



Transitioning to Back-To-School Mode

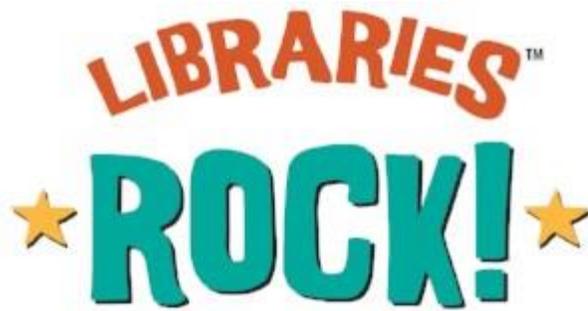
The long days of summer are coming to a close, signaling the coming of Fall. In August, your children are soaking up their last care-free days before school starts. This newsletter will discuss ways parents and children can get ready for the upcoming school year.

As parents, you want to make sure you have done all that you can for your children so they are ready and able to thrive in school. Studies have shown that encouraging family involvement in education may improve children's academic success. But exactly what does that mean for parents and caregivers what can you do?

Preparing your children for school involves more than the ABC's and 1-2-3's. Research shows that children who have caregivers that are responsive to their children's needs and concerns do better in school. Children can feel scared, happy, sad, excited, and nervous about starting school. You can help your children by doing some of the following:

- Talk about what school will be like;
- Discuss what they will do during the day;
- If you know who their teacher will be make sure they know his/her name;
- Visit the school;
- Play at the playground;
- Drive or ride the bus around the route they will take to get to school;
- Play pretend school at home (read box below for suggestions in doing this);
- Check out the books listed below about school from your local library.

A graphic designed to look like an open book with two pages. The left page is white with a yellow pencil on the left and right sides. The right page is dark red with a white pencil on the left and right sides. The text on the left page is: 'FUN WITH YOUR KIDS! Play Pretend School. One great way to have fun and help children transition into school is to play pretend. Take turns being the teacher and students. This provides a safe way to model what might happen in school and for your children to express some of their concerns.' The text on the right page is: 'Books About SCHOOL. Here are some books that you can read with your children about starting school. • The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn • The Night Before Preschool / The Night before Kindergarten by Natasha Wing • First Day Jitters by Julie Danneberg • Wemberly Worried by Kevin Henkes'.



Local Libraries

It's not too late to help prevent the "summer reading slide." Visit your local library! For a list of all libraries in Marion and Polk counties [click here](#).

Many of Salem-Keizer elementary school libraries are still open through August. For a list of library summer openings and for when they end [click here](#).



Do you have a newborn or a child up between the ages of 2 and 3 by September 1?

Ready! for Kindergarten provides take-home materials (toys) and tools, to empower parents

and caregivers to help young children develop strong brain connections and kindergarten readiness.

Join the Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub and the Salem Clinic Medical Foundation at the Salem Family YMCA for a fun-filled workshop for you and your baby to gain new abilities related to the wonderful changes that happen so fast at this age. Free dinner. Childcare is available (child does not have to be present for parent to participate).

Session 1: Thursday, August 23rd 6:30-8:00pm
Session 2: Thursday, September 6th 6:30-8:00pm
Session 3: Thursday, September 20th 6:30-8:00pm

Register soon as class space is limited. Classes will be delivered in English and Spanish.

To register: call Tiffany Miller at (503) 485-3219 or Veronica Mendoza at (503) 602-2703.

Blog of the Month



As a working mom, I constantly struggle to keep everything organized—my schedule, the kids' schedule, day-to-day operations at work and home, etc. There is a constant push-and-pull between having to fulfill my obligations at work and at home. That's life, right!? A few years ago I found myself at a crossroads.

[-- Read More --](#)



Kindergarten & Preschool Registration is OPEN NOW!

Is your child age-eligible for preschool or kindergarten? Make sure to register now to ensure you have a spot. This will also help you and your child be prepared for day one. Many schools offer a kinder jumpstart program to assist with transition into kindergarten. Find your local [elementary school](#) or [preschool](#) on our website.

Free Summer Events for Families

Kids Bowl Free Summer - Salem

Kids receive 2 FREE GAMES of bowling!
Monday, August 6 every weekday until Sept 5,
2018
Town & Country Lanes
3500 River Rd NE
Keizer, OR 97303

Safari, Animal Adventure!- Salem

August 13-17th
The Abbey Art Center
331 State Street Salem, OR 97301
Register at: theabbeyartcenter.weebly.com

Aumsville Corn Festival

Saturday, August 18th. 11:00-6:30pm
Porter Boone Park
Aumsville Oregon, 97325

Dallas Family Night Out

Wednesday, August 22th, 4:00-7:00pm
Dallas United Methodist Church
565 SE Lacreole Dr, Dallas OR 97338



For additional events in Marion and Polk County visit our calendar!

Do you want fun easy activities that help your child learn? Download the **FREE** Vroom smartphone app for activities and learn the science behind early brain development. Available in English and Spanish.

Search for the Daily Vroom app in the iTunes, Google Play or Amazon Fire stores.

OR

Sign up for weekly brain building text message by texting CHILD to 48258.



Vroom Tip

Invite your child to go on a hunt for different types of paper around the house, like paper towels, newspapers, magazines, or paper bags. Ask her to look at and touch the different papers. Talk with her about what she notices: What is the same and what is different?

[More Vroom Tips](#)