



# Early Literacy Services

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# Peanut Butter Jelly

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Peanut butter jelly,  
Butter and jam.  
Let's say hello as quiet as we can.

# Look Out, Suzy Goose



Petr Horáček

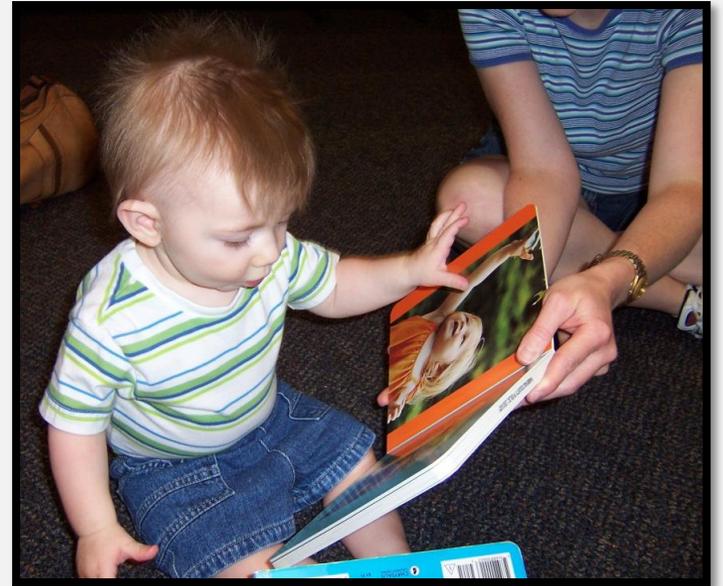
**Renee Edwards, MLIS, MEd**  
Early Literacy Outreach Manager  
Fairfax County Public Library



# Early Literacy Services

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Around 2005, Fairfax County Public Library established its Early Literacy Services (ELS) Program. ELS focuses on the essential first steps in fostering early literacy.



# Early Literacy Services

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Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC) and the Public Library Association (PLA) created a program called “Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library.”

This program stresses the importance of early literacy and helps public libraries to assume an essential role in supporting early literacy within a community.



# ECR2R: Parent/Caregiver Education Program

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**Practices**

Singing  
Talking  
Playing  
Writing  
Reading

**Skills/Components**

Print Awareness  
Vocabulary  
Letter Knowledge  
Phonological Awareness  
Background Knowledge

# Importance?

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Roughly 25%-35% of children in the United States enter school without the skills necessary for learning to read.

It was projected in fall 2016 that **3,700,000** children would enroll in kindergarten in public schools in the United States.

This means **925,000** children may enter school without the skills necessary for learning to read.

# Children who enter kindergarten unprepared will most likely:

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Struggle academically throughout their school years.

Most likely need special education services.

Become involved in the juvenile justice system.

Drop out of school.



# What Does This Mean for Public Libraries?

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We have to remember: Not everyone visits the library or makes the connection between libraries and school readiness.



# What Does This Mean for Public Libraries?

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We have to go into the community to show parents, caregivers and educators the many ways we support early literacy and school readiness.



# ELS Program Objectives

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Bring a storytime experience directly to preschool children in a non-library setting.

Model appropriate early literacy behaviors, techniques and practices for parents and child care providers.

Help the early childhood community realize the important role libraries play in school readiness.



