**Summer Reading 2012**

**Books for kids 0-3 years old**

**Animal Spots and Stripes** by Britta Teckentrup
Lots of animals and insects sport spots, others have stripes. In rich colors on sturdy pages, a flap folds out to reveal one or the other. Rich, patterned language and appealing illustration are used in this and in *Animal 1 2 3*, a clever counting book also sure to surprise and engage.

**Backseat A-B-See** by Maria van Lieshout
Letters and words are all around as even the youngest child will see as they travel in a car (or on a bus). There are signs for every letter of the alphabet, from Airport to Z-z-z-z, shown in arresting, high contrast graphic art and crisp letters.

**Fish Had a Wish** by Michael Garland
Stunning, textured illustrations and simple, patterned language present a fish with a wish to be other animals with different abilities. When a bug is eaten, the fish decides “It is good to be a fish.” Not only will the book be enjoyed by listeners as well as emerging readers.

**How Do Dinosaurs Eat Cookies?** by Jane Yolen
The ever popular dinos are back, this time making and eating cookies always using their best manners. Rhyming text and outrageous illustrations are humorous. Two recipes and “scratch & sniff” are extras presented in this brief board book.

**In the Garden** by Elizabeth Spurr
A young boy digs a garden, plants seeds, waters and waits but forgets – until sprouts and ultimately plants emerge! Simple staccato, rhythmic language combines with realistic illustrations in a small format just right for introducing gardens to young children.

**Into the Outdoors** by Susan Gal
A family leaves their city for an overnight camping trip. Up the mountain they travel, make camp, hike, and enjoy each other and the beautiful scenery. The straightforward story highlights prepositions in natural language, made meaningful in verdant, textured illustration.

**Llama Llama Zippity-Zoom** by Anna Dewdney
Little Llama zips and zooms, swishes and slides on the playground with his friends seen in uncluttered illustrations and limited text. In *Llama Llama Hoppity-Hop*, Llama hops, jumps, thumps right into Llama Mama’s embrace.

**Lolo Reads to Leo** by Anna McQuinn
Lola is excited that she’s going to become a big sister. She and her parents are prepared for Leo’s arrival – especially Lola who reads to him on every occasion! Warm paintings illustrate this gently, recognizable look at one family’s everyday goings-on.

**Machines Go to Work in the City** by William Low
The city is filled with trucks, trains, and more things that go and “vroom”, “beep”, “honk” and more. Young machine aficionados are sure to appreciate them as presented in deeply colored illustrations and alliterative text. Questions asked are answered with a flap lift.

**Moonlight** by Helen Griffith
Poetic language introduces a moonlit evening when “Moonlight slides like butter”, touching sleeping rabbit, “butters Rabbit’s dreams/….shakes him out of bed...” to dance in the field. Darkly hued illustrations touched by butter yellow evoke the gentle night and its wonder.

**Peepsqueak!** by Leslie Ann Clark
A small chick, born “on the move!” named Pipsqueak wants to fly regardless of what the other animals say and continues trying until (with a little help) he succeeds. Pipsqueak is then on to the next challenge! Comic illustrations bounce across the pages in this lively barnyard tale.

**Summer Days and Nights** by Wong Herbert Yee
A rhyming text and soft, idealized illustrations present a young child’s pleasure in summer activities – from shooting “straight down the slide” to a picnic in the shade with her parents. The small size of the book makes it ideal for sharing one-to-one.

**Trains Go** by Steve Light
Each type of train makes a slightly different sound from the “clang, ting” and “bing” of a freight train to the “zoosh” of the diesel. The long format is reminiscent of a track to support the colorful trains rushing by as well as their onomatopoetic sounds in varied typeface.