The Maine Family Literacy Initiative and Raising Readers are pleased to present “Literacy Explorer Kits”.

Each Literacy Explorer Kit provides theme activities for the 2010 Raising Readers Collection, and the kits include the following:

- General Reading Tips and Developmental Information for the different age groups.
- A Playgroup Map that contains: discussion activities, literacy extensions, craft and snack ideas, and parent education tips. Some include science and math ideas that relate to the book.
- Parent and Child Together Time Idea Sheets that assist parents in extending the learning from the playgroup. The PACT sheet provides simple ideas for families to do together around the book, such as craft ideas and songs to sing together.
- An Explorer Bag Information Sheet lists items that can be placed in a take home “Explorer Bag” for families.
- A Journal Sheet for the parent. They can reflect on the activities they did with their child. A portion of the journal sheet is for the Family Literacy Provider to “write back” to the parent.
- Reference and Resource List

Family Literacy Providers can determine which activities will work best with their families. **All activities should be supervised by a parent or caregiver.** Most Playgroup Maps have activities for more than one playgroup. Each Playgroup Map has activities that match the Age Milestone listed by the book on the Raising Readers’ Book List. Groups Newborn through 18 Months also have ideas for the general preschool age.

Happy Reading and Playing!
# BOOK LIST 2010

Celebrating 10 years and almost 1.5 million books given to children in Maine. For more information call 1-800-397-3263 or visit www.raisingreaders.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newborn</th>
<th>9 months</th>
<th>2 years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read To Your Bunny Very First Library by Rosemary Wells</td>
<td>Peek-a-Boo WHO? by Simms Taback</td>
<td>Little Blue Truck by Alice Schertle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baby's World? DK Publishing</td>
<td>Walk with Me! by Stella Blackstone</td>
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<td>A Red Train Boxcar Books</td>
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<th>2 months</th>
<th>12 months</th>
<th>3 years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Little Scholastic Colors Scholastic Inc</td>
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<td>Bob by Tracey Campbell Pearson</td>
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<tr>
<th>4 months</th>
<th>15 months</th>
<th>4 years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baby Faces by Margaret Miller</td>
<td>If You're Happy and You Know It! by Jane Cabrera</td>
<td>A Visitor for Bear by Bonny Becker</td>
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<tr>
<th>6 months</th>
<th>18 months</th>
<th>5 years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Colors Peekaboo! DK Publishing</td>
<td>Two at the Zoo by Danna Smith</td>
<td>Books From Maine: A Raising Readers Collection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Literacy Explorer Kit

*Bob* by Tracey Campbell Pearson

This kit includes the following:

- **General Reading Tips & Developmental Information**
  (Place a copy in “Explorer Bags”)

- **Playgroup Map – Theme Related Activities**

- **Parent and Child Together Time Ideas**
  (Place a copy in “Explorer Bags” with needed supplies)

- **Explorer Bag Information Sheet**
  (Place a copy in “Explorer Bags”)

A Collaboration of the Maine Family Literacy Initiative
& Raising Readers
PC 2011
General Reading Tips & Developmental Information

General Reading Tips:
✓ Find a time to read every day. Bedtime is a great time to read - it will help your child relax before bed.
✓ Cuddle Up! This is the time to get cozy.
✓ Be Silly! Be Funny! Use Sound Effects!
✓ Read it - Again and Again and Again...Children love to read the same book more than once.
✓ Follow your child’s lead; let him/her set the pace.
✓ Talk about what you read: What do you think will happen next? What would you have done if you were that character?

For your Three Year Old:
✓ Ask questions while you read
✓ Look for patterns and rhymes
✓ Sing the story
✓ Trace the letters and “search” for letters while reading
✓ Make Sound Affects - Act it Out - Get SILLY!

Developmental Milestones You May Notice:
✓ Names colors and may know some numbers
✓ Recalls parts of a story
✓ Paints or draws circles and squares
✓ Uses 3-4 word sentences
✓ Asks Why?
**Read the Book:**

- First, take a picture walk through this brightly colored story. Have the children guess what the animals are doing. Ask them:
  - What do you think this animal says?
  - Where do you think this Rooster is going?
- While reading the book:
  - Make the animal sounds with the children – stress the beginning sound of each animal sound (the author uses a pattern).
  - Read the book two times in a row. The second time the children will be familiar with the animal sounds and make them with you.
  - When you finish reading the story, ask the children: “What sound do you think the fox makes?” (The fox is the only animal in the story that does not make a sound.)

