

# Families for Literacy Program Newsletter

## August, 2017

**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!**

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

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

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

(Lakeport: **"Storytime in the Park"**: Storytime moves to Library Park until August 25<sup>th</sup>)



### Summer Reading Program Parties!!

Summer Reading Program Party for Kids and Pre-Readers:

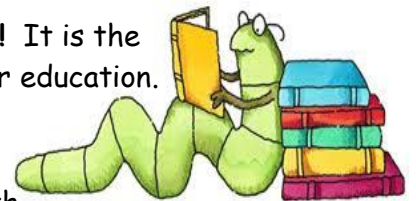
**Upper Lake** - Wednesday, August 2nd, 2017 at 2pm

**Lakeport, Redbud (Clearlake)** - Saturday Morning, August 5th, 2017

**Middletown Library** - 11:30am Tuesday, August 8th, 2017

What is the **number one way** to help your child succeed in school? **READING!** It is the **SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT** thing that will help your child succeed in his/her education.

### Raising a bookworm



**It's never too early!** Read to your baby as early as possible, even before birth.



Even if babies can't understand all the words yet do not waste this short window of opportunity: your baby's brain develops in an amazing rate during the first months. Reading aloud is an important way to help your little one to learn vocabulary and to stimulate the brain cells to grow stronger and develop more fully. Reading to your baby regularly teaches her to recognize the sounds and rhythm of language, improving language skills and increasing interest in reading, which has a huge impact on their readiness for school.

**An added benefit:** Babies feel that cuddling with you and reading books is comforting and fun. Reading is also a great way for fathers, grandparents, and older siblings to bond with the baby.

#### Here Is My Book

Here is my book (hold hands as if holding closed book)

I open it wide (pretend to open book)

To see the pictures that are inside.



Try to make reading part of your daily routine with your baby—for example, at bedtime. Find a comfortable place to read and turn off other distractions such as the television or radio. Start with a song or rhyme (see above) and then read for a few minutes at a time, extending to longer reading sessions as your child develops a longer attention span. Make the story come alive by using different voices for different characters, and even acting out parts of the story.

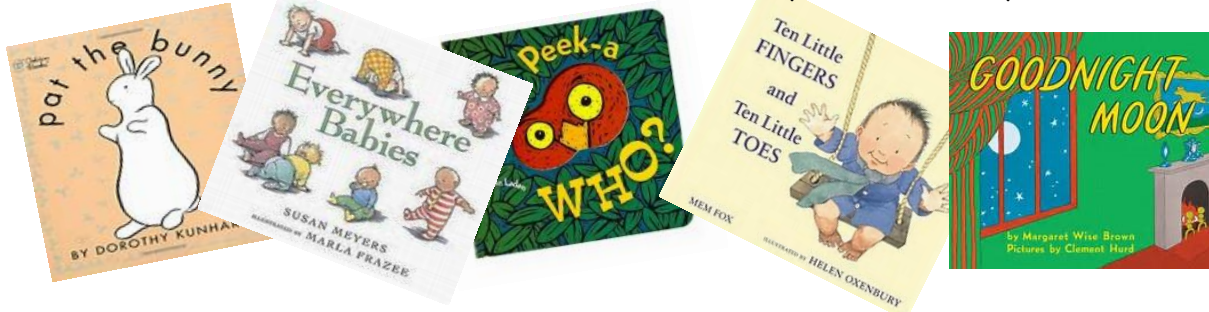
**Want Baby to smile? Learn new words? Calm down before bed? Books can do it all!**

Children can be interested in different types of books depending on their age, development, temperament, and life experiences. **Black and white books** are great for Newborns who cannot see as clearly yet. Until about six months of age, your child will respond best to bold, contrasting colors and graphics.



Babies like books with interesting things to look at and touch; toddlers also like books that make noises and have fold-out sections they can lift to reveal hidden surprises;

Check out these all-time favorites available at your local library:



- **Pat the Bunny** by Dorothy Kunhardt: Babies will love to touch this book and follow along with the activities such as patting the bunny and playing peek-a-boo. Guide your baby's hand to stroke the fur and have her look in the mirror. The interesting textures will hold his or her interest.

- **Everywhere babies**, by Susan Meyers: Every day, everywhere, babies are born. Babies are dressed, fed, rocked, and loved "for trying so hard...and being so wonderful." With an irresistible rhyming text and delightfully illustrations, this book is a celebration of playing, sleeping, crawling, and of course, very noisy babies doing all the wonderful things babies do best.

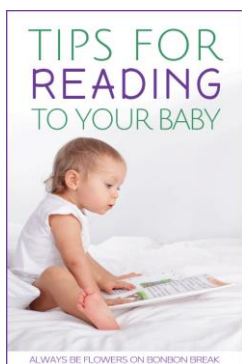
- **Peek-a Who?** by Nina Laden: Clever page cutouts allow little ones to glimpse what's peeking out from the next page. Train tracks represent *peek-a-choo-choo*, a baby's favorite part is "*peek-a-you*": looking at himself in the mirror on the last page.

- "There was one little baby who was born far away.  
And another who was born on the very next day.  
And both of these babies, as everyone knows,  
had "**Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes.**"  
Snuggle up with your baby and kiss those fingers and toes!



- **Goodnight Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown

First published in 1947, this beloved bedtime tale has stood the test of time with its singsong rhymes. The book also lasts beyond your baby's first year: Toddlers enjoy finding items in their own bedroom that are similar to those from the bedroom in the book.



### Here are a few more tips for reading to your child:

#### Birth to 1 year:

- In the early months, hold your baby close and read, talk and sing to her.
  - By 3-6 months of age, your baby will start to enjoy looking at mirrors and pictures of faces, shapes, colors. She will begin to make sounds, reach out and touch the pictures. Choose books with interesting pictures and textures.
  - By 6-12 months of age, your baby will sit in your lap, look at the pictures, touch the book, and put the book in her mouth - use plastic and cardboard books. Point to, and name the pictures for your baby.
- To be continued....*