



Timberland
Regional
Library

News Release

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Timberland Regional Library; Website: www.TRL.org; Information: 704-4636 in Olympia area, or 1-800-562-6022.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 18, 2011

Rocket to Reading with the TRL Family Read-Aloud

Families, preschools and primary classrooms are invited to join in the Timberland Regional Library (TRL) 10th annual districtwide “Family Read-Aloud” program happening from March 2 (Dr. Seuss’s birthday) through April 12 (Beverly Cleary’s birthday).

“Fun—that’s what the Family Read-Aloud is all about, the fun of reading aloud together, often—even every day—in every room in the home, including some pretty wacky areas, such as the laundry room and the stairs,” said Ellen Duffy, TRL Youth Services Coordinator.

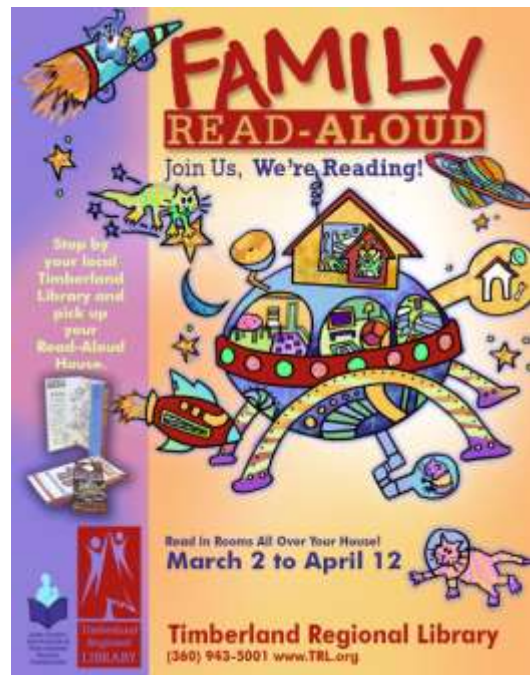
Get aboard the Rocket to Reading

Parents, childcare providers and teachers can pick up a free Read-Aloud kit at any Timberland branch library beginning March 2. The program focuses on children from infancy through grade three, but all ages are encouraged to join in the fun of reading aloud together. Most libraries are also hosting Read-Aloud celebration events or activities.

Kits will include an original drawing of a whimsical flying-saucer home with views inside the rooms to color or place stickers on. The kit also includes stickers, a read-aloud booklist, and a prize drawing entry form. Prizes will include hundreds of books provided by many Friends of the Library groups. The grand prizes will be suitcases filled with books, one for each of TRL’s five counties, because kids in read-aloud families and classrooms are “going places!” Complete details are available in all Timberland libraries and online at www.TRL.org.

It’s child’s play!

“Play is a child’s work. From birth through the primary grades, playful learning is the kind that takes root and grows,” said Duffy “Research (and common sense) tells us that parents are the first and most important teachers of their children,” said Duffy. “Start by reading aloud to your



children. Have fun! Laugh. Sing and tell nursery rhymes. Play with language.” Here are a few ideas:

- Make a game out of finding words that rhyme.
- Sing together to build vocabulary, inspire a smile and encourage movement.
- Let your child talk, tell stories, “read” a book’s pictures to you.
- Get acquainted with favorite book characters. Clifford, Olivia, Madeline, Frog & Toad, Horton, the Cat in the Hat, Amelia Bedelia and Curious George will become comfortable friends.
- Play color, number and word games in the car—who can find something red? Where do you see the number 4? Find some of the letters in your name? On longer trips, play children’s music CDs.
- Attend a Read-Aloud event together at a Timberland library.

Here are a few of the events coming in March and April: the Mother Goose Olympics at the Chehalis library, Eric Ode’s Dr. Seuss concert at the Lacey and Hoquiam libraries, Noisy Tales with Charlie Williams at Belfair’s North Mason library, Read to a dog with Paws-to-Read at the Olympia and Tumwater libraries, Bookish Pets Photo Contests at the Tenino and Naselle libraries, Read to the Librarian at the Westport library, Reading Magic with Jeff Evans at the Amanda Park library and many, many Dr. Seuss and Beverly Cleary birthday parties at various libraries in TRL’s five counties.

Why reading aloud to children matters

“The early years set the stage for later learning...the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.” (*On Becoming a Nation of Readers*)

Vocabulary development by age three has been found to predict reading achievement by third grade. And high school graduation can be predicted by a child’s reading skill at the end of grade three. (*National Research Council*)

The Library’s annual Read-Aloud early learning initiative focuses on lasting values of families reading with their children from birth—nurturing, creating memories, modeling reading enjoyment, starting a habit of reading together, developing readers, and helping children achieve future success at school.

It begins with the simple joys of reading, singing and playing together.