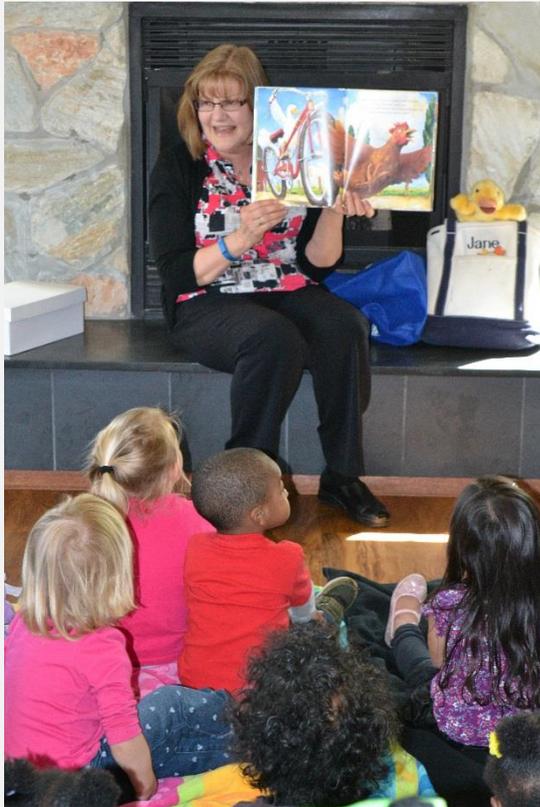
# Program Tasks...

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# Outreach Storytimes

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ELS presents interactive storytimes to groups of preschool children in centers, family child care homes and Head Start classrooms.

# Outreach Storytimes: Requirements

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All outreach storytimes should be fun and engaging. The goal is to get children and teachers excited about library visits.



# Outreach Storytimes: Requirements

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Outreach storytimes last approximately 20 minutes and include:

- Sharing only **one** book.
- Several songs, rhymes or activities.
- Briefly discussing the public library.



# Outreach Storytimes: Gifts for Children

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Each child gets a book to keep. Book funds are provided by the Fairfax Library Foundation.

The library's Early Literacy Services Program presents storytimes for preschool children in child care centers, family child care homes and Head Start classrooms. Today, we visited your child's classroom for a storytime. Help your children develop important early literacy skills by singing songs, chanting rhymes and visiting your neighborhood library branch to borrow books.

We read one of these stories:

**The Black Rabbit** by Philippa Leathers

No matter how fast a little rabbit runs, a large shadowy rabbit chases after him.



**Shadow** by Suzy Lee

In this story without words, a little girl uses her imagination and a light bulb to go on an adventure in a dark attic.

**Shadows** by April Pulley Sayre

Rhyming text describes two young friends searching for shadows in the everyday world.

**Shadows and Reflections** by Tana Hoban

Photographs feature shadows and reflections of various objects, animals and people.

**What Makes a Shadow?** by Clyde Robert Bulla

With simple words and detailed illustrations, this non-fiction book explains how shadows are produced.

*Find these and many other stories at your neighborhood library branch.*



**The Shadow Song**

*(Tune: "Skip to My Lou")*

Dance, dance just like me,  
Dance, dance just like me,  
Dance, dance just like me,  
Little shadow, just like me.

*Other verses:*

Clap your hands just like me...  
Tap your legs just like me...  
Flap your arms just like me...  
Blink your eyes just like me...

**Reading tip** Read aloud everyday print – labels, signs, lists, etc. Being familiar with printed language helps children feel comfortable with books and understand that print is useful.

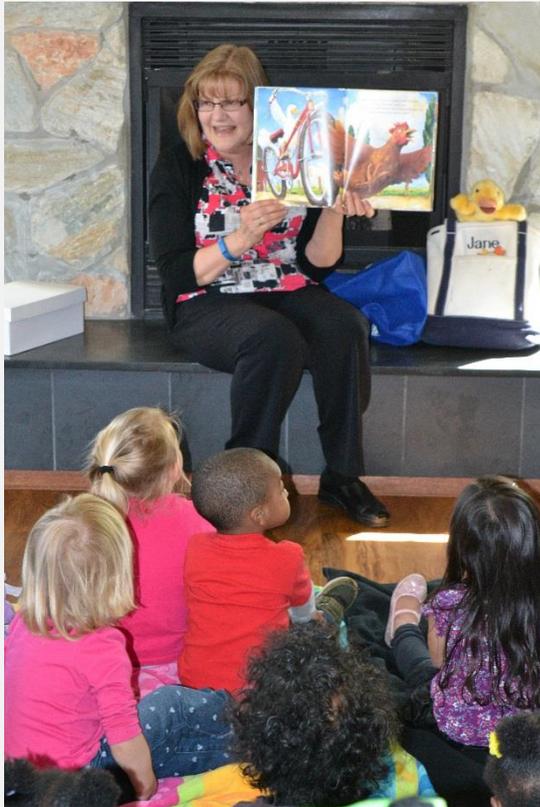
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)