**Literacy Extensions:**

- Animal charades
  - With the children’s help, write the names of the different animals in *Bob* on index cards. For younger children, add the animal picture. Draw the animal with your child or look for these animals in magazines to cut out.
- Gather round with animal sounds.
  - Make a set of index cards – 2 cards per animal. Write the SOUND the animal makes on the card. Pass one card of the set out to each family.
  - Families move around the room making their animal sound. For example, if they are a cow they “moo” and listen for the other family that is mooing!
  - This is a great way to gather families together for story time!
- Now that the children have explored the animal sounds, talk about what sounds they make. Why are the animal sounds sometimes silly?
  - Have the children AND parents share words that they think are silly. Why are they silly? Put them in a silly sentence.
  - Ask children AND parents: If you were an animal, what sound would you make?
- *Bob* is scared in the darkness. How does *Bob* look when he is scared? (Use “Bob Scared” picture from author)
- *Bob* is brave at the end of the story. How does *Bob* look when he is brave?

**Literacy Craft:**

- Animal Parade
  - Have each child choose an animal from *Bob*. Make a costume using a large paper bag or trash bag, and recycled materials. Children can make a mask for their animal and practice their animal sound.
  - Be sure to tell parents to supervise the children if using the trash bag for the costume.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Have the parade with the children making their special sound!</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discuss with the children what we wear to stay warm. What protects are body?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-cut animals from the story on cardstock or heavy material.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lay out feathers, cotton balls, yarn, and any other material that would feel like the outside of an animal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The children cover their animal with the appropriate material.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Let everyone touch the different animals and have a conversation about textures.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Parent Education:</th>
<th>When completing the above activities, it is important to be “transparent” with parents.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Include them in making the animal sounds</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Show them how to emphasize different sounds in a fun way while reading the book and playing charades.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use the “Bob Scared” picture to discuss feelings and expressions.</td>
<td>Parents can learn to say to their child, “I know you are sad because you look….and are saying…” Be transparent about how they can use words to discuss their feelings and their child’s feelings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Snack:                                                                | What did Bob want to eat? BUGS! |
|                                                                      | Create a flying insect:         |
|                                                                      | Fill a celery stick with peanut butter |
|                                                                      | Use carrots (shredded work best) for legs and arms, raisins for eyes, string cheese for the antennae |

| Attached Activity Sheets from the Author:                             | Bob Rooster Mask               |
|                                                                      | Buggy Bob Crown                |
|                                                                      | Bob Scared Picture             |
Parent and Child Together Time Ideas

*Bob* by Tracey Campbell Pearson

**READ THE BOOK:**
- Ask to borrow *Bob* and read it 3-4 times over a week. What does your child notice each time you read it to him/her?
- You can change how you read it. Together:
  - Sing the book ♪ “Bob, a rooster, lived with a bunch of chickens.”
  - Act it Out – hop like the rabbit, wag your tail like the dog.
  - Make Sound Effects – Chew your “cud”, Be very quiet

**ANIMAL CHARADES:**
- Have your child help you make charade cards that match the animals in *Bob*.
- Write the names of the different animals in *Bob* on index cards
- Draw the animal with your child or look for these animals in magazines to cut out.
- Stack the charade cards and shuffle them. Take turns drawing one card and pretending to be that animal.
- Guess what type of animal it is!

**MAKING FACES:**
- Sometimes in the story *Bob* is scared, sometimes brave.
- Make faces with your child for happy, sad, brave - any emotion!
MAKE A PUPPET:
- Decorate a lunch size paper bag as one of the animals in *Bob*
- Use crayons, yarn, fabric, and other art supplies
- Make more puppets and act out the story!

TIME TO DANCE:
- Let's do the Chicken Dance! Sing the tune:
  - “I don’t want to be chicken” (talking hands four times)
  - “I don’t want to be a rooster” (flapping arms like a rooster four times)
  - “I just want to be me!” (wiggle bottom four times)

SING A SONG:
The Cow in the Barn goes Moo Moo Moo,
Moo Moo Moo, Moo Moo Moo
The Cow in the Barn goes Moo Moo Moo,
Moo Moo Moo, Moo Moo Moo
All Around the Farm.
The Pig in the Pen goes Oink, Oink, Oink...
The Hens in the Coop go Cluck, Cluck, Cluck...
The Lambs on the Hill go Baa, Baa, Baa...
The Ducks on the Pond go Quack, Quack, Quack...