Family Read-Aloud events at Timberland libraries

Grays Harbor Timberland Libraries

Aberdeen, (360) 533-2360

- **February 26, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**, Dr. Seuss Birthday Party
- **April 9, 2-3 p.m.**, Junior PageTurners Book Group for Kids: "The Mouse and the Motorcycle" by Beverly Cleary (Register in advance.) for grades 1-6

Amanda Park, (360) 288-2725

- **March 8, 10:30-11:15 a.m.**, Reading Magic with Jeff Evans

Hoquiam, (360) 532-1710

- **March 5, 12, 19, 26, 2-3 p.m.**, Readers' Theatre Read-Aloud for grades 4-6 and teens
- **April 2, 2-3 p.m.**, Read-Aloud and Dr. Seuss Party with Eric Ode

McCleary, (360) 495-3368

- **March 5, 1-2 p.m.**, Dr. Seuss Birthday Party

Montesano Timberland Library (W. H. Abel Memorial Library), (360) 249-4211

- **March 5, 2-3:30 p.m.**, Dr. Seuss Birthday Party

Oakville, (360) 273-5305

- **March 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**, Dr. Seuss Birthday Party
- **April 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**, D.E.A.R. - Drop Everything And Read Event

Westport, (360) 268-0521

- **March 1-31**, Read Aloud with a Librarian, for children

Lewis County Timberland Libraries

Centralia, (360) 736-0183

- **March 19, 3-4 p.m.**, Family Dance Party for ages birth to 10, accompanied by an adult

Chehalis, (360) 748-3301

- **March 16, 4-5 p.m.**, Mother Goose Olympics for ages 2-6

Winlock, (360) 785-3461

- **March 10, 1-2 p.m. & 3:30-4:40 p.m.**, Junior PageTurners Book Group for Kids: "The Mouse and the Motorcycle" by Beverly Cleary, grades 1-3 (Register in advance.)

Mason County Timberland Libraries

North Mason (Belfair), (360) 275-3232

- **March 2-April 9**, Drop Everything and READ! Contest for children
- **March 3, 4-4:45 p.m.**, Noisy Tales: with The Noiseguy, Charlie Williams

Shelton, (360) 426-1362

- **March 1, 11-11:30 a.m.**, Dr. Seuss Family Story Time
- **March 2-April 12**, Read-Aloud Basket Drawing
- **March 18, 1-4 p.m.**, Games for Young Families

Pacific County Timberland Libraries

Naselle, (360) 484-3877

- **March 2-31**, Bookish Pets: A Photo Contest, for children
- **April 1-30**, Beverly Cleary Guessing Contest, for children
- **April 6, 2-3 p.m.**, LEGO® Play!

Ocean Park, (360) 665-4184

- **March 2-April 12**, Name That Book! For children
- **March 2, 3:15-4 p.m.**, Family Read-Aloud Afterschool Activities, for children
- **April 2-30**, Beverly Cleary Guessing Contest, for children
- **April 13, 3:15-4 p.m.**, Family Read-Aloud Afterschool Activities, for children

Raymond, (360) 942-2408

- **March 2, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**, Dr. Seuss Birthday Party
- **March 9, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**, Dr. Seuss Crafternoon
- **April 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**, Beverly Cleary Book Club, for grades 1-6

South Bend, (360) 875-5532

- **March 5, 1-2 p.m.**, Dr. Seuss Birthday Party

Thurston County Timberland Libraries

Lacey, (360) 491-3860

- **April 5, 2:30-4:30 p.m.**, Movie Day for Kids
- **April 7, 3-4 p.m.**, Eric Ode's The Doctor's in the House (Seuss), for children
- **April 12, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**, Celebrate Beverly Cleary's Birthday! for children

Olympia, (360) 352-0595

- **March 2-April 12**, Diary of a Reader, for grades 4-7
- **March 5, 11, 11:45 a.m.**, Reading Magic with Jeff Evans, for children
- **March 19, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**, PAWS to R.E.A.D., for children grades 1-6

Tenino, (360) 264-2369

- **March 2, 11:15 a.m.-noon**, Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration and Family Story Time
- **March 2-April 12**, Bookish Pets: A Photo Contest
- **April 6, 11:15 a.m.-noon**, Beverly Cleary's Birthday Celebration and Family Story Time

Tumwater, (360) 943-7790

- **March 5, 2-2:45 p.m.**, Reading Magic with Jeff Evans, for children
- **April 9, 1-3 p.m.**, Caricatures by Cartoonist Frank Frazee
- **April 9, 1-3 p.m.**, PAWS to R.E.A.D., for grades 1-6

Yelm, (360) 458-3374

- **March 2-April 12**, Cat in the Hat's Growing Hat
- **March 19, 1-3 p.m.**, Family Children's Book Swap
- **April 7, 2-4 p.m.**, Bringing Books Alive with Molly Piper

Timberland Regional Library provides for the information, reading and lifelong learning needs of the Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston county public at 27 community public libraries and 7 library service partner locations. The library system is funded mainly by local property taxes. Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in a library's program may contact the library one week in advance.

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