



DENVER
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Inside this issue:

Research	2
2016 Share Sessions & Classes	2
New Books	2

Storytime Monthly

November 2015



Rae Pica on Movement in Learning

Written by Mary Pearl

On a crisp fall morning in October, author Rae Pica came to the Koelbel branch of the Arapahoe Library District to share her Early Literacy experiences with Early Literacy professionals from around the Denver Metro area. As a consultant for Sesame Street and an education consultant, her approach to Early Literacy is slightly different from that of Storytime providers in libraries. Her presentation was a wonderfully fresh look at the Early Literacy mantras we know so well.

At 8:00 on a Thursday morning, Ms. Pica had all 50+ librarians on their feet dancing, singing, and participating directly with the messaging she hopes will continue to be shared with the families attending our Storytime programming.

One of the mantras that she shared that day was the "+1" idea. What she meant was that, no matter what activity you do with your children or students, there is always a way to up it to the next level to include the idea of play or physical movement. For example, when talking about opposites like "high" and "low," invite the children to move their bodies to exemplify these words. This physical movement helps to integrate ideas and understanding more than sitting would do. The more movement we can incorporate into our Storytime sessions, the more children will learn!

She also taught us team building activities for children. One of them was a way to get children to pick partners very quickly. She told us to "stand back to back with someone as fast as you can." Everyone scrambled to find another person in the room, and none of us thought twice about who that person was. Ms. Pica explained that this helps to eliminate bullying and selectionism when children are choosing partners because they don't have time to think about it.

Another game we talked about was musical chairs, where instead of removing both a chair and a person, only a chair is removed. Then, all of the participants must work together to find ways to share the chair and ensure that everyone is successful. In playing musical chairs this way, it is ensuring inclusion and promoting problem-solving as a team.

If you want to read more about the importance of movement and learning, please look to these resources:

- [Great Games for Young Children](#) [Jump Into Literacy](#) [Brain Gym](#)
- [What if Everybody Understood Child Development?](#) [Smart Moves](#)

Tips Related to Avoiding Storytime

Burnout (These can apply to yourself or storytime families.)

Read: Try some new genres or authors. Your child may find something new that they are interested in

Write: Write a story together.

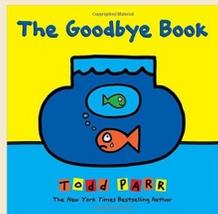
Talk: Talk about all the new things your child learned throughout the day. A great way to do this is with three questions:

- What was the best thing you learned today?
- What was the hardest thing you learned today?
- What was the silliest thing you learned today?

Sing: Learn a new song together or change the words to an old favorite.

Play: Play a new game or find an object around the house that you can make into a toy. Bowls and spoons make great drums.

New Books



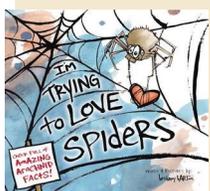
The Goodbye Book
by
Todd Parr

Through the viewpoint of a pet fish who has lost his companion, this book helps children learn to say goodbye. It touches on all of the emotions children experience, reminds readers that it's okay not to know all the answers, and that someone will always be there to support them. While not great for storytime, this is a great book to use for families experiencing loss.



Bear and Hare Snow!
by Emily Gravett

Bear and Hare experience snow together in this simple book. Hare loves the snow, but perhaps Bear needs a little more convincing. Tasting snowflakes, making snow angels, throwing snowballs and having fun together.



I'm Trying to Love Spiders
by
Bethany Barton

This book will help you see spiders in a whole new light, from their awesomely excessive eight eyes, to the seventy-five pounds of bugs a spider can eat in a single year! And you're sure to feel better knowing you have a better chance of being struck by lightning than being fatally bit by a spider. What a great non-fiction book to help introduce spiders.

Helping to avoid temper tantrums

We have all witnessed temper tantrums in the library over everything from not getting to take home more books to not getting a favorite color scarf. [PBS Parents](#) wrote a great article explaining the irrational behavior of toddlers. It explains how toddlers live in the moment and so do their emotions. This means they know what they want and they want it now! In addition, toddlers are learning they are separate beings from

their parents and can exert their control over others. They are beginning to learn manipulation and are pushing the limits to see what they can get away with. Finally, toddlers are learning they have emotions, but don't know how to control them. So what can adults do to help with all of this?

- Stay in control yourself. If you lose it during a toddler struggle, it can make matters

even worse.

- Validate their feelings. "I know you want the green plate and it makes you sad, but the green plate is dirty and we have to use a different plate today."
- Set limits and provide choices. "You can have either the pink or blue plate today."

Toddler tantrums are no fun, but these tricks can help you guide caregivers or yourself through.

2016 Early Literacy Share Sessions & Classes



Share Sessions

Tues, Jan 12th, CEN/Pavilion Early Intervention
Early Intervention

Wed, Feb 10th, CEN/Pavilion Bilingual/Spanish Storytime
Alberto Pellicer

Tues, Mar 8th, CEN/Pavilion Kids and Screens
Lauren Dennis/Simone Groene

Wed, Apr 13th SGB Sign Language
Ginger Conly/Emily Funk

Tues, May 10th, CEN/Pavilion Play and Learn Together
Lisa Dengerink

Wed, Jun 8th CEN/Pavilion Engaging Parents Outside of Storytime
Lisa Dengerink/Sarah McNeil

Tues, Jul 12th CEN/Pavilion Activities for Props/ Instruments/Best Stuff
Full Group

Wed, Aug 10th, CEN/Pavilion, Baby Storytime Best Practices
Amy Forrester/Carrie Wolfson

Tues, Sep 13th, CEN/Pavilion Comfort w/ Parents Before and After Storytime
Lisa Dengerink

Wed, Oct 12th CRK Early Learning Environments
Liesel Schmidt

Tues, Nov 8th, ? Storytime Management Techniques
?

Other Classes

Introduction to ECRR and Parent Tips
What is ECRR? Learn the Every Child Ready to Read concepts and how they relate to storytime. In addition, we will discuss the importance of caregiver tips and how to give them. *This class is required for all storytime providers.

Wed, Jan 20th, 8:30-10, CEN Tue, Apr 15th, 8:30-10, CEN Wed, Jul 20th, 8:30-10, CEN Tue, Oct 11th, 8:30-10, CEN

Storytime Structures and Objectives

How do we design storytimes to deliver the biggest impact and most fun? Learn the critical components of developmentally appropriate Baby, Toddler, Preschool, All Ages & Bilingual storytimes. * This class is required for all staff who present storytime.

Wed, Jan 27th, 8:30-10, CEN Tue, Apr 22nd, 8:30-10, CEN Wed, Jul 27th, 8:30-10, CEN Tue, Oct 18th, 8:30-10, CEN

Introduction to Early Literacy for All Staff

This presentation introduces the principles of Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR). We will focus on how you can incorporate early literacy into all aspects of the library. Each ECRR practice will be highlighted. All staff members, in all positions, are encouraged to attend.

* This class is required for all Senior Librarians who supervise storytime presenters.

Thu, Feb 4th, 8:30-10 UNH Tue, Aug 16th, 8:30-10 FOR

Observing Storytime for Senior Librarians

Wed, Feb 17th, 8:30-10 CEN
How do we design storytimes to deliver the biggest impact and most fun? Learn the critical components of storytime. We'll explore what to look for when observing staff and how we can share feedback consistently, support continuous growth and encourage risks.
