

# NEWS MARCH 2016

## FROM YOUR PEER LIAISON

### March is National Reading Month



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**I UNDERSTAND...  
I AM A FOSTER PARENT TOO**

IFAPA recognizes that foster parents often need the perspective of peers during the foster parenting and adoption experience.

I can provide support and assist you with questions regarding:

- Licensing requirements
- Training needs
- Respite care
- Behavior challenges
- Working with birth families
- Confidentiality issues
- And much more!



www.ifapa.org

March 2<sup>nd</sup> is Read Across America Day. It is a national initiative on reading, created by the National Education Association (NEA) to coincide with the birthday of Dr. Seuss. All over the country, students will be participating in this event. The idea behind Read Across America is to encourage children to read and find a love of reading the whole year through. Many activities in schools on March 2<sup>nd</sup> will revolve around reading.

Why is reading with a child and encouraging them to read so important? According to the NEA's website, students who are read to and/or read themselves do better in many different areas including writing and math.

What can you do to encourage a love of reading?

Read aloud to a child, especially a child who is an emerging or struggling reader. It helps with fluency.

Have many different types of reading materials available. Have fiction, non-fiction, magazines, newspapers, etc.

Talk to a child about what they like to read and make that kind available to them.

Go to the library and let them spend time perusing all of the different books. Help steer them in the direction of books that fit their interests and are at their reading ability level. (Librarians can help, if you are unsure!)

Set aside time to read. Maybe they can go to bed at the regular time, but they can leave the lights on for half an hour and read.

Let children see YOU read. Be a good role model and take the time to read yourself.

**Here is a list of great books from Scholastic.com for children by age:**

**0-3**

***Pat the Bunny* by Dorothy Kunhardt**

***Grumpy Bird* by Jeremy Tankard**

***The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle**

**4-7**

***The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein**

***The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds**

***Swimmy* by Leo Lionni**

**8-10**

***Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin**

***The Maze of Bones* by Rick Riordan**

***Matilda* by Roald Dahl**

***Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White**

**11+**

***A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle**

***Holes* by Louis Sachar**

***Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling**

**According to Time magazine here are some of the best teen books of all time:**

***Jacob Have I Loved* by Katharine Paterson**

***The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green**

***Whale Talk* by Chris Crutcher**

# NEWS FROM YOUR IFAPA PEER LIAISON



The MORE  
that you read,  
the MORE things  
you will know.  
The MORE that you  
Learn,  
the MORE places you'll go.



**You're never too old, too wacky, too wild,  
To pick up a book and read with a child.  
~Dr. Seuss**



## IFAPA SPRING CONFERENCE

Friday & Saturday  
April 8 & 9, 2016  
Des Moines, Iowa

How to Register:  
[View Conference Brochure](#)  
(includes mail-in registration)

[Register for the Conference Online](#)

[View Our Full Training Schedule](#)

**PREPARING FOR YOUR TAXES**

\$  
[VIEW TAX INFORMATION](#)

**Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard Training Required Training**

[WATCH RPPS TRAINING VIDEO](#)



The Des Moines Education Association presents

## NEA's Read Across America Building a Nation of Readers

Merle Hay Mall  
March 2 • 5 - 7 p.m.



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**Free books & prizes**

**Cookies**  
Compliments of the Des Moines Education Association

### Activities

Dr. Seuss character costume contest  
Coloring and drawing activity centers  
Read-aloud storytime  
Music by the IA Youth Chorus



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