



NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 1, 2016
Contact: Jennifer Lu'Becke, Youth Services Specialist
360.417.8500 ext. 7705, youth@nols.org
Re: *Toothy Storytimes* coming to Forks, Port Angeles, and Sequim branch libraries

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) will celebrate National Children's Dental Health Month by offering a series of storytimes with a focus on healthy tooth care. Children who attend these special editions of Library Storytime—featuring stories, songs, and rhymes—will receive a free toothbrush and book about oral hygiene.

In Washington State, nearly 40% of children start kindergarten with tooth decay; 15% with rampant tooth decay (seven or more decayed or filled teeth). Research shows that children with healthy teeth are better prepared to focus in the classroom. The Washington Dental Service Foundation reached out to early learning coalitions and libraries around the state to help support oral hygiene education as part of ongoing early literacy efforts.

The 2016 *Toothy Storytime* schedule:

- Friday, February 12, 10:15am, Toddler Storytime, Port Angeles Main Library
- Friday, February 12, 11:15am, Baby Storytime, Port Angeles Main Library
- Friday, February 19, 10:30am, Family Storytime, Forks Branch Library
- Tuesday, February 23, 10:15am, Kindergarten Express, Port Angeles Main Library
- Wednesday, February 24, 10:30am, Toddler Storytime, Sequim Branch Library
- Wednesday, February 24, 11:30am, Preschool Storytime, Sequim Branch Library

This program is made possible by the efforts of the Olympic-Kitsap Early Learning Coalition and funded by a grant from Washington Dental Service. For more information about *Toothy*

Storytime and other events for young people and their caregivers, visit www.nols.org or contact the Port Angeles Main Library at 360.417.8500 x 7705, or send an email to youth@nols.org. The Sequim Branch Library is located at 630 North Sequim Avenue; the Port Angeles Main Library is located at 2210 South Peabody Street; and the Forks Branch Library is located at 171 Forks Avenue South.

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