

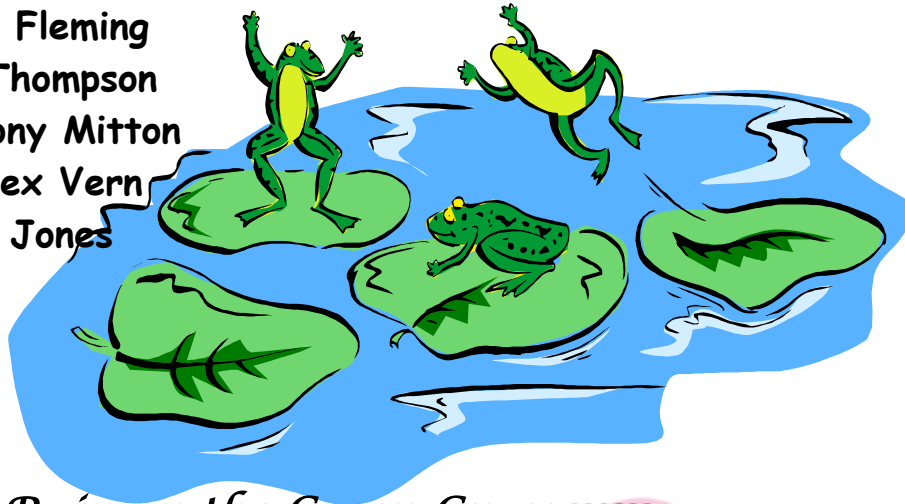
# Opening the Gift

Vol. 16 No. 7

Proud To Be Green

March 2012

*The Wide-Mouthed Frog* by Keith Faulkner  
*In the Small, Small Pond* by Denise Fleming  
*Leap Back Home to Me* by Lauren Thompson  
*Down by the Cool of the Pool* by Tony Mitton  
*Where Do Frogs Come From?* By Alex Vern  
*Camping in Green* by Christianne C. Jones  
*Growing Like Me* by Anne Rockwell  
*Jump, Frog, Jump* by Robert Kalan  
*In My Backyard* by Don L. Curry  
*Scoot!* by Cathryn Falwell



*Nursery Rhyme: Rain on the Green Grass*



## Songs & Fingerplays to Share:

### Green Frog

(Tune: *She'll be comin' round the mountain*)

Oh a green frog sat upon a lily pad  
Oh a green frog sat upon a lily pad  
He went 'croaky, croaky, croaky,  
and he sounded okey-dokey  
Oh a green frog sat upon a lily pad

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### The Sounds of Spring

The melting snow says, "drop drop"  
The little frog goes, hop, hop  
The little bird says, "peep, peep"  
The little vine grows, creep creep  
The little bee says, "hum, hum, hum"  
The little flower says, "Spring has come!"

### Little Green Frog in a Pond Am I

A little green frog in a pond am I  
(Make fist with right hand.)

Hop fist in open palm of left hand)

Hoppity, hoppity hop.

I sit on a little leaf, high and dry.  
(rest fist in open palm of left hand.)

And watch all the fishes as they swim by.  
(with two hands together make swimming motion)

Splash! How I make the water fly!  
(Clap hands)

Hoppity, hoppity hop.  
(make fist and hop in other hand)

### It's March!

(Tune: *The Ants Go Marching*)

Can you tell me what month it is?  
(throw arms out to side)  
It's March! It's March!  
(march in place)

Can you tell me what month it is?  
(throw arms out to side)  
It's March! It's March!  
(march in place)

Sometimes we sweat,  
(wipe forehead)  
And sometimes we freeze.  
(hug self and shiver)

