



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 28, 2018
Contact: Jennifer Knight, Youth Services Librarian
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Subject: *Kindergarten Rocks!* at the Port Angeles Main Library
Attached: *Jennifer Knight-Storytime.jpg*

Children entering kindergarten or equivalent in the fall of 2018 are invited to attend a special kindergarten readiness program at the Port Angeles Main Library, Wednesdays, July 11, July 18, July 25, and August 1 at 1pm. Facilitated by staff from the North Olympic Library System (NOLS) and First Step, each session will feature the reading of picture book and a series of hands-on stations based on kindergarten-readiness skills. Participants in the program will receive a copy of each book read in addition to a handout with activities to do at home. Families attending the sack lunch program at Jefferson Elementary during the summer are encouraged to head across the street to the Library after lunch for this program.

Each week's program will be based on a specific title:

Wednesday, July 11, 1pm *This Is Not A Box* by Antoinette Portis

Wednesday, July 18, 1pm *Gravity* by Jason Chin

Wednesday, July 25, 1pm *Click, Clack, Moo* by Doreen Cronin

Wednesday, August 1, 1pm *Let's Play In the Forest* by Claudia Rueda

Attendance is free and registration is not required. Although siblings are welcome, the program is specifically geared towards kids who will be entering kindergarten in the fall.

About First Step

First Step Family Support Center believes that parents are their child's first teacher as well as their first emotional "home". In an effort to support parents in their crucial role, First Step offers maternity support, parenting education classes, home-visiting programs, and center-based activities so that families have the advantage in raising healthy and happy children. First Step has multiple partnerships, with organizations like the NOLS, and are thrilled to coordinate a summer program for youth together.

More About the Summer Reading Program

The theme for the 2018 Summer Reading Program is *Libraries Rock!* This summertime celebration, which encourages children to keep reading during the summer break from school, features a reading challenge and a multitude of events for all ages. Research shows that children who do not read during the summer experience "summer slide" and may lose up to a month of the instructional knowledge they gained during the previous school year. Library summer reading programs have been shown to help alleviate the "summer slide" by providing access to books, enrichment activities, and encouraging young people to keep reading. The 2018 Summer Reading Program runs June 16 through August 18.

The Summer Reading Program is generously supported by the Friends of the Library at all four NOLS libraries. For more information about the Summer Reading Program and other events, visit www.nols.org/srp, call 360.417.8500, or email discover@nols.org.



Kindergarten Rocks! Wednesdays July 11-August 1 at 1pm at the Port Angeles Main Library

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