



# Leap Into Books

## Parent Newsletter



### Donor Spotlight

A special thanks to the **Benevolence Committee of Big Canoe Chapel.** They are a 2014 Pickens Ferst Partner for their continued support each quarter with a donation that provides funding for approximately 400 books every 3 months. Each month we mail out about 1150 books so their donation supports 35% of one month's mailing. Thank you!

### Special Spotlight: KnowPickens.com

Are you on Facebook? If so, we hope that you have "liked" **KnowPickens.com** Facebook page! *KnowPickens.com* is Pickens County Georgia's community website offering a free business directory, event calendar, news & press releases, birthday reminder, coupons and deals, and so much more. **Mari Livsey** started the page in 2007. Often-times, you will see activities around Pickens County and see that Pickens FERST is in attendance signing up more children for the program. Thank you, Mari!

### What's Going On at the Library?

Library cards are *free*! Go to our public library and sign up for a card! See Miss Olivia, the children's coordinator, for ideas on age-appropriate books for your young children as well as your school-age children.

**There will be lapsit reading at 10:30 AM on Wed. August 27<sup>th</sup> for children 3 years and younger.** Miss Olivia also has registration forms for Ferst.

### August Heat

Be sure to use SPF 15 or higher to protect children from the sun. Limit outdoor playtime between 11 AM and 3 PM. Keep your child hydrated with water and not sugary soft drinks.

### Reading From Birth

The American Academy of Pediatrics announced a new policy in June that doctors will tell parents to read aloud to their infants from birth. Pickens Ferst Foundation wholly supports this policy. We want you to sign up all your children from birth and not wait until they are older. Ferst registration forms are available at doctor's offices and on-line registration is available at [www.ferstfoundation.org](http://www.ferstfoundation.org). Or, you can email us at [jsappleton@windstream.net](mailto:jsappleton@windstream.net) and we can tell you how to sign up your child.

### Have You Moved?

Please remember to tell us that you have moved. **Books are not forwarded**, and we really want your child(ren) to continue receiving books. Email us at [jsappleton@windstream.net](mailto:jsappleton@windstream.net), call us at (706)-692-9755, or send a note to Pickens FERST, PO Box 2062, Jasper, GA 30143. If you move to another county, they may also have this program. We will just transfer your information to them.

### "Like" Us on Facebook

If you are on Facebook, please search for **Pickens Ferst Foundation** and "like" us. You can message us through Facebook if you have moved or have a question. Plus, you can follow what we are doing to register more children and recognize our donors. Hope to communicate with you soon!

### Does Reading Aloud Really Matter? Yes!

More than one in three children arrive at kindergarten without the skills necessary for lifetime learning. Research shows that reading aloud is the single most important thing you can do to help a child prepare for reading and learning. Reading aloud builds literacy skills.

# Mama Is A Pilot

*Author: Barbara/Raina Meyers; Illustrator: Bonnie McCarthy*  
OurRainbow Press



## R

**Repeat the Book:** Repeating gives more chances to learn the vocabulary.

**First Read (events)** - Look at the cover, read the title and say, *“I wonder why the child is hugging Mama so tightly? Let’s read and find out.”* Stop and talk about Mama being a pilot and how exciting that must be. If any activities that you and your child do together are shown in the story, stop and talk about similarities. Ask the first read question in the Ask Questions section.

**Second Read (emotions)** - Before reading, say, *“I wonder how the child and Mama feel about having to be away from each other so much? Let’s read and find out.”* Talk about how they might feel when Mama comes home and when Mama has to get ready to leave again. Talk about different emotions you think they experience, such as happiness, sadness, confusion, and even anger. Ask the second read question.

**Third Read (retell)** - Before reading, say, *“Now that you know this story, it is your turn to retell the story to me.”* As you and your child hold the book, have your child point to tell you what is happening in the story. Ask the third read question.

## Vocabulary

*Use these words when you talk with your child this month*

**special** - very important or loved

**glow** - to shine with low light

**festival** - a special event when people gather to celebrate something

**cuddle** - to hold and hug

**bunk** - a small bed

## E

**Engage and Enjoy:** Using these activities keeps your child’s interest in the story.

As you read, use words such as *“Wow”* and *“Fantastic”* when you read about the things Mama does as a pilot and the things she brings home for her child. When Mama comes home, use an *excited voice* as they hug and tickle each other.

