viejos favoritos.



TIPS FOR SELECTING LITERATURE WITH CHILDREN



With so many books to choose from, how do you select the right ones for your child? How do you know if your child is enjoying or understanding what you're reading together? May you find these suggestions useful as you discover the wonderful world of books with your family!

- Select books that appeal to your child's interest.
- Take your child to the local public library. If he/she doesn't already have a library card, get him/her one. Browse the bookshelves and borrow some new titles that you can read together.
- Talk to your child about what you are reading together.
 - Ask questions about what is happening and why.
 - Encourage him to ask questions to clarify what is happening or wonder about something that isn't clear.
 - Ask questions that begin with why or how to promote deep thinking.
- Use the Internet to research answers to unanswered questions or to extend learning about a certain topic from a book.



- Help your child summarize a story using these questions:
 - Who or what is the story about?
 - When or where does the story take place?
 - What happens first?
 - What happens next?
 - How does the story end?
 - What lesson did the character learn?
- Read books aloud to your child on a regular basis. No matter your child's age, reading aloud to him/her is a great bonding experience.
- Provide opportunities for shared reading. In a shared reading, you take turns reading aloud with your child. This could be taking turns reading a page or a paragraph.
- Invite your child to read a favorite book to a younger sibling, friend, or even a family pet.



CONSEJOS PARA SELECCIONAR Y USAR LITERATURA CON NIÑOS



Con tantos libros que se puede elegir, ¿cómo seleccionas los adecuados para tu niño? ¿Cómo sabes si tu niño está disfrutando o entendiendo lo que están leyendo juntos? ¡Ojalá encuentre útiles estas sugerencias a medida que descubre el maravilloso mundo de los libros con su familia!

- Seleccione libros que atraigan el interés de su niño.
- Lleve a su niño a la biblioteca pública local. Si él o ella no tiene todavía una tarjeta de la biblioteca, consíganle una. Busque en las estanterías y pida prestados algunos títulos nuevos que puedan leer juntos.
- Hable con su niño acerca de lo que están leyendo juntos.
 - Haga preguntas acerca de lo que está pasando y por qué.
 - MotíVELO a que haga preguntas para clarificar lo que está pasando o cuestione algo que no está claro.
 - Haga preguntas que empiecen con por qué o cómo para promover el pensamiento profundo.
- Utilice el internet para buscar respuestas a preguntas sin respuesta o para ampliar el aprendizaje acerca de un tema determinado de un libro.



- Ayude a su niño a resumir la historia utilizando las siguientes preguntas:
 - ¿De quién o de qué se trata la historia?
 - ¿Cuándo o dónde se desarrolla la historia ?
 - ¿Qué pasa primero? ¿Qué pasa después? ¿Cómo termina la historia?
 - ¿Qué lección aprendió el personaje?
- Lea libros en voz alta regularmente. No importa la edad de su niño, leer libros en voz alta es una gran experiencia de unión.
- Brinde oportunidades para la lectura compartida. En la lectura compartida, se turnan con su niño para leer en voz alta. Esto podría ser turnarse leyendo una página o un párrafo.
- Invite a su niño a leer su libro favorito a un hermano menor, amigo, o incluso a la mascota de la familia.
- Grave a su niño leyendo su libro favorito o parte de un libro. Mande por correo el video a un familiar o amigo.



PRESCHOOL

The Families and Reading resources are created to give families suggestions for new books, magazines, and apps to share. The information presented in these books and magazines represents the thoughts and opinions of the authors and does not necessarily represent the viewpoints of the Keystone State Literacy Association.

For more resources, visit your local library or one of the following sites:

- Power Library (www.powerlibrary.org) A PA library collaboration of shared materials and resources. Click on the links at the top of the homepage to view recommendations or to visit Power Kids.
- Unite for Literacy (<http://www.uniteforliteracy.com>) Access a free digital library.
- Visit Scholastic (www.scholastic.com/parents) and Amazon (www.amazon.com) for more book options.



