



# Opening the Gift

Vol. 19 No. 7

Ahoy, Mateys!

March 2015

- Boats: Speeding! Sailing! Cruising!** by Patricia Hubbell
- Bubble Bath Pirates!** by Jarrett J. Krosoczka
- Do Pirates Take Baths?** by Kathy Tucker
- This Little Pirate** by Philemon Sturges
- Treasure** by Suzanne Bloom
- Tough Boris** by Mem Fox
- The Night Pirates** by Peter Harris
- Pirate Pete's Talk Like a Pirate** by Kim Kennedy
- Charlotte Jane Battles Bedtime** by Myra Wolfe
- The Deep Blue Sea: A Book of Colors** by Audrey Wood



## Nursery Rhyme: Row, Row, Row Your Boat



CD: "Strike the Bell" by Dan Zanes from *Sea Music: a Gathering of Sea Songs*

### Jolly Roger Had a Parrot (tune B-I-N-G-O)

Jolly Roger had a parrot and  
Polly was her name-o  
P-O-L-L-Y, P-O-L-L-Y, P-O-L-L-Y  
And Polly was her name-o.  
(Repeat song with \*OLLY", etc.  
and squawk for each missing letter)  
[wiki.kcls.org/index.php/Jolly\\_Roger\\_Had\\_a\\_Parrot](http://wiki.kcls.org/index.php/Jolly_Roger_Had_a_Parrot)



### One-Eyed Pirate

The one eyed-pirate,  
(cover one eye)  
He's fierce and he's tough.  
(clench fists)  
He digs for buried treasure,  
(digging motions)  
He never finds enough.  
(shake head - No)  
He lives on a ship,  
Way out on the sea.  
(make wavy motion with hand)  
His parrot is his only friend,  
(perch hand on shoulder)  
Except for me. (point to self)

### If You're A Pirate And You Know It

(tune: If You're Happy and You Know It)

If you're a pirate and you know it, swab the deck.  
(swish, swish)  
If you're a pirate and you know it, swab the deck.  
(swish, swish)  
If you're a pirate and you know it  
Then you'll hear the sea winds blowin',  
If you're a pirate and you know it, swab the deck.  
(swish, swish)  
Repeat with:  
...walk the plank (stomp, stomp)  
...look for treasures (look through spyglass)  
...say AARRRRRR!  
[kidsoup.com](http://kidsoup.com)



### Bubblebath

Bubbly, bubbly, bubblebath,  
(wiggle all ten fingers)  
Filled to the top.  
(raise fingers over head)  
Listen to the bubbly bubbles,  
(cup hand to ear)  
POP! POP! POP!  
(clap with each pop)



Your next visit will be: April \_\_\_\_\_

Next month's theme will be: "A Barrel of Monkeys"

# More Books to Share:

*Pirate Boy* by Eve Bunting

*Pirates Ahoy!* by Hilary McKay

*Pirates, Ho!* by Sarah L. Thomson

*Pig Kahuna Pirates!* by Jennifer Sattler

*How I Became a Pirate* by Melinda Long

*Roger the Jolly Pirate* by Brett Helquist

*Here Come the Pirates!* Martina Leykamm

*T Is For Tugboat: Navigating the Seas from A to Z* by Shoshanna Kirk



## Activity Ideas:



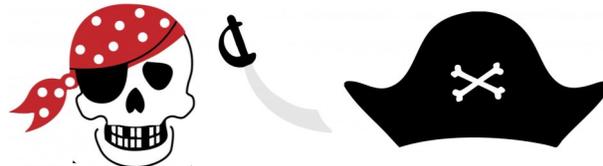
**Polly Wants a Feather:** Print a coloring sheet of a parrot for each child (find one at [www.coloring-pages-kids.com](http://www.coloring-pages-kids.com)). Prepare a supply of colorful "feathers" - tissue paper or party streamers that have been torn into one-inch round pieces. Instruct children to color their parrot's beak, eyes and the branch it is sitting on, then glue the paper feathers on their parrot ... using only a dab of glue so that most of each feather is hanging loose to give it a feathered, layered look.

adapted from Jungle Crafts at [brighthubeducation.com](http://brighthubeducation.com)

**Pirate Party Mix:** In a big treasure chest (oblong container) mix together CANNONBALLS (Gorilla Munch or other puffed corn cereal), PEG LEGS (pretzel sticks), and "GOLD" FISH (Goldfish crackers), then ladle it out to your little buccaneers!

adapted from [funfitmom.com](http://funfitmom.com)

## Book of the Month:



***Literacy Play : Over 300 Dramatic Play Activities That Teach Pre-Reading Skills***  
by Sherry West & Amy Cox

PTC H 372.6 W

Children love to pretend, and dramatic play is the perfect environment for children to practice and apply literacy concepts. Whether they decide to be firefighters, to open a pet store, or to have a tea party, children will increase their vocabulary, communicate with their peers, and learn to recognize environmental print—all important skills for prereaders. Literacy Play is chock-full of creative dramatic play activities that teach important pre-reading skills while bringing children's imaginations to life!



