

Theme: Family Literacy Week

Date: January 26, 2021

Hello StrongStart friends,

Today's email is from Teacher Linda (from Grenfell).

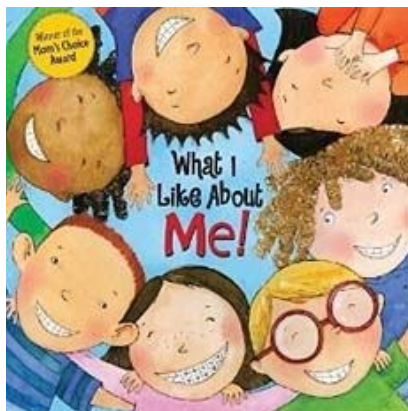
**Happy Literacy Week!** Today, we focus on reading diverse, multicultural books. Diverse books for children help them see both themselves and the experiences of others. These books help develop self-confidence and empathy. Reading books from diverse cultures helps us view life from other's perspective. Also, it's more fun to see pictures of people that represent what we are familiar with and can relate to (Decoda Family Literacy, 2021).

Here are some great multicultural books (source: <https://diversebooks.org/resources/where-to-find-diverse-books/>)



- I am Latino (The Beauty in Me) by Sandra L. Pinkney - <https://youtu.be/NtxexZOrMiY>
- Yo Soy Muslim by Mark Gonzales - <https://youtu.be/FyltFlhqO6I>
- Natsumi by Susan Lendroth - <https://youtu.be/7tdu7neR4P4>

Now, let's have some fun and build our own faces! This next activity is an extension for the book "What I Like About Me" by Allia Zobel-Nola - <https://youtu.be/XvucoY4sIJA>



Materials: circular bases (plates, cork coasters, circles from construction paper or cardboard), loose parts (buttons, gems, yarn and beads), mirrors.

Instructions:

- Read the book together.
- Gather your materials. The circle base is a canvas for your child to create self-portraits out of loose parts.
- Encourage your child to look into the mirror and discuss the different features of their faces.



To finish up, here are some songs about how special we each are:

**Special Me** (to the tune "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star")

*Special, special, special me.*

*How I wonder what I'll be.*

*In this big world I can be,*

*Anything I want to be.*

*Special, special, special me,*

*How I wonder what I'll be.*



**Feeling Song** (to the tune "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star")

*I have feelings, you do too.*

*Let's all sing about a few.*

*I am happy, I am sad.*

*I get scare, I get mad.*

*I am proud of being me,*

*That's a feeling too, you see.*

*I have feelings, you do too.*

*We just sang about a few.*

**Vancouver Public Library** has Facebook Live Storytimes, Babytime and Toddlertime on Zoom and Virtual Storytime on YouTube.

- **\* NEW \* Toddlertime on Zoom:** <https://vpl.bibliocommons.com/events/search/q=Toddler%20Storytime%20on%20Zoom>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/VPLKidsGroup/permalink/305851480553261/>
- YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/vancouverlibrary](http://www.youtube.com/user/vancouverlibrary)