**Outreach Storytimes:  
Gifts for Children**



# Outreach Storytimes: Drumming Up Business

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What it involved initially:

- Legwork to get customers.
- Some locations are suspicious. (What do we ever get that is totally free???)
- Reputation and word of mouth helped get into locations.

# A LOT of Outreach Storytimes: One Staff-Led Program Only



**Help Wanted!**  
**Ready to Read**  
**Storytime Volunteers**  
**to the rescue!**



## **Renee: August 2007 – June 2008**

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Storytimes	274
Picture Books Distributed	1,464

## **Volunteers (10 people)**

Storytimes	181
Picture Books Distributed	1,633

## **Renee: July 2010 – June 2011**

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Storytimes	202
Picture Books Distributed	1,262

## **Volunteers (23 people)**

Storytimes	477
Picture Books Distributed	2,724

# More Help: Part-time Early Literacy Assistants



## Five Library Staff: July 2015 – June 2016

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Storytimes	1,156
Picture Books Distributed	20,019

## Volunteers (22 people)

Storytimes	459
Picture Books Distributed	7,398

# Teacher Library Trainings

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We present bimonthly teacher trainings on a variety of early literacy topics.

These trainings include a presentation of library books and activities. Our primary goal is showing how libraries support teacher efforts in getting children ready to read.



We'd like your opinion! Take a look at our new website preview and take a survey.

**Fairfax County VIRGINIA**

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Index

- Contacts/Directions
- LIBRARY HOME
- Catalog Search
- My Account / Log In
- Locations and Hours
- Online Resources
- Events
- ReadersLink
- Research Center
- Get Involved
- Community Outreach
- Newsroom

Related Links

- Fairfax Library Foundation
- Friends of the Library
- Law Library (Courts)
- Library Board of Trustees
- Volunteer

Online Services

Our Government

News and Events

Maps, Facts & Stats

State & Federal

homepage > library

**Fairfax County Public Library - Fairfax County, Virginia**

NoVa TEEN BOOK FESTIVAL

Saturday, March 11

NoVa Teen Book Festival  
Free event featuring panel discussions, book signings, food and fun. C

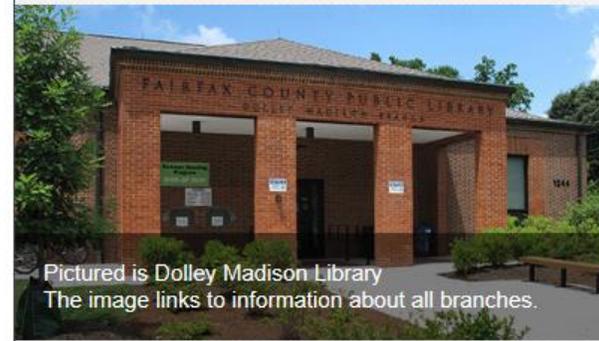
### Special Interest Areas

- Adults 50+
- Early literacy—Birth–5
- English language learners
- Genealogy research
- Kids
- People with disabilities
- ReadersLink
- Strategic Plan
- Teens



### At a Library Branch

- Book sales
- Meeting rooms
- Programs and events
- Public computers and other equipment



[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)

## What Is Early Literacy

Early literacy is what children know about communication, language—verbal and non-verbal—reading and writing before they can actually read and write. Research shows that children get ready to read years before they start school. You can help your preschooler learn important skills now so they can become good readers.

Parents play an important role in getting children ready to read. Why?

- You are children's first role model, and they love spending time with you.
- You know your children best.
- You can help your children learn reading skills in ways that are easiest for them.
- Children learn best by doing things. Take every opportunity to read, play, sing, talk and write with your children.

