

## Month of the Young Child

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The Month of the Young Child® is celebrated in Michigan every April. Coordinated by the Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children (MiAEYC), the 2008 MOYIC® Focus Weeks highlight children's development. Week 1, April 1-5, focused on physical development. Week 2, April 6-12, focuses on social-emotional development. Week 3, April 13-19, will focus on cognitive development, while for Week 4, April 20-30, the focus will be on language and literacy. As stated on the MOYIC® website, [www.moyc.org](http://www.moyc.org), "Early years are learning years ... make them count. Children's early years are the foundation for growth and development. Children are constantly developing and learning. What they are learning depends on their physical health, social-emotional health, relationships, and daily interactions and experiences."

Your Chippewa River District Library has many materials to assist you in helping your child develop to the fullest in all four focus areas—physically, socially and emotionally, cognitively, and in the areas of language and literacy. Many parenting books are located in adult nonfiction; one of the newest additions is *Bright from the Start: the simple, science-backed way to nurture your child's developing mind, from birth to age 3* by Jill Stamm with Paula Spencer. Dr. Stamm provides brain-based research in easy-to-understand tips for parents of newborns and toddlers on all areas of development.

*Toddlers on Parade: musical exercises for infants and toddlers* by Carol Hammett is just one of the many musical CDs available for young children at CRDL. Songs such as "Wheels on the Bus" and "Tony Chestnut" help children begin to understand their

bodies and what they can accomplish. With clear, simple actions children can easily follow along to the music.

Together, the juvenile easy collections carry items suitable for birth through age 8 to help with language and literacy development. From board books with simple illustrations and labeling or simple sentences such as *Baby Faces* by Funfax, to ABC and counting books like *Mouse Count* by Ellen Stolz Walsh, to picture books with rhyme, rhythm and/or repetition such as *Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear?* by Nancy White Carlstrom , there are books to suit the needs of your young child

For young children curious about the world around them, nonfiction books can help with vocabulary development as they quench the thirst for knowledge. There are many books in the juvenile nonfiction collection appropriate for young children, such as *Big Bugs! Giant Creepy Crawly Pop-ups* by Brainwaves Ltd

There is a lot going on next week at CRDL! Sunday, April 13, enjoy the CMU Jazz Project at 3:00pm, and the Brown Bag Book Discussion Group will be talking about *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion on Wednesday, April 16 at 12:00pm. Teens may sign up for the Supersmash Video Game Competition held on Tuesday, April 15 at 6pm, and 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders will be dissecting owl pellets in Mad Science on April 16 at 4:15pm. Please pre-register for this popular program. Storytimes continue on Mondays and Thursdays at 10:15am. Faith Johnston Memorial Library hosts children's author Jane Harris on April 17 at 4pm, and teens can enjoy Cook and Book at FJML on April 17 at 7pm. Adults are invited to quilt at FJML on April 15 at 1pm, or to knit that evening at 7pm. Last but not least, FJML storytime occurs on Wednesdays at 11:00am.