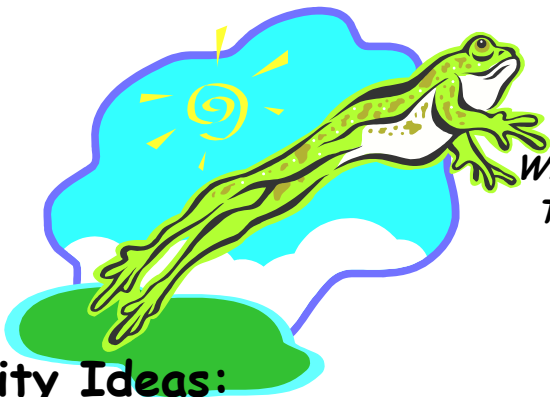
It snows and melts,  
(wiggle fingers like snowflakes)  
And there's quite a breeze.  
(wave arms gently in the air)  
And it blows us all around,  
(wave arms enthusiastically)  
And around, and around!  
Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh!

*Mailbox Preschool Edition Feb/Mar '09*

Your next visit will be: April

Next month's theme will be: "Digging Up Dirt"





## More Books to Share:

*A Frog Thing* by Eric Drachman  
*Why the Frog Has Big Eyes* by Betsy Franco  
*Too Many Frogs* by Ann and John Hassett  
*Tale of a Tadpole* by Karen Wallace  
*The Frog in the Pond* by Wil Mara  
*Hop Jump* by Ellen Stoll Walsh

## Activity Ideas:

**Hoppin' Along:** (Water Table Activity) Label several green plastic plates (lily pads) with a different number. (If desired, add a matching set of dots below the number). Then float the lily pads in your water table and place a supply of plastic or craft foam frogs nearby. A child identifies the number on a lily pad and then "hops" the matching number of frogs onto the lily pad. She continues in the same way until all the frogs are on the lily pads.

**Flick!** Place five black pom-poms (flies) atop each of several blocks. Provide a personalized party blower (frog tongue) for each child. A child (frog) flicks out his tongue trying to "catch" a fly for lunch. Each time he flicks a fly off the block, he chants, "Ribbit, ribbit, yummy fly!" He continues in the same way until all the "flies" are eaten.



**Paper Pulp Dough:** Recycle your construction paper scraps! Place 1 c. torn construction paper scraps and 1 1/2 c. water in a blender. Grate the mixture for 30 seconds, liquefy it for 45 seconds, then pour it into a large bowl. Mix in 1 small package sugar-free gelatin and 1 c. salt; then slowly add the flour (up to 2 c.) until the dough reaches a desired consistency. Store the dough in a refrigerator.

*The Mailbox Magazine, Preschool Edition April/May 2012*

## Book of the Month:

*The Preschooler Problem Solver* by Carol Baicker-McKee, PhD.

PTC 649.123 B

"Parenting a preschooler is not for the faint of heart but the author shows parents how to make the most of the magical years of three and four by helping their children successfully negotiate new expectations and situations in the wider world. The book focuses on the numerous transitions that occur as a child moves from a dependent toddler to a more social, independent preschooler. The book also considers the emotional challenges a preschooler can face whether it's learning to make friends or managing separations through divorce or death. In this one-of-a-kind parenting book written specifically for parents of preschoolers, Baicker-McKee shows moms and dads that there are few preschool problems that can't be solved with a little patience, a spark of ingenuity, and lots of humor."



## Road to Reading Tip:

Harford County Public Library introduces:



**PUPPY TALES CLUB**  
ON TRACK FOR READING

During the month of April, parents and caregivers can register their children (birth to 35 months) at any branch and receive a Puppy Tales Activity Sheet with 12 simple but fun learning activities based on the five simple practices of Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing and Playing. These practices help children become ready to read by the time they are old enough for school. Look for more information in the current issue of Headlines and Happenings!

**QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?!** Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, at 410 638-3151, ext. 2279. e-mail: [chase@hcplonline.org](mailto:chase@hcplonline.org)  
If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator at 410-638-4800 (beginning at 8 AM)



Rain on the green grass,  
Rain on the tree;  
Rain on the house top,  
But not on me.