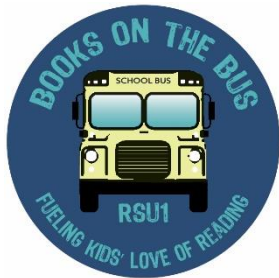




Patten Free Library, Children's Room, 33 Summer St, Bath, ME 04530, 443-5141 x16 Children's Room, <http://www.patten.lib.me.us/> Carol McFadden, Children's Librarian, 443-5141 x17 [ccmcfadden@patten.lib.me.us](mailto:ccmcfadden@patten.lib.me.us)



### **BOOKS ON THE BUS : "Fueling Kids' Love of Reading"**

**What Is Books On The Bus?** The Books on the Bus program is a community collaboration between the Bath Elementary PTA, RSU1, and the Patten Free Library inspired by similar programs in Topsham, Maine and Brussels,

Wisconsin. Our mission is to provide kids with convenient access to books while also helping to improve bus behavior.

**Why Books?** For many children the bus can be stressful, boring, and even a little scary. Providing kids with a focused activity can help them with anxiety while fostering a love of reading and building relationships with other kids. In addition, similar programs show that students who are engaged in a meaningful activity on the bus are more likely to sit still and stay focused, allowing drivers to focus on the safe transportation of students.

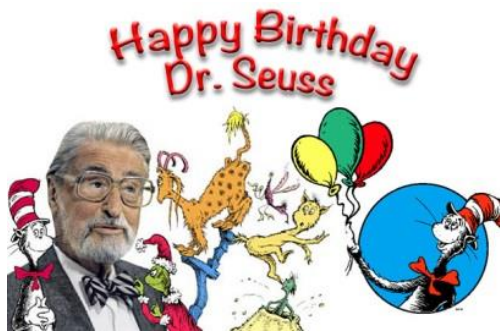
**How Does It Work?** The donated books will be placed in specially designed seat pockets allowing students easy access to them during their commute. Books will primarily target kids ages 5-9. As books find a new home with students or become too worn, they will be restocked. To avoid any confusion, all books will be labeled with our logo.

**When Does It Start?** The program will launch on March 2, 2018, to coincide with Read Across America Day. The program will start with one bus, and as we continue to grow and raise funds, we will expand to more buses. Our mission is to have books on every bus in the RSU 1 district.

**How Can I Help?** We need donations of clean, mold-free, sturdy books from smoke-free environments to be brought to the Patten Free Library Children's Room. Books should be age appropriate (primarily targeting ages 5-9).



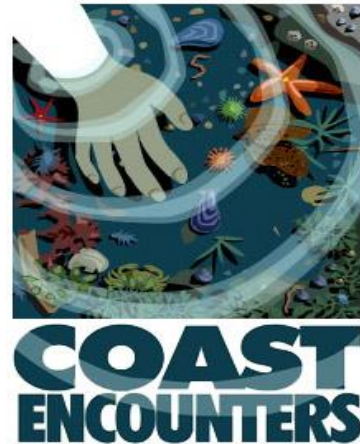
For more information or if you would like to make a book donation, please contact Sheryl Ritchie, Literacy Committee Chair for the Bath Elementary PTA, [shanson712@yahoo.com](mailto:shanson712@yahoo.com) or Carol McFadden (see above)



Wear a Seuss costume, if you'd like 😊

We're celebrating Dr. Seuss's Birthday with a special tribute, Thursday, **March 1, 10:30am-11:15am**, with our annual **Hooray for Diffendoofer Day!** Join us for Dr. Seuss stories, songs & a little costume parade!

**SEARCHING SCIENCE** is our three-month educational program for elementary school aged children, run by teachers and scientists! During January, we explored *Astronomy*; February was *Winter Woodlands*; and *March is Marine Life*.



- **Saturday, March 3, 2-3:00pm ~ I Spy Camouflage!** Join marine science educator, Carol Steingart of Coastal Encounters, who has been conducting intertidal programs for over 15 years. She'll bring live rocky shore critters to exemplify camouflage skills and participants will leave with a sense of how successfully animals protect themselves from predators. It's fun, educational, and very hands on, ages 6-11 year olds but fun for ALL ages. See you in the Community Room.
- **Wednesday, March 14, 4-5:00pm ~ Boothbay Sea & Science with Pauline Dion**, hands on presentation, Storytime Room, ages 6-11.
- **Wednesday, March 28, 4-5:00pm ~ Marine Mammals of Maine with Jessica Woodend**, hands on presentation, Storytime Room, ages 6-11.



*Saturday, March 10,  
2-3:00pm  
St. Patrick's Day Celebration  
Irish tunes and songs by  
Dromore Bay Trio, for everyone!  
Community Room*

- **GUEST READER TIME ~ Wednesday, March 7, 4-4:15pm.** Join Will Fritzmeier who'll read us some favorite stories, Storytime Room.



- **BOOK BABIES ~ Wednesdays, 10:30am** Gather with your little one (babies & toddlers), for twenty minutes of fun rhyming stories, finger plays & songs while your child feels snug on your lap.
- **TIME FOR 2's & 3's ~ Thursdays, 10:30-11:00am.** Join the circle of little friends & enjoy short stories, songs & puppets.



- **Chess Club, Thursdays, 3:30-4:30pm,** ages 6-11, with high school student, Lucas Blaiklock, our awesome Chess Leader.

- **LEGO LEAGUE ~ Tuesdays, 3:30-5:00pm,** ages 6 & up. Join our Lego Leaders for some great Lego fun! We have small sized Lego blocks to share but feel free to bring your own. Your finished work can go home at the end of each session or leave it in our display case for a short time to show the world!





Ask our Children's Room staff or view our website for details about the following ***UNUSUAL THINGS TO CHECK OUT*** (non-book circulating items):

- ✓ **Telescope (1)**
- ✓ **Binoculars (2 day/night use; 2 day use kits)**
- ✓ **American Girl Doll Kits (7)**
- ✓ **Learning language book bags (2), French & Spanish**
- ✓ **Science-themed backpacks (7) & books bags (7)**



**Borrow an American Girl Doll Kit for one week!**  
**Molly McIntire (1944), Addy Walker (1864), Caroline Abbott (1812), Samantha Parkington (1904), Rebecca Rubin (1914), Mary Ellen Larkin (1954), Kaya (1764) & her mare, Steps High.**



Explore the Patten Free Library Children's Room online <http://www.patten.lib.me.us/kids/> for our **Events Calendar; The Kid's Blog, Books & Reading; Fun & Games; and Homework Help.**



Check out the **Library Bookstore** at 194 Front Street! It has shelves of children's books at excellent prices. All books are gently used book donations to the Library and the proceeds benefit the Library.



Did you know? We have passes to the **Children's Museum of Maine** in Portland <http://www.kitetails.org/>