## Road to Reading Tip:

### Encouraging Words

You can help children build vocabulary by stretching words out, saying them slowly enough so that children can hear their component sounds. Starting now will give children plenty of time to develop and practice this skill on their own. By kindergarten and first grade, they'll be moving beyond phonemic awareness to mapping these sounds onto letter names—the process known as phonics. Research has consistently shown that all of these skills are related to children's vocabulary development and reading achievement.

[scholastic.com/teachers/article/early-literacy-building-vocabulary-build-literacy](http://scholastic.com/teachers/article/early-literacy-building-vocabulary-build-literacy)

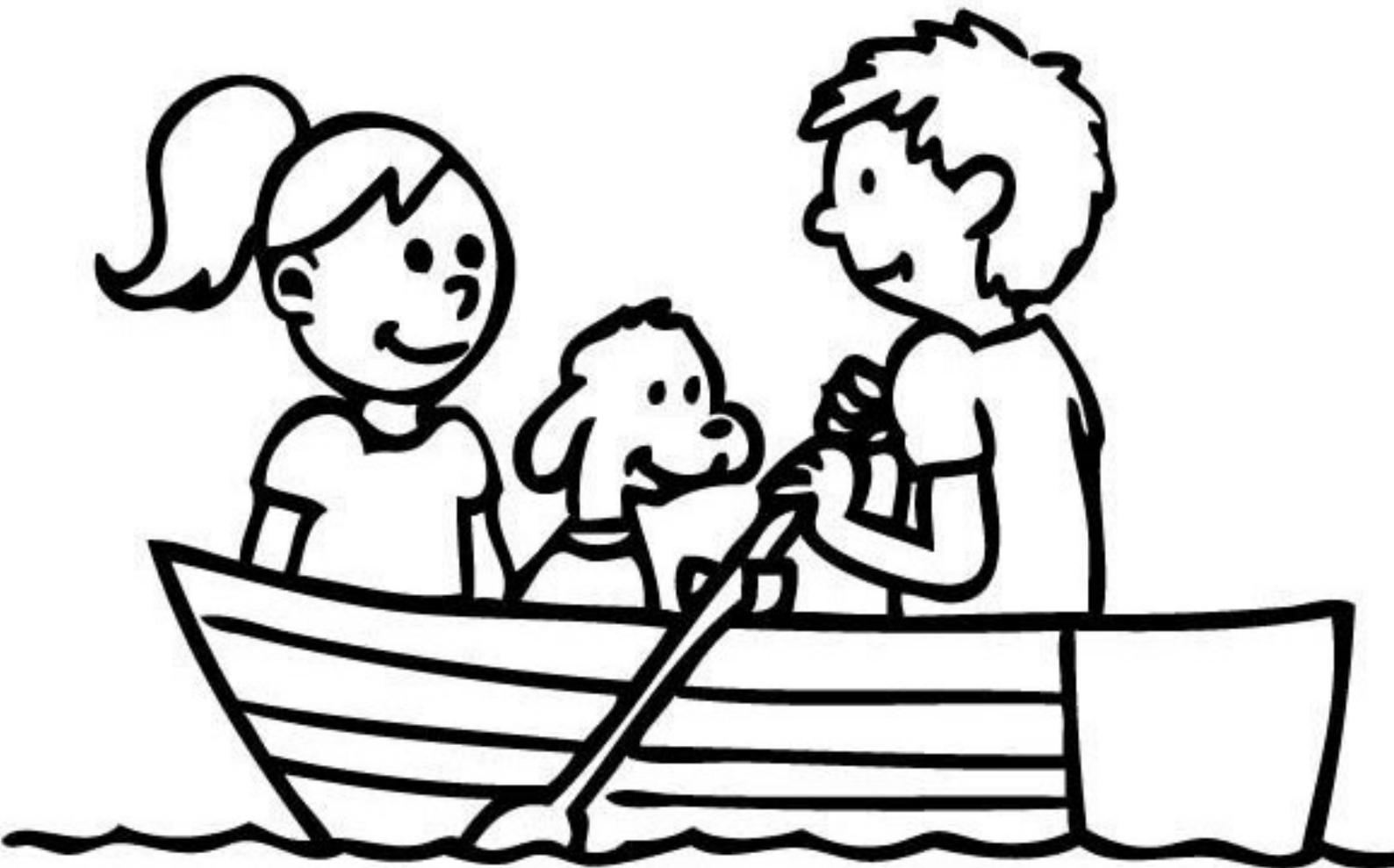
Questions or Suggestions? Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, 410-638-3151, ext. 2279  
If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator, 410-638-4800 (starting at 8 am)  
email: [chase@hcplonline.org](mailto:chase@hcplonline.org)

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HARFORD COUNTY  
Public Library  
HCPLonline.org

Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream.  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Life is but a dream.



### EARLY LITERACY EXTRA! Vocabulary

The more words a child knows, the more words he'll be able to recognize when he sees them in print. As children learn to sound out words, they'll reach into their store of words to figure out what they mean.

[scholastic.com/teachers/article/early-literacy-building-vocabulary-build-literacy](http://scholastic.com/teachers/article/early-literacy-building-vocabulary-build-literacy)

Read a book about different kinds of boats with your child, then sing this rhyme, substituting DINGHY, DORY, KAYAK, CANOE, RAFT, CATAMARAN or any other type of floating craft for BOAT!