YOU’RE NEVER TOO OLD FOR PICTURE BOOKS

One of my assigned parental duties is bedtime stories. It’s a pretty sweet gig! I check out stacks of picture books and ‘present’ one to my two dozing children (silly voices and all) every night. While most picture books are written for a younger audience than ‘ahem’ myself, I have to admit that I enjoy them quite a bit. They are wildly creative, often very funny, deep at times, and thoroughly enjoyable for every age.

What I propose is this: You don’t need children to love a children’s book. The first time I read *Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type*, I was a single college student delightfully surprised by the political undertones. To this day, *Click, Clack, Moo* is the only children’s book I’ve known to use the word ‘ultimatum.’ The domino effect of *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* could be a metaphor for my adult life. And the wry, sarcastic tone of Lane Smith’s *The Happy Hocky Family* easily makes it more than a primer for kindergarten.

Click here to read more...

FOR THE LOVE OF LANGUAGE

I like a challenge, and learning another language is definitely that. While I would love to move to a tropical location to practice my Spanish every day, that just isn’t practical – at least right now. However, there are ways that I can practice every day, so that when I do get the opportunity to visit that tropical locale, I’m ready to go. Let the library help you learn a new language. Here are a few tips:

*Be realistic.* No one learned their native language overnight. Baby steps are still steps toward the ultimate goal. I would also venture to say that there is always learning in our native language, so why would learning a second language ever stop? It is a continual process, and certainly there are frustrations, missteps, and road blocks along the way.

Click here to read more...
YOU’RE NEVER TOO OLD FOR PICTURE BOOKS continued

There is an art to creating picture books, and it’s more complex than you might think. Some of them are artistic masterpieces, such as the works of Chris Van Allsburg (The Polar Express, Jumanji) or the retold fairy tales of Paul O. Zelinsky. Some are high concept like The Book with No Pictures by B.J. Novak or Press Here by Hervé Tullet. (And There’s a Monster at the End of this Book is as meta as anything you’d find in a modern art museum.) Still others just make you laugh such as Dragons Love Tacos and Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed.

The truth is, picture books are great at any age. They don’t take a lot of time, so it’s easy to squeeze one into a busy schedule. They’ll make you smile, and science says that smiling reduces even grown-up stress. Some side effects may include lightening up, living a little and reconnecting with your inner child. I’m not saying that The Lorax should be your next book group selection, but I am saying that there are pages and pages of colorful joy waiting to brighten your day if you’re only willing to give them a try. Who’s too old for that?

And, hey! If you do have children, you can totally pretend you’re checking them out for them. Your secret’s safe with me.

Turn the page to see a list of titles to get you started.

- Rapunzel by Paul O. Zelinsky
- The Mysteries of Harris Burdick by Chris Van Allsburg
- Chloe and the Lion by Mac Barnett
- The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka
- The Book with No Pictures by B. J. Novak
- Dragons Love Tacos by Adam Rubin
- Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs by Mo Willems
- Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers
- Mr. Tiger Goes Wild by Peter Brown
- Flotsam by David Wiesner
- The Happy Hocky Family Moves to the Country by Lane Smith
- Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type by Doreen Cronin

- by David, Librarian at Lincoln Park Library
Be practical. Language learning has multiple levels – reading, listening, speaking. All three take time and practice. Many of the options below incorporate reading, listening, and speaking; some focus only on one. Daily practice is essential. Even five minutes a day is better than nothing. Be persistent. And, have fun. The more fun something is, the more likely you are to keep working.

Be forgiving. Know that when you speak a foreign language, you are going to make mistakes. No one is looking for perfection. No one is going to be critical. Take a deep breath and just do your best. The most essential is to communicate, and most native speakers are forgiving and willing to help.

Best of luck and congratulations on your new learning adventure!

¡Buen suerte! Buena fortuna!

LIBRARY RESOURCES -

Services

Intercambio – Intercambio meets every Thursday at Riverside Library and Cultural Center, 3700 Golden in Evans at 6pm. This group is for native English speakers wanting to practice their Spanish and for native Spanish speakers who want to practice their English. The relaxed environment makes learning fun. If you have further questions or would like more information, please call Maggie at 970-506-8848.

Available for Checkout

Pimsleur – Here is a great way to take advantage of your commute. Pimsleur, is a program developed by Paul Pimsleur – a scholar in the field of applied linguistics. The program has five levels; each level contains 30 30-minute audio lessons. Pimsleur’s encourages speaking only – no homework, no conjugations to memorize, and no repetitive worksheets. Each lesson starts with a short conversation which is repeated twice. As you progress within the lessons, the conversations get longer, but the bulk of the 30 minutes is you answering the speaker – various questions, conversational phrases, and prompts.

