

Beloit Daily News
October 2016

I have been a Children's Librarian for almost eight years and I have a confession. Up until about six weeks ago, I had never done a story time. I had never actually sat down and read a story or sung *The Itsy-Bitsy Spider* or *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star* to a group of kids. Shocking, isn't it? Now mind you, it wasn't because I don't like kids. And it wasn't because I don't like books. It was because the Beloit Public Library has Youth Services staff who do story times way, way better than I could ever hope to do them. And, truth be told, I really don't like singing in front of people. Singing in the car, radio up full blast? That's a different story.

Now that I have a few story times under my belt, I'm pleasantly surprised at how much I enjoy doing them. I think I like them so much because I get to read picture books. Picture books absolutely fascinate me. Some of them are silly, some are quirky, some are sweet and some are downright clever. They can be beautifully illustrated or they can be sparsely drawn. They rhyme, they make you want to dance and a few of the great ones even make you want to cry. Simply put, picture books are wonderful and they should be treasured and celebrated.

November is Picture Book Month and the Beloit Public Library is going to celebrate! Stop by the library to take a "bookface selfie" and to vote for your favorite Caldecott Award candidate. Or come to the Sound Learning program on Saturday November 12th at 10:00 a.m. to hear from a panel of early childhood experts about how picture book read-alongs use text, illustrations and sound to enhance the development of visual and print literacy skills. And while you are at the library, ask a librarian about their favorite picture book!

For more information on Picture Book Month and other programs at the library, visit us at www.beloitlibrary.org, like us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter. In the meantime, be sure to check out these picture books coming soon to your Beloit Public Library.

Because of Thursday by Patricia Polacco. Thursdays have always been lucky for Annie Fetlock. She was born on a Thursday. She won her first cooking contest at the age of eight on a Thursday. She met the love of her life, Mario, on a Thursday. They were married on a bright Thursday afternoon and their two children were both born on a Thursday. (Book Description)

The Bossier Baby by Maria Frazee. Change is in the air—the Boss Baby's staff has stopped taking his direction! It seems that there is a new CEO in town; from the moment she comes home, Boss Baby's little sister is *extremely* loud and is demanding all sorts of corporate perks he never got. Can the Boss Baby and his staff get used to the new corporate structure? (Book Description)

The Crayon's Book of Colors by Drew Daywalt and illustrated by Oliver Jeffers. It's Duncan's birthday, and all the crayons want to make him a card! With their fun and quirky illustrations of firetrucks, dragons, and (dare we say?) wheat, these creative crayons each have something different to contribute. (Book Description)