## Early Literacy Resources

- Browse all preschool events in the library.
- Find resources perfect for any age group below:

### Babies—Birth to 2

- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Baby Artsplay classes
- Book Lists
- Getting Babies Ready to Read
- Library E-newsletters
- Ready to Read Newsletter
- TumbleBooks (follow this link and then select "E-books")
- What's New in Children's Picture Books

### Toddlers—2 to 3

- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Baby Artsplay classes
- Bimonthly Book Activities—Fun With Reading!
- Book Lists
- Getting Toddlers Ready to Read
- Library E-newsletters
- Ready to Read Newsletter
- TumbleBooks (follow this link and then select "E-books")

### Preschoolers—4 to 5

- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Artsplay classes
- Bimonthly Book Activities—Fun With Reading!
- Book Bags
- Book Lists
- Books, Songs, Fingerplays and Websites on Various Themes
- Early Literacy Presentations
- Getting Preschoolers Ready to Read
- Library E-newsletters
- Ready to Read Newsletter
- TumbleBooks (follow this link and then select "E-books")
- What's New in Children's Picture Books (Preschool)

### Español

- Listos para leer—Boletín de alfabetismo temprano
- ¿Cuáles son los nuevos libros infantiles con ilustraciones?

# Ready to Read

An Early Literacy Newsletter

Renée Edwards, Early Literacy Services, Fairfax County Public Library



Volume 9, Issue 6  
November/December 2016

## 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten



1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is a nationwide program designed to help parents and caregivers prepare their children for one of life's big milestones: kindergarten. The

concept is simple; the rewards are priceless. The goal is to have read 1,000 books (re-reading books is fine) before a child starts kindergarten. Fairfax County Public Library recently launched 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten in all library branches.

How does 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten work?

- 1) Read 25 books with children and then go to any library branch to register them for the program. Children will receive a sticker, a reading log and information about early literacy and the library. Children get credit whenever they are read to – at home, in the library, at daycare, etc.

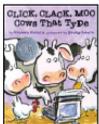
- 2) Bring children's reading logs to the library when they reach the 100 book milestone. Children will receive a **photo frame magnet**, information about early literacy and book suggestions.
- 3) Return next at 250 books. Children will receive a **finger puppet**.
- 4) At 500 books, they will receive a **tote bag**.
- 5) At 750 books, they will receive **coupons** for an adult book and a children's book at participating Friends' group book sales.
- 6) At 1,000 books, they will receive a **new book**, a certificate and letter for their kindergarten teacher saying they have read 1,000 books.

Families who read aloud to their children help boost their language skills and build their vocabulary. Also, reading aloud together is a fun bonding experience for parent/caregiver and child. For more information about 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library).

## Get Started on 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Here are some books to help get you started on 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten. Find these and many other good books at your neighborhood library branch.

**Biscuit Loves the Library** by Alyssa Satin Capucilli  
On "Read to a Pet Day" at the library, a librarian helps Biscuit discover his favorite activity of all.



**Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type** by Doreen Cronin  
When Farmer Brown's cows find a typewriter in the barn they start making demands and go on strike when the farmer refuses to give them what they want.

**Go Away, Big Green Monster** by Ed Emberley  
Die-cut pages through which bits of a monster are revealed are designed to help a child control nighttime fears of monsters.



**Harold and the Purple Crayon** by Crockett Johnson  
Harold goes for an adventurous walk in the moonlight with his purple crayon.

"Get Started on 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" continued on page 2

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## What's New in Children's Picture Books?

January 2017

**Reading Tip:** : Make a New Year's resolution to read with children every day. This will teach them new vocabulary which will help with comprehension when they learn to read.

### New Book Recommendations for Preschool Children (Ages 4-5)

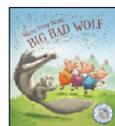


**Baby Penguins Love Their Mama!** by Melissa Guion  
A mother penguin stays very busy taking care of her many babies and teaching them important lessons about such things as sliding, waddling, preening-and love.