Available on www.MyLibrary.us and as Apps

The library has two online databases to help you learn a language. To access these databases, visit www.mylibrary.us; click online, then databases by subject on the dropdown menu and select the language tab, and you will see both Mango and Pronunciator. Each database is free, and it is best to create an account to track your progress.

Mango – Users can choose from over 70 languages, and each language has multiple lessons. Videos are a great component to this service as you can choose to have subtitles shown in either language (your native language or the one you are learning) or not at all. Mango also has a voice comparison feature.

Pronunciator – Listen to music in the language you are trying to learn or watch a full length feature film – which includes quizzes to gauge your learning. Users can choose their learning style from a structured week by week course or a more general learning main lesson. Another feature is the ability to adjust the speed of the speaker. Courses within Pronunciater are intended to be 8 weeks long with 1-3 lessons being completed per day. It is suggested that users spend 30-60 minutes per lesson. Another feature is that users can sign up for a ProLive: Conversation Class. Classes are limited to 5 students; you will need to install GoToMeeting app and need headphones and a microphone.
Apps and Websites

**Duolingo** – This app (and website) allows you to choose from a variety of languages such as Spanish, French, German, Italian, or Portuguese to name a few. Once you choose your native language, then you choose the language you want to learn. Lessons start with the basics – hello, goodbye, how are you – and progress to more challenging vocabulary and phrases. Lessons can be repeated as often as you’d like until you are comfortable moving onto the next level. Daily points are given for continued practice, and students can post their progress, add friends, and interact on social media. 

[www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com)

Tiny Cards—This app (search in your App Store or Google Play Store) comes from the makers of Duolingo. Take any topic and Tiny Cards turns it into handy flash cards on your smart phone, tablet, or desktop. There are tons of topics to choose from themes that have already been created. For example, one set of flash cards is titled Spanish Irregular Preterit Tense; however, you can also create your own set of tiny cards depending on what you’d like to study. It's a fun, easy, way to pass the time waiting at a doctor’s office or for your kid's soccer practice to end.

**News in Slow Spanish** – also available for French, Italian, German – This app (and website) takes contemporary news and slloooowwwws down the audio. Additionally, you are given a transcript to follow, but what’s even better is that there are words and phrases in the transcripts that might be new or pertinent. These words are active links that you can hover over and get a quick translation. This is a great way to practice listening skills. You can take advantage of the free content, but know that some options are not active. Additionally, you can pay for one month, three months or a year subscription. There are also various levels within each paid subscription. [www.newsinslowspanish.com](http://www.newsinslowspanish.com)

~by Stacey, Library Associate, Riverside Library
SPECIAL EVENTS

ADULTS | FREE TAX RETURN PREPARATION
March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29
Appointments at 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 pm*
Erie Community Library

The Erie Community Library is participating with the AARP Tax-Aide program to provide free income tax return preparation for tax year 2016. The program is available to taxpayers with low to moderate income, with special attention to those 60 years and older.

Trained and experienced Tax-Aide volunteers will be available to confidentially review your tax situation and prepare and electronically file your Federal and Colorado state returns. Taxpayers with extremely complex tax returns will be referred to professional tax preparers.

Taxpayers must bring the following documents to their appointment:
- Picture ID
- Social Security Cards or other documents with SS numbers for primary taxpayer, spouse, and dependents
- All IRS documents, such as W-2s, 1099-Rs, Social Security statements, investment statements, etc.
- Health Insurance Coverage Information for 2016 for primary taxpayer, spouse, and all dependents.
- Record of deductible expenses if itemizing deductions, including medical, charitable contributions, mortgage interest, and property taxes.
- Copy of last year’s tax return is requested, but not required.

To make an appointment, call 1-888-861-7323.
* Some dates may have limited appointment times.

CHILDREN | ON THE ROAD TO READING WITH ERIC CARLE: EARLY LITERACY FAIR
March 1, 2:30-5:00 pm
Kersey Library
March 2, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
Riverside Library

Read, write, sing, talk and play with your children! Visit any time during our free Early Literacy Fair for lots of fun, interactive learning activities based on the 5 practices of Every Child Ready to Read. You and your child will enjoy Eric Carle themed activities, fun crafts, and much more!
SPECIAL EVENTS

ADULTS | EBOOKS 101
March 2, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
Farr Regional Library
Registration required.

March 8, 2:00-4:00 pm
Centennial Park Library
Registration required.

