

Early Learning Express: January 2017

“Welcome!” to Kids in the Country and Dover School Pre-K, two new additions to the Early Learning Express route this New Year! We look forward to serving the teachers and children in these early education communities.

January’s first visits are a celebration of the winter season. Puppets will enact the following poem before we delve into our winter books.

A chubby little snowman
Had a carrot nose.
Along came a bunny,
And what do you suppose?
That hungry little bunny,
Looking for a lunch,
Ate the snowman’s nose.
Nibble, nibble, crunch!

And the books!

Using only onomopopia and watercolor illustrations in her book red sled, Lita Judge has created a heartwarming winter tale. After a bear finds a sled propped up outside of a cabin, bear and a group of forest friends discover the thrill of sledding under a full moon. In the morning the sleds owner can’t help but notice the telltale tracks left in the snow...



Just published in 2016, April Pulley Sayre's book Best in Snow depicts the beauty of New England winter through simple poetry and astounding photographs. Looking closely at snowflakes on bird feathers, sunshine sparkling through icicles, and feathering frost on windows highlight the magic of this season.

The second round of visits are going to get us moving! Toddler groups get inspired by the big book version of Eric Carle's "From Head to Toe." This book encourages us all to try moving like the animals portrayed in the pages – "I am a penguin and I turn my head. Can you do it? I can do it!"

Older groups read Steve Jenkin's book "Move" which provides verbs of motion describing animal movements. We see gibbons swing, whales dive, snakes slither, armadillos leap, spiders float, and much, much more.

Taking advantage of our time off of the bookmobile and inside larger spaces, children get the opportunity to move their bodies like animals. Guided by Sueño's singing of Hap Palmer's song "[Sammy – I'm Glad I'm Me](#)" children take on the role of Sammy, who in the song, pretends to be different animals on the way to the store.

Don't worry, though. Before leaving, Sueño will bring the group's energy level back down with one more undisclosed simple story!