Classics:

Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
Corduroy by Don Freeman
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin
Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney
The Lion and the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney
Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
The Napping House by Audrey Wood

Newer Concept and Informational Books:

A Number Slumber by Suzanne Bloom - Countdown to bedtime as each group of animals prepares for bed.
A Visit to Grandad: An African ABC by Sade Fadipe and Shedrach Ayalomeh - Adanah visits her Grandad in Modakeke, Nigeria. Each step in her journey, visit, and return features a letter of the alphabet.
Odd Beasts: Meet Nature's Weirdest Animals by Laura Gehl - Meet nature's oddballs in this charming book about some of the strangest animals in the world.
Let's Go ABC! Things That Go, from A to Z by Rhonda Gowler Greene - Zoom through the alphabet with different vehicles.
Night Creatures: Animals That Swoop, Crawl, and Creep While You Sleep by Rebecca E. Hirsch and Sonia Possentini - As the sun sets, night creatures awaken.
Who Am I? An Animal Guessing Game by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page - Use clues to guess which animal will be revealed on the next page.
Chase the Moon, Tiny Turtle: A Hatchling's Daring Race to the Sea by Kelly Jordan and Sally Walker - Young readers will witness a baby loggerhead hatching from its shell.
T. Rexes Can't Tie Their Shoes by Anna Lazowski and Steph Laberis - A funny and encouraging alphabet book about all the things animals can't do but kids can.
Trains Run! by George Ella Lyon and Benn Lyon - This rhyming story explores many aspects of trains including how they are powered, the sounds they make, and the people who ride and work on them.
One Little Lot: The 1-2-3s of an Urban Garden by Diane C. Mullen - Count all the ways an urban community works together to clean up an abandoned lot and transform it into a vegetable garden.
Welcome Home: Where Nature's Most Creative Creatures Dwell by Lisa Mundorff - Detailed illustrations feature realistic animal dwellings followed by imaginative, two-page spreads that bring homonyms to life.
Chomp: A Shark Romp by Michael Paul - The descriptions and illustrations of each shark create the feeling of being at an aquarium, close enough for a careful look but safe enough to avoid being chomped!
Hey, Water! by Antoinette Portis - Readers can explore the science of water in puddles, tears, fog, icebergs, and even living beings.
One Fox: A Counting Book Thriller by Kate Read - One hungry fox with two sly eyes is on the prowl . . . three plump hens had better watch out!
Being Frog by April Pullye Sayer - Follow a frog from egg to tadpole to young frog crawling up onto land for the first time and learn how frogs are unique.
Blue Ridge Babies 1, 2, 3: A Counting Book by Laura Sperry Gardner and Stephanie Fizer Coleman - Explore the Blue Ridge Mountains through the frame of the engaging folk song "Over in the Meadow."
If You Were an Elephant by Leslie Staub and Richard Jones - This book invites readers to learn about one of the world's most remarkable creatures through their sights, sounds, and activities.
Feathers and Hair: What Animals Wear by Jennifer Ward and Jing Jing Tsong - This book is a delightful exploration of animal outerwear. It also includes supplemental information about each of the animals.
Who Eats Orange? by Dianne White - An exploration of colors and animals' favorite foods. It includes familiar, as well as exotic animals from around the world, with lots of additional information.

Newer Picture Books:

- Snack Attack!* by Terry Border - These three snacks were on a mission to have some fun, and no Monster Kids could stop them. They had been warned of the dangers that lurked outside of their packages.
- Me & Mama* by Cozbi Cabrera - It's a rainy day, but it can still be enjoyable when you spend time with someone you love.
- Camp Tiger* by Susan Choi - Every year, a boy and his family go camping. Usually, they see things like an eagle, a salamander, and chipmunks but this year, there's a tiger.
- Animals Go Vroom!* by Abi Cushman - Hiss! Screech! Roar! It's a noisy day in Bumperville, but are the sounds what you think they are?
- Nigel and the Moon* by Antwan Eady and Gracey Zhang - When Nigel looks up at the moon, his future is bright. He imagines himself as an astronaut, a dancer, and a superhero, but how will he share what he wants to be with his friends?
- Nothing Fits a Dinosaur: Ready-to-Read Level 1* by Jonathan Fenske - It's time to get ready for bed, but this silly dinosaur can't find anything that fits!
- Unlikely Friends* by Norm Feundi - Ally the alligator is perfectly happy being alone. Then, one day a noisy bird named Beak lands on her snout. Beak thinks Ally is lonely and needs a friend.
- Bulldozer Helps Out* by Candace Fleming - Bulldozer wants to help at the construction site but the other trucks think he is too small. Finally, he gets the chance to prove how rough and tough he is.
- If I Was the Sunshine* by Julie Fogliano - Snuggle up to enjoy a poetic book about the nature of relationships, love, and connection.
- Field Trip to the Moon* by John Hare - During the field trip, one student takes a break and falls asleep. When he wakes up, he discovers that the rest of the class and the spaceship are gone!
- How Do You Dance?* by Thyra Heder - Jiggle, wiggle, stomp, and laugh your way through reading this book.
- Eyes that Kiss in the Corners* by Joanna Ho - An Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers. Just like the women in her life, she recognizes her own beauty and discovers a path to self-love.
- Can I Sit With You?* by Sarah Jacoby - Lyrical text and beautiful illustrations show the power of friendship in the face of change.
- Woodland Dreams* by Karen Jameson - Young readers say goodnight to beloved woodland animals as they prepare to sleep.
- Can I Keep It?* by Lisa Jobe - A young boy is searching for the perfect pet. When he asks to keep them, his mom says no. The boy starts to wonder if there is an animal that is right for him.
- Room for Everyone* by Naaz Khan - One stop becomes two stops which soon becomes ten, and Musa wonders when it will end. There's always room for one more, if you make the room.
- The Fisherman and the Whale* by Jessica Lanan - A young boy spots a whale caught in fishing lines. The boy's father gives in to his son's urgent plea and swims to the creature in need to help him.
- Lubna and Pebble* by Wendy Meddour and Daniel Egnéus - Lubna's best friend is a pebble that always listens to her stories. When a lost little boy arrives in the World of Tents, Lubna realizes that he needs Pebble even more than she does.
- Puppy Truck* by Brian Pinkney - Carter wants a puppy, but he gets a truck instead. So he pets it, puts a leash around it, and takes it to the park just like he would if it were a real puppy.
- Let's Have a Dog Party* by Mikela Prevost - Frank, a dog who prefers quiet, is thrown a boisterous birthday party.
- Truman* by Jean Reidy - Truman the turtle loves spending his days with Sarah. Then one day Sarah puts on her backpack and leaves. Truman waits and waits, wondering if Sarah will return.
- Construction Site: Road Crew, Coming Through!* by Sherri Duskey Rinker - The construction team is taking on their biggest challenge yet by building a brand-new superhighway!
- Best Day Ever!* by Marilyn Singer and Leah Nixon - A playful puppy thinks she's having the best day ever and doesn't even realize that she's being a little naughty until her friend points it out.

Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug by Jonathan Stutzman - Tiny T. Rex's friend Pointy needs a hug, but with his short stature and teeny T. Rex arms, Tiny has to work hard to find a way to help.

Fox at Night by Corey Tabor - Fox is up late in the night. There are shadows and noises everywhere, and he is sure the night is full of monsters!

Looking for Smile by Ellen Tarlow - Bear and Smile are always together, but one day, Bear wakes up and Smile is nowhere to be found. Will Bear be able to find his Smile again?

Library Books Are Not For Eating by Todd Tarpley and Tom Booth - It's time for school, but Ms. Bronte has one small problem. She really loves eating books.

Outside In by Deborah Underwood - Outside is calling for us to come out and experience what nature has to offer.

Dreaming of You by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater - Have you ever imagined what animals dream?

Astro Girl by Ken Wilson-Max - Young Astrid yearns to sail the stars. Astrid and her father talk about all of the skills she must have to become an astronaut one day, just like her mother.

Magazines:

Big Backyard

Chickadee

Cricket's CLICK

Highlights for Children

Humpty Dumpty

Cricket's Ladybug: The Magazine for Young Children

National Geographic Little Kids

Ranger Rick Jr.

Zootles

Educational Apps:

ABC Mouse - leveled learning of letters, numbers, colors, songs, and stories

ABC Ninja - slash through given letters

Duck Duck Moose Reading (iOS)- teaches letters, sounds, and words

Endless Alphabet - teaches letters, letter sounds, and vocabulary

Endless Reader - teaches sight words (like a sequel to Endless Alphabet)

iStoryTime (iOS) - narrated children's storybooks

LumiKids Park by Lumocity - cognitive games

Phonics Island (iOS) - levels of letter and phonics games

Read Me Stories - introduces a new book everyday

Sky Fish Phonics - teaches letter/sound correspondence, blending sounds, and phoneme substitution

Starfall - teaches sounds, letters, words, and sentences with interactive games

Teach Your Monster to Read - match letters to sounds, blend, segment, and read