Dear Family,

Beginning on ______________________________, your child will bring home a black book bag filled with four wonderful books to enjoy with your family each week. There are no fees or late fines. It is part of Multnomah County Library’s Every Child A Reader program. ______________________________ is book bag return day. Please help your child return the book bag with the four books on that day. Each child will receive another bag with four different books to take home on ______________________________.

Enjoy the books with your child every day.

• Setting aside a special time, even 10 minutes, is a good way to help your child develop skills they will need when it’s time to learn to read.
• Create a bedtime routine, relax, talk and share a special family time together.

There is no wrong way to read a book with your child.

• Talk about the pictures, read only a few pages, or start from the back of the book. However you want to share a book with your child is perfectly fine.
• Talk and ask questions about the story.
• Give your child time to answer or make a comment about the story.

Read each book again and again.

• They learn something new each time they hear the story repeated.
• It’s about sharing your child’s favorite book together.
• The concepts are reinforced each time you share the book.

Most of all, have fun with the books.

• Laugh, play, mimic the character voices, sing, and so on. Children’s brains turn on when they are engaged.
• When you are having fun together, your child’s imagination soars and they are eager to learn more about the world.

These activities develop the reading skills your child will need for school success. Your child will be off to a good start in the world of reading and lifelong learning!