(Sing to the tune of The Wheels on the Bus)
This Explorer Bag Contains the Following:

- Reading Tips & Developmental Information For Your Three Year Old
- Parent and Child Together Time (PACT) Idea Sheet
- Supplies You Will Need For PACT Ideas:
  - Index Cards
  - Lunch Size Paper Bags
  - Crayons, Fabric, Yarn
  - Bob Scared Picture
- Journal Activity Sheet
**JOURNAL - *Bob* by Tracey Campbell Pearson**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What did you like about the book <em>Bob</em>? What do you think your child’s favorite part was?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who was your child’s favorite animal in the book? Why do you think that?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What PACT activity did you do with your child? What went well? What didn’t go so well?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I'll write back to you here...
Bob Rooster Mask

In addition to the mask patterns you will need:

* Construction paper/cardstock. White if you want to color them, yellow or orange for the beak and red or orange for the comb. Or...you can use any color you want. Get silly - have fun! Bob can be black with white spots or purple with pink spots or make a rainbow rooster.

* Crayons, markers, glitter, feathers or anything you imagine for your mask...remember there are no rights or wrongs for this!

* Scissors, stapler and/or tape.

* Paint sticks or yarn

Copy all pattern pieces. For each mask, cut out one face (**including the eyeholes) and two wattles.

Cut the beak with line "a" on the fold. Then fold back each side on line "b" and tape to the face just below the eyes. Tape the wattles on the inside edges of the beak.

Cut a comb with line "a" on the fold. Accordion fold so the shortest pieces are to the front and the longest pieces are on the back. Then it is best to staple this to the top of the mask.

Attach the mask to a paint stick or add yarn ties on either side to tie in the back.

Enjoy!!

**For younger children it is a good idea for an adult cut out the eyeholes on the face then let the children do the rest.
In addition to the rooster and bug patterns, you will need:

* Crayons or markers...glitter is fun for the bugs!
* Strips of poster board about 2" wide and long enough to fit a child’s head.
* Pipe cleaners: 1 per bug.
* Tape and/or stapler and scissors.

Color the rooster and bugs and cut them out. Attach the rooster to the strip.

Wrap the pipe cleaners around a pencil to make a squiggle. Attach each bug to the crown, taping the pipe cleaner to the bug and the crown.

Fit the crown to the child’s head and watch the bugs wiggle on the squiggles!

For more activities, recipes, patterns and ideas... check out the activities section of the web site at www.traceycampbellpearson.com
References

Armbruster, Lehr, and Osborn (2006), *A Child Becomes a Reader*, National Institute for Literacy, RMC Research Corporation, Portsmouth, NH


Kuffner, Trish (1999), *The Toddler Busy Book*, Meadow Brook Press, Minnetonka, Minnesota


Manoloson, Ward, and Dodington (2007), *You Make The Difference*, The Hanen Centre Toronto, ON Canada


National Center for Family Literacy and Snuggle (2002), *Reading Through The Years*, Gruner+Jahr Publishing, USA

National Center for Family Literacy (2009), *What Works – An Introductory Teacher Guide for Early Language and Emergent Literacy Instruction*, Based on the National Early Literacy Panel Report, Louisville, KY

Reading to Your Baby (n.d.), from babycare.com retrieved August 4, 2011 from [http://www.babycare.com/0_reading-to-your-baby_368.bc](http://www.babycare.com/0_reading-to-your-baby_368.bc)

Springvale Public Library, *Baby Rhyme Time* (2011), Springvale, Maine


Your 4-Month-Old’s Development: Week 1 (n.d.), from babycare.com retrieved August 4, 2011 from [http://www.babycare.com/0_your-4-month-olds-development-week-1_1477216.bc#articlesection3](http://www.babycare.com/0_your-4-month-olds-development-week-1_1477216.bc#articlesection3)

Resources

American Academy of Pediatrics
www.healthychildren.org

Baby Center
www.babycenter.com

Candlewick Press, Raising Readers
Publisher Activity Sheets for *A Visitor for Bear* by Bonny Becker and *Bob* by Tracey Campbell Pearson

Everything Preschool – Early Childhood Education Made Easy
www.everythingpreschool.com

Medline Plus
www.nlm.nih.gov

Scholastic
www.scholastic.com

Songs for Teaching
www.songsforteaching.com

The Perpetual Preschool
www.perpetualpreschool.com

What To Expect
www.whatttoexpect.com