

MAY • 2021

# MONO COUNTY EARLY LITERACY NEWSLETTER



MONO COUNTY LIBRARIES



## TAKE A PEEK!

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## WHY AT-HOME LITERACY HABITS MATTER

BY CHALESE MILLER, EARLY LITERACY AND RAR COORDINATOR, MCOE, MAMMOTH LAKES LIBRARY

The days are getting longer, the weather is getting warmer, birds are singing, and smiles are being uncovered! Soon the 2020-21 school year will come to a close, and we will enter into summer mode. It's a time to slow down, take a deep breath, let go of some of those busy routines, and enjoy time with family and friends. As we enter into our summer modes, I just want to encourage each of you to keep those at-home literacy habits a priority. Most of us agree with the studies and information out there about the many benefits a child gains when being read to, or while flipping through the pages of a book and looking at the colorful illustrations. Did you know that there are numerous benefits for parents too? (Continued on page 3)

MONO COUNTY  
**RAISING  
A  
READER**

**END OF THE YEAR  
POP-UP CELEBRATION AND AWARD CEREMONY!**

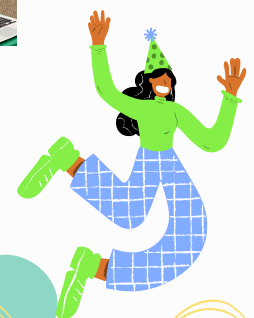
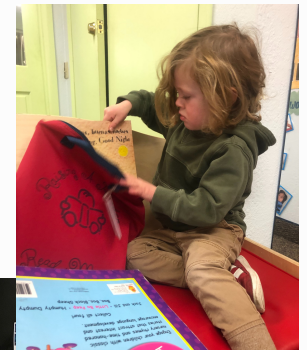


**LET'S CELEBRATE A JOB WELL DONE  
MONO COUNTY RAR!**

**2020-2021 MONO COUNTY RAR END-OF-  
THE-YEAR POP-UP CELEBRATION COMING TO  
YOUR PRESCHOOL SITE SOON!**

**PRESCHOOL AFFILIATES: PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR AFFILIATE  
SURVEY TODAY TO CONFIRM YOUR CELEBRATION DATE/TIME.**

**PARENTS: KEEP THOSE BRIGHT RED BAGS ROTATING IN YOUR  
HOME, AND BE SURE TO RETURN YOUR CHILD'S LIBRARY CARD  
APPLICATION SO THAT THEY CAN RECEIVE THEIR VERY OWN  
LIBRARY CARD AND "I LOVE READING" LANYARD AT THE  
CELEBRATION!**



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# YOUR LIBRARY CONNECTION

## WHY AT-HOME LITERACY HABITS MATTER

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Yes! Reading is good for EVERYONE! Children and parents alike benefit from the magic of sharing stories together, and here's why.

### THE CUDDLE FACTOR

Consider after a long hard day, or two, or three, the toll it takes on you mentally, physically, and emotionally. We sometimes underestimate the negative effects that stress has on our bodies. You may be less patient with others, and you might even find yourself generally irritable and fatigued.

Now, close your eyes and imagine those moments that you have experienced with your child snuggled next to you while you read-aloud to them. They point, they comment, and they snuggle in just a little closer. You can feel the stressors of your day and of the outside world melt away. Your body relaxes, your mind stops racing, and a smile dances across your face. Books have the incredible power to bring individuals together, and provide peaceful escapes.

### TRICKY SUBJECTS

If you are a parent of a young child, I don't have to tell you that tricky subjects and conversations will pop up regularly. The fact that everybody poops, that dinosaurs don't make good dinner guests, and questions about death and dying are all subjects that get a little tricky when talking with a child, right? We may laugh about dinosaurs at dinner, but my point is that sometimes a parent can use an extra tool in their toolbox to tackle these complicated, or tricky subjects. Books are a valuable resource. A child's core values and beliefs are primarily learned in the home. Books are a magical pathway for parents to use to share life lessons and morals. Reading-aloud with a child helps to open the door to conversation, and also strengthen a child's learning and understanding of those tricky subjects.



### A BOND THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME

I recall a time in high school while driving through an old shopping area, when my friend that I was with, randomly shared stories about visits she and her mother made to a little used bookstore that once existed in that particular shopping area. These trips that occurred during her early years were so special to her that she could even recall the specific book titles she took home, vividly! Her mother had made this experience around books a ritual. It wasn't just taking these books home from the store that made these trips so special, but also the feeling of importance and closeness she gained when her mother took her on these trips. Her mother created a sweet bond with her child through books and book collecting that will last a lifetime.

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Thanks for allowing me share why I believe that at-home literacy matters, and why reading is good for EVERYONE! I hope that you feel inspired to keep (or begin) the habit of reading-aloud with your child a priority this summer. The time you spend now investing in your child's literacy will have far reaching positive benefits long into the future. Be sure to come visit us at the library and 'check out' all the fun! Click [monocolibraries.org](https://monocolibraries.org) for more information.

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# YOUR LIBRARY CONNECTION

## SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT THE LIBRARY!



JULY 1st THROUGH AUGUST 10th

(Click on the image for more info. or visit [monocolibraries.org](http://monocolibraries.org))

**1 REGISTER ON BEANSTACK - WEBSITE OR APP**

**2 LOG YOUR READING MINUTES TO EARN DIGITAL BADGES & PRIZES FROM YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY**

**3 COMPLETE ACTIVITIES TO EXPLORE STORIES FROM NEAR & FAR. EARN DIGITAL BADGES & PRIZES FROM YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY.**

LOG 10 HOURS OR MORE OF READING & COMPLETE 3 ACTIVITIES TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM & BE ENTERED IN YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY'S GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE.

*Stories Color Our World*

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2021  
JULY 1 - AUGUST 10**

Mono County Free Library

MONO COUNTY LIBRARIES  
FREE LIBRARY

Virtual Storytime  
Live on Mammoth  
Lakes Facebook

Every Wednesday in  
English

lér y Ser Viernes en  
Español

Join STL StorytimeLive on Facebook at 10:30am every Wednesday in English and 1st/3rd Friday in Spanish

Mono County Early  
Literacy

Come and connect with other families and educators on Mono County Early Literacy FB Group Page



Watch local community members share a Children's book Read-Aloud during STP StorytimePresents! Mondays at 10:30am

Take home a STG StorytimeToGo Kit today. Each bag is filled with themed titles, school readiness skill building activities, and supplies. Just open and enjoy!

