



Family Reading Fun

The goal of the Families and Literacy Committee of the WSRA is to develop and carry out plans which convey to parents the value of involvement in reading activities with children.

Members:

Amy Sippert – chair

Nicole Cilley

Teresa Prus

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Deb Stensen

Mary Pohlman

Nina Ruskey

Jen Garty

Rachel Huntzicker

Kelsey Guenther

Our communities are filled with diversity. We all have unique family histories and roots from countries around the world. We should be proud of our heritages and celebrate who we are. Families can help foster a sense of pride by engaging in some or all of the activities below.

- 1. Research where your family came from and find out more about that country or countries. Try to learn something new. How has the country changed over time?*
- 2. Share stories about past generations. Maybe your grandmother told you a story about her grandfather. Share that story with your children. Oral histories can help us to feel that we are connected to each other.*
- 3. Read multicultural books to learn more about your family's heritage and the families of those in your community. The CCBC of Wisconsin has a list of the 50 Multicultural Books Every Child Should Know. Go to <https://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/detailListBooks.asp?idBookLists=42> to check it out.*
- 4. Attend local ethnic festivals that represent your family's heritage.*
- 5. Take a trip around the world by exploring art from other countries. Go to <http://artcuratorforkids.com/art-around-the-world-in-30-days/> to start your journey today.*

Literacy Tips

Mirrors and Windows:

When choosing books for your child, be sure to choose books that can be mirrors of themselves as well as windows that help them look out and experience the world beyond them.

Sharing your favorite books with others:

Try taking a selfie! Take a picture of your child and his/her favorite recommended book. Your child can write up a short paragraph about why he or she recommends this book.



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Author Spotlight



Miranda Paul

Miranda Paul is an award winning children's author, teacher and writer with a taste for adventure. Her books reflect a passion and enthusiasm for building empathy, expanding horizons, celebrating nature and imagining possibilities. Some of her award-winning books include: *One Plastic Bag* and *Whose Hands are These?*

One Plastic Bag tells the story of five Gambian women that sparked a movement that would restore beauty to their village and increase their own economic capacity.

Whose Hands Are These? is a rhymed guessing game book that introduces and celebrates a diverse range of community occupations.

Paul inspires children and teens through the writing of her books and her school visits. Find out more about Miranda Paul at <http://mirandapaul.com>

Website Spotlight

Every child can be a writer. Help your child create lasting memories of their stories and drawings as they create their own books. Visit Student Treasures at <http://www.studenttreasures.com/parents>