Learn how to download eBooks FREE from the High Plains Library District! We’ll show you how to find, check out, download and transfer eBooks and audio eBooks to any device. Please bring your device with you to class.

ADULTS | COPS N’ COFFEE
March 2, 2:00-3:00 pm
Riverside Library

Join the Evans Police Officers as they discuss potential dangers faced by older adults. Older adults are often targeted victims of fraud and scams. Come with your questions (and join us for coffee and pastries) and learn to protect yourself.

ADULTS | MONEY MATTERS:
BUYING OR REFINANCING A HOME
March 2, 6:30-7:30 pm
Erie Community Library

What's happening in the NoCo real estate market? Learn what lenders look for to give an approval, factors to consider when refinancing, and market trends in your area. The class will include information about rates, down payments, loan types, research sites and much more.

CHILDREN | LITTLE EXPLORERS:
ANIMAL SENSES
March 4, 10:30-11:30 am
Riverside Library

Discover how senses help animals to survive and meet their needs. Compare human senses to those of animals. The Denver Zoo will present this program and will bring real zoo animals for us to see! Program limited to the first 30 people; ages 3-6.

SEUSS CELEBRATIONS
March 2, 4:00-5:00 pm
Farr Regional Library

March 2, 5:30-6:30 pm
Centennial Park Library

Dr. Seuss is on the loose! Join our Seuss-abration for all Seuss fun!

CHILDREN | SEUSS FAMILY MOVIES
March 4, 1:30-3:00 pm
March 10, 5:30-7:00 pm
Farr Regional Library

Join us for Dr. Seuss family movie matinees.

CHILDREN | DETECTIVE SCIENCE:
IDENTIFICATION
March 4, 2:00-3:00 pm
Riverside Library

Do you want to be a detective? Solve cases? Start learning about detective science by finding all about identification by lip prints, teeth prints, and handwriting! Program limited to the first 20 people; Grades K-3.

CHILDREN | GEARS & GIZMOS:
A ROBOTICS WORKSHOP
March 6, 13 and 20; 4:00-6:00 pm
Erie Community Library

Would you like to learn how to build and program a robot? Join Andy from Innovative Experiences and learn how to build and program a variety of robots using LEDs, motors, sensors, buttons and more! Build and customize a different robot each week. Registration required; Grades 3-5.
SPECIAL EVENTS

**ADULTS | ASISTENCIA TECNOLÓGICA**
7 de marzo, 6:00-7:00 pm
Centennial Park Library

Hablantes de español: ¿Quiere instrucción en usar una computadora? ¿No está seguro de cómo usar su nuevo dispositivo electrónico? ¿Está buscando recursos sobre un nuevo tipo de tecnología? ¡Pregúntenos! Traiga su café y sus preguntas entre 6 y 7 por la tarde para asistencia individual.

**ADULTS | TOTAL WELLNESS: CHRONIC PAIN - PREVENTION AND TREATMENT**
March 7, 6:30-7:30 pm
Erie Community Library

It's something many of us deal with at some point in our lives. Sometimes, it's a new accident or injury that clears up very quickly. Other times, the pain never seems to go away. Dr. Sam and Dr. Lindsay Ramsey, Physical Therapist, from Flatirons Health and Wellness will discuss ways to prevent pain, the first steps to take when a new injury strikes and what to do when chronic pain persists.

**ADULTS | A NATURALIST’S DESIDERATA WITH KEVIN COOK**
March 9, 12:00-1:30 pm
Farr Regional Library

The desideratum for March is *Tolerate the Unlikable*. Wasps and cockroaches are easy to scorn, as are cowbirds and house mice. But life is not a marketplace of aesthetics from which to pick those you like and reject those you dislike. Life is a package.

**CHILDREN | BALANCE SCHMALANCE!**
March 9, 4:15-5:00 pm
Erie Community Library

We balance with little thought while walking, running, and bending - all without falling over. We will celebrate and explore balance by reading *Equal Schmequal* by Virginia Kroll, and experiment with everyday things from home and school. Grades K-2; registration required.

**TEENS | MARCH OF THE ZOMBIES**
March 10, 5:30-7:00 pm
Erie Community Library

Grab your gear and survive the zombie apocalypse! Join us for an after-hours lock-in featuring a zombies vs. humans nerf gun battle and apocalyptic activities. Feel free to dress in an undead fashion! BYONG (Bring Your Own Nerf Gun). Registration required; Grades 6-12.

**ALL AGES | MAKEIT: LOOM WEAVING**
March 10, 6:00-8:00 pm
Farr Regional Library

Join us for a fun intro to loom weaving. Learn the basics of setting up a loom and work on a project to take home. Registration required; ages 12+.

