

Oh, the Thinks You Can Think

Arabic and Persian for Children!



Connect with the World in our Learn and Play Space!

Every Saturday morning we offer Arabic and Persian language immersion learning in the Learn and Play Space.

These programs are made possible through a partnership with the Bridges Project, administered by the IU Center for the Study of Global Change.

The **Bridges: Children, Languages, World Project** strives to expose children to less commonly taught languages and culture through **play, games, crafts, stories, puppet shows, and interactive activities**. Exploratory programs in Arabic and Persian are led by IU students, some of them native speakers of their respective languages.

No registration is necessary for these programs. Just drop in!

Alef Ba (Arabic), Saturdays, 10:30 ? 11:15 a.m.

Yek, Doh, Seh (Persian), Saturdays 11:30 a.m. ? noon



Posted by Josh W. on February 5, 2014

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Josh W.'s blog [Log in to post comments](#)

Caldecott Worthy Books from 2013

It's award season again! And in the Children's Department that means we're looking forward to the upcoming ALA Youth Media Awards. On Monday the 2014 winners of the Newbery, Caldecott, Printz, and Coretta Scott King Book Awards will be announced honoring the most distinguished books published in 2013. In particular, the Caldecott is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children to the artist of the most outstanding American picture book for children. For the second year in a row we put together what we've deemed the Caldecart™, a library cart full of picture books published last year. For the first Caldecart we looked at around 30 books. This year we went crazy with 66 to peruse and evaluate!



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Posted by Aubrey D. on January 23, 2014

[Award Winner](#)

[Caldecott Award](#)

[Caldecott Honor](#)

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Combat Cabin Fever in The Learn and Play Space



Grandparents are so important in a young child's life. Whether you see your grandkids every day or once a year, you want to share experiences that form a lasting bond with them. During these chilly days and freezing evenings, the library is the perfect destination for grandparents with their visiting grandchildren to find relief from cabin fever. Children's Services offers many great features for young ones in our preschool area and in the Learn and Play Space. Children and their grandparents can take a break from selecting books, CDs, DVDs and computer games to explore all of the things to do in the gathering area near the baby board books. You will find comfy seating, a doll house, a train table, activity cubes, a puzzle table and a nest of AWE computers preloaded with exciting learning games.



The Learn and Play Space is a room dedicated to children ages birth through 6 years. Here you will find a Writing Center to practice writing notes and drawing pictures. There are a Kitchen, a Store, and a Puppet stage where you and your grandchildren can engage in pretend play. The center of the room features puzzles and other activities on our theme of the month, ?Winter.?

The building area houses an exciting polar scene where children can build a world of igloos and icebergs. You'll even find a place dedicated to babies who are not yet walking.



These areas were designed to support your grandchild's early literacy development. Studies show that guidance from a caring adult is critical to helping children get the most from these experiences. Come visit the library. Your grandchildren will think you are playing together, but you will know that you are helping to lay the foundation for their future success in reading and in life.



Posted by Aubrey D. on January 12, 2014

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[Aubrey D.'s blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

Frozen Preschool Science and Math Fun at Home and at the Library



One of my favorite things to hear from parents during our monthly Preschool Science and Math program is, "We are going to try this at home!" Creating opportunities for parents and their preschool-aged children explore science together is a big part of our mission in the promotion of early literacy ? and why we devote time and resources to preschool science and math. [Research](#) tells us that the more children know about the world, and the more opportunities they have to talk with adults about what they know, the more likely they will become successful readers. While talking about science and math may sound daunting, in a preschool context it has to be playful, hands-on, and fun! Below are a few things we did earlier in the month exploring winter topics.

Try them at home and see if you had as much fun as we did at the library. [Read more](#)

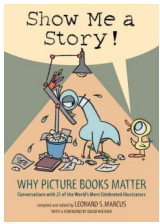
Posted by Christina J. on December 26, 2013

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[Christina J.'s blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

Show Me a Story! (Why Picture Books

Matter)



[view in catalog](#)

Before they read words, children are reading pictures. In picture books, the illustrations work in concert with the text in a way that is unique among art forms.

In the forward to *Show Me a Story! Why Picture Books Matter: Conversations with 21 of the World's Most Celebrated Illustrators*, award-winning author and illustrator David Wiesner explains why we celebrate National Picture Book Month in November (actually, MCPL Children's Services Librarians celebrate them year-round! Here's more from Wiesner about why we love picturebooks?): [Read more](#)

Posted by Lisa C. on November 25, 2013

[Show me a story! why picture books matter : conversations with 21 of the world's most celebrated illustrators](#)

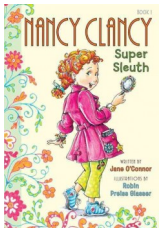
[Caldecott Award](#)

[Picture Book](#)

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)

[Lisa C.'s blog](#)[Log in to post comments](#)

Big Library Read features Nancy Clancy eBook



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It's always hard to say goodbye at a story's end to characters you've grown fond of and enjoyed spending time with. That's one of the great joys of series books and why they appeal to readers of all ages: you don't have to say goodbye; you can look forward to meeting up with familiar characters in the next book.

[Read more](#)

Posted by Lisa C. on September 13, 2013

[Nancy Clancy, super sleuth. Book 1](#)

[First Chapter Book](#)

[Mystery](#)

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