

Racine Public Library Program Announcement
February 17, 2010
For Immediate Release

FAMILY STORYTIME OPPORTUNITIES AT THE LIBRARY

Racine - Families are invited to participate in a variety of free and entertaining storytime events hosted by the Racine Public Library, 75 Seventh St. All programs are free and open to the public; no registration is necessary. For more information, contact the Youth Services Dept. at 262.636.9245 or visit the library's website at racinelibrary.info.

You'll find the library's enthusiastic storytellers on the road the last Saturday of each month as they perform a Saturday morning event for kids ages 3-10 and their families. On Saturday, February 27 at 9:30 am, a storyteller will be present at Cup of Hope, 507 Sixth St., to entertain with an hour of stories and a simple craft. Enjoy a leisurely morning of quality family time and a cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate.

The library's popular preschool storytimes, held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m., continue through March 10. Children from birth to age 5 may attend these 30 min. events. The programs feature fingerplays, stories, music and more designed to develop age-appropriate early literacy skills. Children who are able to sit independently in storytime may attend the Preschool program. Children who prefer to be accompanied by an adult may attend the Infant & Toddler program. Both programs are held simultaneously at 10 a.m.

New to the library's preschool storytime schedule is the addition of Educational Open Play days. Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:30-12:30 and Fridays from 11 am-1 pm, the library will turn its storytelling room into an educational exploration area with a wide variety of educational toys and learning aids available. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Play days are held during the storytime season only.

The library is also offering an After-School Storytime with stories and crafts geared to kids ages 3-10. The next event in this series will be held on Tuesday, February 23 from 3:30-4:30 pm. Storyteller Keiko Skow shares her favorite stories and her imaginative craft ideas with those in attendance.

School age children in grades 1-5 are invited to spend 15 min. reading to one of the library's specially-trained listening dogs in the Ruff Readers Program. These canine friends visit the library after school several days a week. This is a fun way for kids to practice reading to a non-judgmental and gentle listener. Time slots available on a first-come/first-served basis. Call the library at 262.636.9245 for days and times, or to reserve a reading spot.

Kids ages 5-10 and their families are also invited to attend Family Fun Night. These hour-long events, held approximately once a month, explore a variety of topics through stories, games, activities and crafts. The next event will be held on Thursday, March 25 from 6:30-7:30 pm with a special presentation about Laura Ingalls Wilder and her pioneer heritage. Local educator, Lynn Urban, will share stories, artifacts, and activities about the Wilder/Ingalls families. Dressed in period costume and toting her "sack of surprises" Lynn recounts the stories and history of this beloved author of the "Little House" books.

####