**USPS PASSPORT FAIR**
March 11, 10:00 am-2:00 pm
Erie Community Library

The U.S. Postal Service will be hosting a walk-in Passport Fair open to U.S. citizens. Apply for a new passport or renew a current passport. Passport photo service will be available.
SPECIAL EVENTS

CHILDREN | CAN CAN ROBOTICS
March 11, 2:00-3:30 pm
Centennial Park Library

Interested in robotics? Come design and build your very own Can-Can Robot! Presented by the CSU Extension Office. Registration opens 2/20; Grades 5-8.

CHILDREN | PUSH-BUTTON PROGRAMMABLE ROBOT
March 15, 4:00-5:00 pm
Kersey Library

You can build your own robot, and learn to navigate it around a course. Program limited to the first 15 people; Grades 2-5.

ADULTS | FACEBOOK FOR BEGINNERS
March 16, 1:00-3:00 pm
Riverside Library

In this class, we will introduce you to your profile, newsfeed, adding friends and messaging. We'll answer all your questions about security settings, privacy and who can see what on your profile, as well as accessing Facebook on mobile devices. Must have current email account and basic experience in navigating the web. Existing Facebook account is preferable. Registration required.

ADULTS | PAN MEXICANO
March 16, 6:00-8:00 pm
Riverside Library

Acompañenos en celebrando la cocina Mexicana con este taller sobre el Pan Mexicano. Hablaremos sobre la cocina mexicana y como es considerada Patrimonio Cultural Inmaterial de la Humanidad por UNESCO (Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura). También hablaremos sobre los antecedentes y las influencias del pan mexicano. La clase va a concluir con todos preparando Molletes juntos.

Celebrate Mexican Cuisine and learn about the background and influences of Mexican bread. The class will prepare Molletes together. Registration required; ages 16+.

ADULTS | LOCAL HISTORY SERIES - HARVEY HOUSES OF THE AMERICAN WEST
March 16, 7:00-8:00 pm
Erie Community Library

Will Rogers said that Fred Harvey kept the west in food and wives. He created his first eating establishments in 1875. Three years later he built the first of the famous Harvey Houses and to what many felt was the settling of the American West. Elizabeth Nosek, Curator of Education and Exhibits at the Colorado Railroad Museum, will present the history of these dining establishments and their influence in Colorado dining.

TEENS & ADULTS | LEARN TO SEW - QUILTING BASICS
March 17, 10:00 am-1:00 pm
Lincoln Park Library

Practice your sewing machine skills by assembling a simple quilt block and learning basic quilting techniques. The finished block can be used to make a pillow, wall hanging, bag or incorporated into a garment. You must know how to use a sewing machine before taking this class. Registration opens 3/1; ages 12+.

CHILDREN | MINI WIND TURBINES
March 18, 2:00-3:30 pm
Riverside Library

Come learn about the importance and power of wind turbines while making one of your very own. Ages 4-8.

STICHES & STORIES MINIATURE QUILT SHOW
March 20-April 30
Lincoln Park Library

March is National Quilting Month, and in celebration of quilts (and the stories behind them) Lincoln Park Library and Sew Downtown are displaying the quilts that were entered in the Miniature Quilt contest.
CHILDREN | SPRING BREAKOUT
March 20-23, 1:00-3:00 pm and March 24, all day
Centennial Park Library

Looking for innovative ways to entertain the kids during Spring Break? Visit Centennial Park Library to combat that spring break boredom. The following drop-in activities for children in Grades K-5 will be offered:

- **Movie Monday:** Cartoon Classics
- **Tuesday Crafternoon:** Tie-it-Up with string crafts
- **Wednesday boardgames:** Get Your Game On!
- **Thursday Build-a-thon**
- **Find-it Friday (Scavenger Hunt):** available all day

**WII U TOURNAMENT**

**TEENS**
March 20, 2:00-4:00 pm
Lincoln Park Library

March 21, 1:00-3:00 pm
Riverside Library

**GRADES K-5**
March 23
2:00-4:00 pm
Riverside Library

Come compete in a Wii U tournament featuring Mario Cart, Dance, Dance Revolution and more!

**TEENS | SPRING BREAK BOREDOM BUSTERS**
March 21 and 23, 1:00-3:00 pm
Centennial Park Library

Spring Break is no time to be bored! Teens, come on by the library and join us for 3D Printing on Tuesday and Screenprinting on Thursday. Grades 6-12.