Themes: Animals-Infancy, Parent and Child

**Because I Stubbed my Toe** by Shawn Byous  
A young boy stubs his toe, which leads to a sequence of silly events and a delicious ending.  
Theme: Accidents

**Blow Your Nose, Big Bad Wolf** by Steve Smallman  
When Big Bad catches a cold, he politely asks three little pigs for a tissue.  
Themes: Colds, Communicable Diseases, Sneezing, Pigs, Wolves



**By Mouse and Frog** by Deborah Freedman  
This is a story about how two friends with very different ideas of how to write a story, end up working together to write one.  
Themes: Authorship, Cooperativeness

**Little Green Peas** by Keith Baker  
Little green peas make their way into collections of objects of many different colors.  
Theme: Color

This document lists books published in the last several years. Find these titles and many other stories at your neighborhood library branch.

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)



Fairfax County Public Library  
12000 Government Center Pkwy.  
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A Fairfax County, Va.  
publication



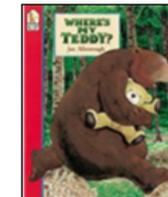
Reasonable accommodations will be made upon request. Call 703-324-8330 or TTY 703-324-8365.



## Fun With Reading!

Book Activities for Preschoolers

January/February 2017



**Where's My Teddy?** by Jez Alborough is a story about a small boy named Eddie who goes searching for his lost teddy in the dark woods. He comes across a gigantic bear with a similar problem. This story is a great read aloud for children ages 4-5 because it has just the right amount of "scariness" to keep everyone engaged. Also, most children can relate to having a beloved object lost for a little while.

You can help children develop essential early literacy skills by reading, talking, writing, singing and playing with them every day. Use the following suggestions as you share **Where's My Teddy?**

### Ask Questions Before and After Story

#### Before the Story

Look at the book's cover and ask the following questions:

- Who do you see on the cover?
- Where are they?
- Where do you think the bear is going? Why?
- What do you think the story is going to be about?
- What do you think might happen in the story?

#### After the Story

- How did Eddie and the bear feel after they found their teddy bears? Why?
- Why do you think Eddie and the bear were scared of each other?
- How did Eddie and the bear solve their problem?
- Have you ever lost something? How did that make you feel?

### Introduce New Vocabulary and Concepts

Explaining unfamiliar words and concepts will help expand children's vocabulary, develop their background knowledge and enhance future read alouds.

Make sure to introduce the following vocabulary before or during your read aloud:

- Sobbing: crying nosily
- Bawling: crying and talking at the same time

Introduce the concept of **big** and **small** by using different vocabulary words like **gigantic** and **tiny**.



# Online Monthly/Bimonthly Publications

[homepage](#) > [library](#) > [early literacy](#):

## Early Literacy Book Bags

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Each book bag has between 10-20 books, and sets with more than one kit have many of the same titles. These kits are not available under the book bag's title. This will take you to the library catalog.

### Themes

[Animal Babies Kit 1](#)  
[Animal Babies Kit 2](#)  
[Apples](#)  
[Community Helpers kit 1](#)  
[Community Helpers kit 2](#)  
[Dinosaurs kit 1](#)  
[Dinosaurs kit 2](#)  
[Farms Kit 1](#)  
[Farms Kit 2](#)  
[Insects](#)  
[Math – Counting kit 1](#)  
[Math – Counting kit 2](#)  
[Math – general](#)  
[Multicultural Kit 3](#)  
[Numbers](#)  
[Nursery Rhymes](#)  
[Ocean Kit 1](#)  
[Ocean Kit 2](#)  
[Rhyme and repetition Kit 1](#)  
[Seasons – Fall Kit 1](#)  
[Seasons – Fall Kit 2](#)  
[Seasons – Spring](#)  
[Seasons – Summer](#)  
[Seasons – Winter](#)  
[Dr. Seuss kit](#)  
[Shapes](#)  
[Space kit](#)  
[Spiders](#)  
[Stories Without Words](#)  
[Transportation](#)