## A

**Ask Questions:** After talking about the book, ask questions to promote deeper thinking.

After the first read, ask your child, *“Why does Mama have to leave?”* After the second read, ask, *“Which page shows the child being upset because Mama has left?”* After the third read, ask, *“What makes you think the child might want to be a pilot like Mama?”*

## D

**Do More:** Use other activities to help your child connect vocabulary to their world outside of the story.

On the next page, find out more about the author of this book.

## Georgia Author's Month

Our book selections for this month were written by Georgia-based authors.  
Below is information about each of the authors selected.

### *The Giving Me*

- **Lydia Criss Mays, PhD**, was both an elementary school teacher and a college professor. She is an avid children's book lover - whether she is reading or writing them! Her research, teaching, community, and policy work focuses on equity, empowerment, and care. Lydia lives in Atlanta, Georgia with her husband (*the listener*) and her two dogs, Lilly and Buddy.

### *A Busy Week for Salvador*

- **Margie K. Carroll** is a retired educator, media specialist, computer programmer, and Technology Specialist. Margie's book series for children uses her photography and story telling skills to illuminate an animal family's life from the point of view of the offspring. Margie lives in Canton, Georgia. Visit her website: [www.margiekarroll.com](http://www.margiekarroll.com).

### *Fabulous Fishes*

- **Susan Stockdale** has written and illustrated a number of children's picture books. Her books celebrate nature with exuberance and charm and have won awards from the American Library Association, Parents' Choice, and the National Science Teachers Association. Stockdale lives in Maryland but is formerly from Georgia. Visit her website: [www.susanstockdale.com](http://www.susanstockdale.com).

### *Why Do My Feet Say Yes When My Head Says No?*

- **Eileen L. Cooley** is a professor of Psychology at Agnes Scott College and a licensed psychologist. She developed the scenarios of the book to help children with their everyday dilemmas. Visit her website: [www.eileencooleyphd.com](http://www.eileencooleyphd.com). **Jill Dubin** (illustrator) grew up in Yonkers, New York and now calls Georgia home. Her delightful art has appeared in numerous children's books. Using cut paper collage, she combines color and pattern to create her illustrations. Visit her website: [www.jilldubin.com](http://www.jilldubin.com).

### *Mama is a Pilot*

- **Barbara Meyers** lives in Atlanta, Georgia. She is the chair of the Department of Early Childhood Education at Georgia State University. Inspiration for her children's books comes from her four grandchildren. **Raina Meyers** lives in San Francisco with her family. She is also Barbara's daughter. She teaches at Galileo High School and enjoys reading young adult fiction books, playing the guitar, and walking her dog at the beach.

### *Look Both Ways*

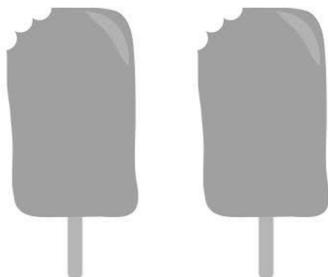
- **Diane Z. Shore** is the prize-winning author or co-author of six books for young readers, including *This is the Dream* (2006), a compelling, boldly illustrated book that chronicles episodes before, during, and after the civil rights movement in America. Visit her website: [www.dianezshore.com](http://www.dianezshore.com).

## Gummy Bear Popsicles

While summer is almost over, the heat is not! Do you love gummy bears? Do you love popsicles? Why not have the best of both worlds? These are fun yet so easy to make!

### Supplies:

- Popsicle molds
- Popsicle sticks
- Gummy bears
- Sprite



### Directions:

1. Fill molds about 3/4 of the way with Sprite.
2. Drop in gummy bears.
3. Place popsicle stick into mold.
4. Freeze until frozen all the way through.

## Why Should Children Read?

- Children who read *become good readers*.
- Reading exercises our brains.
- Reading improves concentration.
- Reading improves a child's vocabulary and leads to more highly-developed language skills.
- Reading develops a child's imagination.
- Reading helps children develop empathy, the ability to identify with others.
- Children who read perform at a higher level in school.
- Reading is a great form of entertainment!

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Carrier-Leave  
If No Response

Please do not bend

**Are you moving?** If so, please let us know by calling 888-565-0177 or e-mail [info@ferstfoundation.org](mailto:info@ferstfoundation.org) with your new address. The postal service WILL NOT forward the books even with a forward order on file as they do not forward bulk mail. You must let us know your new address in order to continue receiving the books. We are not responsible for undeliverable or lost books.