ADULTS | SBDC START-UP SEMINARS
March 21, 6:00-7:45 pm
Carbon Valley Regional Library

This free comprehensive program has been designed to be a starting place for anyone who is considering jumping into business for the first time (or the second time with a better outcome). This seminar will provide you with a Colorado Start-Up Guide, free library resources to support your business and websites, as well as a general overview of the things to consider when starting a business including: business licensing and taxes, legal forms of organization, components of a business plan, marketing essentials, management requirements, financial planning, funding sources, grant opportunities, and launching your business. **Registration required.**

**ADULTS | EXCEL BASICS**
March 22, 3:00-5:00 pm
Centennial Park Library

Update your practical skills and learn to create, save and edit spreadsheets. This class will cover creating a workbook, editing cells, creating charts and using basic formulas. Participants must have basic keyboard and mouse skills. **Registration opens 2/22.**

**ADULTS | CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR: CARTER WILSON**
March 23, 6:30-7:30 pm
Erie Community Library

NEW!! AT LINCOLN PARK LIBRARY
FOURTH MONDAY OF THE MONTH
CHILDREN | CAMERA CLUB
March 27, 3:00-3:45 pm
Lincoln Park Library

Have fun with color and black and white photography. Bring your own camera or five cameras will be available for use during this class. Registration required; ages 8-11.

ADULTS | HANDMADE AT THE LIBRARY
March 27, 6:00-9:00 pm
Centennial Park Library

Have you ever fried your fingers while removing a bowl from the microwave, or frozen your hand while eating ice cream? Learn to make a bowl shaped pad to keep this from happening. Pattern will be supplied with instructions for various sizes from small to jumbo. Registration opens 3/6; ages 18+. Participants must know how to operate a sewing machine; may bring own sewing machine. For questions, or for a list of materials needed, email or call Linda Hillman at lhillman@highplains.us or 1.888.861.7323.

CHILDREN & TEENS | SPRING BREAK
MOVIE & A CRAFT
March 30, 2:00-4:00 pm
Erie Community Library

Spring Break is almost over, come to the library to watch a movie and make a fun craft! We’ll provide popcorn and craft supplies. Feel free to bring your own water bottle or other snacks. Registration opens 3/1; Grades K-8.
LIBRARIES  www.MyLibrary.us/contact/library-hours-and-locations

Administration & Support Services  
2650 West 29th Street, Greeley, CO 80631  
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Carbon Valley Regional Library  
7 Park Avenue, Firestone, CO 80504  
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Centennial Park Library  
2227 23rd Avenue, Greeley, CO 80634  
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Eaton Public Library  
132 Maple Avenue, Eaton, CO 80615  
(970) 454-2189

Erie Community Library  
400 Powers Street, Erie, CO 80516  
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Farr Regional Library  
1939 61st Avenue, Greeley, CO 80634  
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Fort Lupton Public & School Library  
425 S. Denver Ave., Fort Lupton, CO 80621  
(303) 857-7180

Glenn A. Jones, M.D. Memorial Library  
400 S. Parish Avenue, Johnstown, CO 80534  
(970) 587-2459

Hudson Public Library  
100 S. Beech St., Hudson, CO 80642  
(303) 536-4550

Kersey Library  
413 1st Street, Kersey, CO 80644  
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Lincoln Park Library  
1012 11th Street Suite B, Greeley, CO 80631  
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Northern Plains Public Library  
216 2nd Street, Ault, CO 80610  
(970) 834-1259

Outreach  
2650 W. 29th Street, Greeley, CO 80631  
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Platteville Public Library  
504 Marion Ave., Platteville, CO 80651  
(970) 785-2231

Riverside Library & Cultural Center  
3700 Golden St., Evans, CO 80620  
1-888-861-READ(7323)
AFFILIATED LOCATIONS

Hazel E. Johnson Research Center at the City of Greeley Museum
714 8th Street, Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 350-9220

Poudre Learning Center
8313 West F Street, Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 352-1267

BOOK DEPOSITS

Briggsdale Library
42089 WCR 70, Briggsdale, CO 80620
(970) 475-1125

Hill & Park Senior Center
4205 Yosemite Dr., Greeley, CO 80634

Milliken
1109 Broad Street, Milliken, CO 80543
(970) 660-5045

Nunn (Town Hall/Community Center)
185 Lincoln Avenue, Nunn, CO 80648
(970) 897-2385

Pierce Senior Center
321 Main, Pierce, CO 80650

Prairie View Senior Center
1151 Main St., Hudson, CO 80632

Lochbuie (Senior Center)
501 Willow Drive, Lochbuie, CO 80603
(303) 659-8262

Milliken
1109 Broad Street, Milliken, CO 80543
(970) 660-5045