### Level 1 Kits (for beginning readers)

[Alpha Tales Kit 1](#)  
[Alpha Tales Kit 2](#)  
[Biscuit Series](#)  
[Bob Books Kit 1](#)  
[Bob Books Kit 2](#)  
[First Little Reader Kit 1](#)  
[First Little Reader Kit 2](#)  
[Folk & Fairy Tale Easy Readers](#)  
[I Spy Kit 1](#)  
[I Spy Kit 2](#)  
[I Can Read](#)  
[My First I Can Read](#)  
[Scholastic Readers Kit 2](#)  
[Scholastic Readers Kit 3](#)  
[Scholastic Readers Kit 4](#)

### Movement Book Bags

[Bean Bags and Scarves](#)  
[Big Fun](#)  
[Getting to Know Myself](#)  
[Hokey Pokey](#)  
[Kids in Action](#)  
[Kids in Motion](#)

[homepage](#) > [library](#) > [early literacy](#):

## Early Literacy Books, Songs, Fingerplays and Websites

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[At the Zoo](#)

[Back to School](#)

[C Is for Construction](#)

[Deep, Blue Sea](#)

[Celebrate Summer](#)

[Ready, Set, Grow!](#)

[Creepy Crawlies](#)

[Weather](#)

[Healthy Habits](#)

[Winter](#)

[Time for Fall](#)

# Early Literacy Publications

**EVERY CHILD READY TO READ**  
Pre-reading skills children can start learning from birth



**Print Motivation**  
Being interested in and enjoying books.



**Background Knowledge**  
Learning information about a variety of topics.



**Vocabulary**  
Naming things and understanding feelings and concepts.



**Letter Knowledge**  
Knowing letters are different from each other, knowing their names and sounds and recognizing letters everywhere.



**Phonological Awareness**  
Being able to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words.



**Print Awareness**  
Noticing print, knowing how to handle a book, and how to follow the words on a page.

**WHAT YOU DO HELPS CHILDREN GET READY TO READ**



**Early Literacy in Motion:**  
*Read, Talk, Sing, Write and Play with Young Children*



**Fairfax County Public Library**  
We're everywhere you are



**Read With Your Preschooler**  
(Age 3-5 years)



**Read With Your Toddler**  
(Age 18-36 months)



**Read With Your Baby**  
(Birth-18 months)

# Storytime Resources for Staff and Volunteers

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Flannel songs, fingerplays, stories  
Board book sets  
Storytime kits  
Storytime props  
Puppets  
Big books

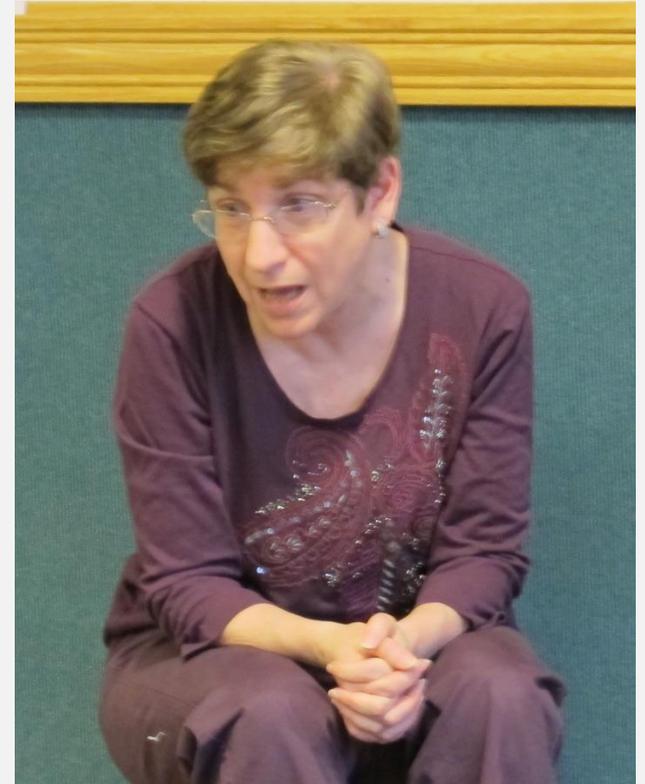


# What Does the Early Childhood Community Think?

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Our storytime person was incredible with our kids. Between the songs, puppets, activities and stories my students are always engaged and excited for her visits.

