

Reading Newsletter

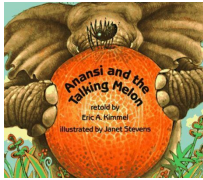
Edison District March, 2019



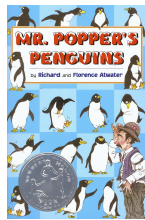
Books of the Month

Anansi and the Talking Melon retold by Eric Kimmel

When Anansi the Spider gets stuck in a melon, he decides to pass his time by doing what he's best at—tricking the other animals around him.



When his melon begins talking, Elephant is so impressed he decides to take it to show the king. But Anansi can't resist the opportunity to make jokes at the expense of everyone they meet. Even the King loses his temper over Anansi's bold remarks—but how will the Spider free himself?



Mr. Popper's Penguins is a children's book written by Richard and Florence Atwater, with illustrations by Robert Lawson, originally published in 1938. It tells the story of a poor house painter named Mr. Popper and his family, who live in the small town of Stillwater in the 1930s. The Poppers unexpectedly come into possession of a penguin, Captain Cook. The Poppers then receive a female penguin from the zoo. Before long 10 baby penguins hatch. Now, something must be done lest the penguins eat the Poppers out of house and home.

Strategy of the Month: Word Games

Word games are great because they help children focus on sounds and letters, and develop skills they need for reading, writing, and spelling. By playing word games with our kids, we give them the benefit of our company, as well as demonstrating to them that playing with words is lots of fun. There are also word games that have become board games and toys, but the ones you'll find below need minimal equipment.

Guess the animal: Give children a rhyming word and have them guess the animal. "I rhyme with mat. I am a ..."

I spy: This is a simple word game most people know. Spot something nearby and tell kids the sound or letter it begins with. Children must look around and try to guess what it is you "spied."

Make a word: If you have plastic letters, magnet letters, or letter blocks, you can play this as soon as your child is old enough to spell. Play it mentally with older kids, or with paper and pencil. Simply give your children some letters and challenge them to make words from those letters. Great beginning for board games like Scrabble.

Categories: Draw a grid on a piece of paper. Then write some categories (for instance "plants," "girls' names," "cars," "grocery items") down one side of the grid and write alphabet letters across the top. It needn't be the whole alphabet. The aim is to try to think up a word for each letter and category.

Website of the Month: Word Gametime.com

<http://www.wordgametime.com/word-games>

These games can help kids improve their skills in a number of subjects including spelling, typing, geography and vocabulary.



Reading Challenge of the Month:

Start a Family Game Night

Find a night where your family can spend times together to play a game. Start playing games like Scrabble, Upwords, Boggle, Bananagrams, Scattergories, Pictionary, or even Memory games.

