

Celebrate a culture of reading

By Paulina Poplawska, Library Director

Every year, we celebrate a culture of reading with March is Reading Month. The month starts with Dr. Seuss' birthday. It's not only about celebrating the joys of reading but promoting reading, early childhood learning and development. There are two weeks left in the month to cultivate activities around reading.

The best way is to...

Share Books. Reading together is the best way to raise a reader. It is also a great way to lead by example. Reading your own books or magazines.

Share Sounds. Sounds are the building blocks of words.

Share Playtime. Playing together builds a loving bond between you and your child.

Share Stories. Listening to stories helps your child connect with the world.

Share Rhymes. Rhymes help your child understand that words have different parts.

Share Words. Knowing many words helps your child build a strong vocabulary.

Share Songs. Songs add joy to the understanding of sounds and words.

"March is Reading Month" activities you can still complete this month (and next!) with your kiddos:

Read for 20 minutes.

Draw a picture that goes with a favorite nursery rhyme.

Join in on a storytime at the library on Monday mornings at 10 a.m.

On March 25, read a Mercy Watson book to celebrate Kate DiCamillo's birthday!

Talk about the weather.

Play a word game.

Make up a menu for the day.

Write a joke and share it with everyone you meet today.

Visit the library's website www.newulmlibrary.org and search for new books to read together.

Youth Services Librarian Kathryn Tatnall suggests that the best thing to do is to read to your child every night as a way to decompress from the day for both of you (or the whole family) and build a habit. More importantly, start a dialogue about what you are reading. Ask questions. Build strong readers!

We look forward, as always, to seeing you in the library!