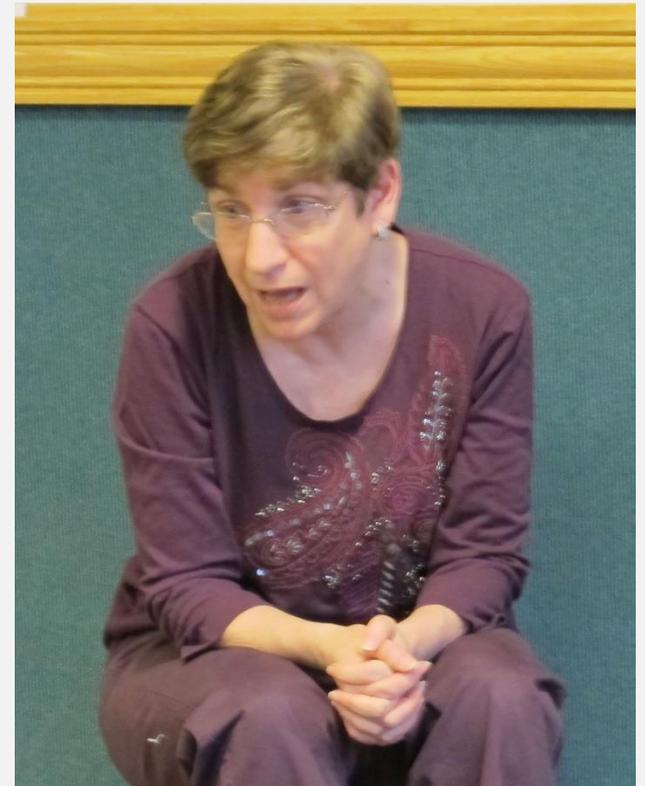
The storytime reader kept the children engaged and excited about the books that were being read. It really did help us to improve our own reading strategies.



# What Does the Early Childhood Community Think?

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Participating in the story times helped my class enhance language skills (expressive and receptive), self-regulations, concept development, social, music and movement. The strategies I observed and learned I incorporated in my own story time and used them during other times of the day and through-out the day.

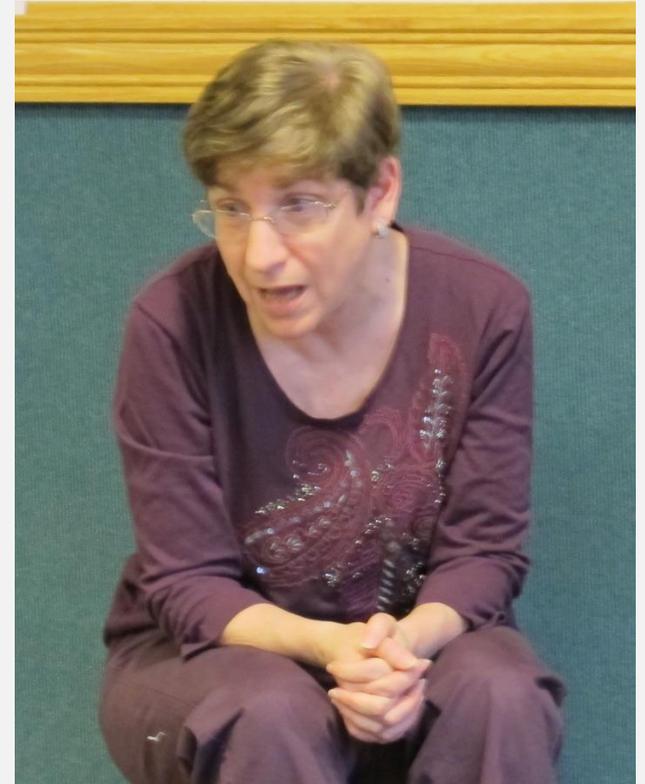


# What Does the Early Childhood Community Think?

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Watching my children engage with another adult, not their teacher, and see them thoroughly enjoying themselves is wonderful. We've turned our market/puppet theater into a library several times a year (at their request) so they can play "Ms. Jane's library."

She is just so engaging and involved with my students. I can get the kids so excited for her visit...that it's better than DisneyWorld when she arrives. And she never disappoints!

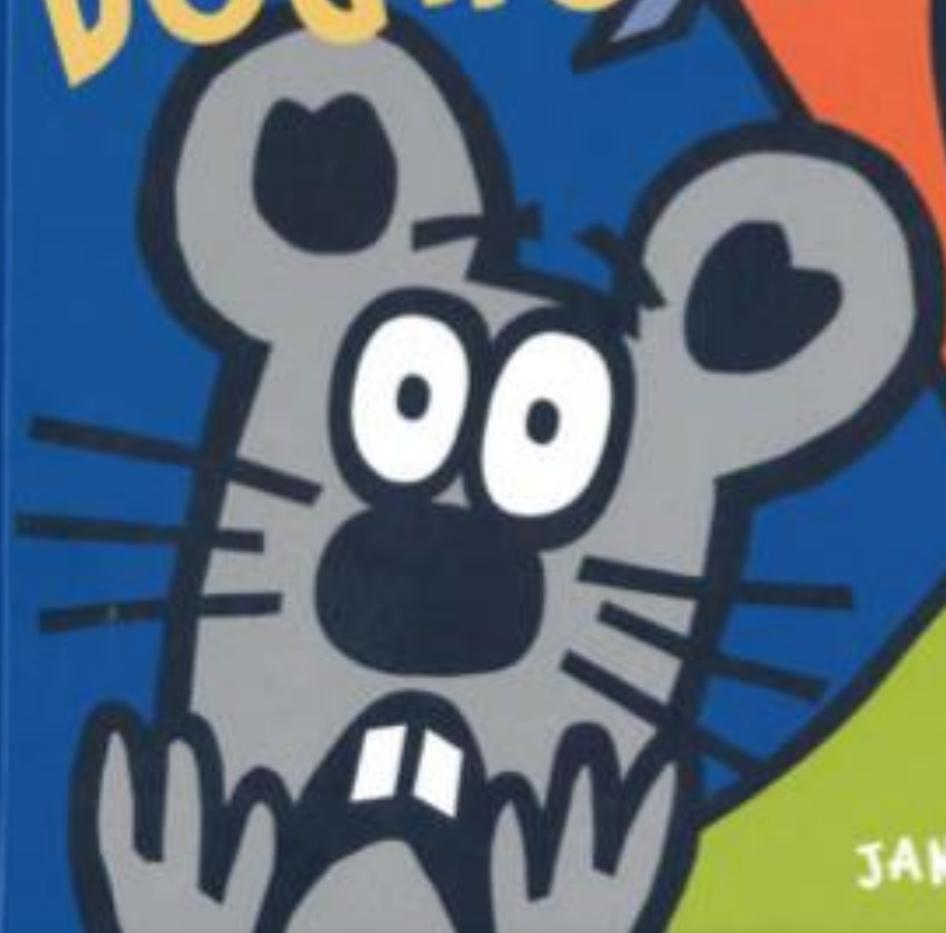


# Questions? Comments?

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# THE DOGHOUSE



JAN THOMAS

# Peanut Butter Jelly

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Peanut butter jelly,  
Butter and jam.

Let's say **goodbye** as slow as we can.

## Renee Edwards

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