Dear Parents:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our storytime for ages four and up. Please continue helping your child develop a love for books and reading by sharing these rhymes, books, and other activities with your child.

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**Books To Share**

- *The Birthday Box* by Leslie Patricelli
- *A Birthday for Cow!* by Jan Thomas
- *Happy Birthday Hamster* by Cynthia Lord
- *Otto Has a Birthday Party* by Todd Parr
- *Bunny Party* by Rosemary Wells
- *The Secret Birthday Message* by Eric Carle
- *The Best Birthday Party Ever* by Jennifer LaRue Huget
- *The Birthday Presents* by Paul Stewart
- *One, Two, Buckle My Shoe* by Jane Cabrera
- *Ask Mr. Bear* by Marjorie Flack
- *Froggy Bakes a Cake* by Jonathan London
- *A Letter to Amy* by Jack Keats
- *Mr. Wolf and the Three Bears* by Jan Fearnley
- *Lulu’s Birthday* by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard
- *Yoko’s Paper Cranes* by Rosemary Wells
- *Otis & Sydney and the Best Birthday Ever* by Laura Numeroff
- *Dog and Bear: Two’s Company* by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
- *How Do Dinosaurs Say* 
  Happy Birthday* by Jane Yolen & Mark Teague
- *The Best Birthday Ever!* by Charise Mericle Harper
- *The Little Bitty Bakery* by Leslie Muir

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**Fun With Fingerplays and Songs**

**The Birthday Song**

Happy birthday to you!
Happy birthday to you!
Happy birthday dear ____
(fill in child's name or sing "everyone")
Happy birthday to you!

**Ten Little Candles**

Ten little candles on a chocolate cake
Wh! Wh! Now there are eight.
Eight little candles on candlesticks.
Wh! Wh! Now there are six.
Six little candles and not one more.
Wh! Wh! Now there are four.
Four little candles--red, white, and blue.
Wh! Wh! Now there are two.
Two little candles standing in the sun.
Wh! Wh! Now there are none!

**A Birthday**

Today is your birthday.
Let's make a birthday cake.
Mix and stir,
Stir and mix,
Then into the oven to bake.

Here's our cake so nice and round.
We'll frost it green and white.
We'll put four candles on it
To make a birthday light.
And then blow them out....1, 2, 3, 4!
The Balloon
I'm going to blow up this balloon
(Hold up fist for flat balloon.)
And never, never stop.
I'll blow and blow and blow and blow
(Hands to mouth, widen hands to show balloon expanding.)
And blow....and then...POP!
(Clap hands when balloon pops.)

Light the Candles
Light the candles.
Here we go.
Count them slowly. . .
1,2,3,4...
Then blow, blow, blow!

Counting Candles
(tune: "The Birthday Song")
How many candles on the cake?
How many candles on the cake?
I wish you would tell me.
How many candles on the cake?
One candle on the cake...
(Hold up finger for each candle.)
Now let's make a wish.
Now let's make a wish.
We'll blow out the candles,
And then make a wish!
(Repeat with higher numbers.)

Birthday Wishes
(tune: "Frere Jacques")
On your birthday, on your birthday,
Close your eyes, close your eyes.
First blow out the candles,
First blow out the candles.
Then make a wish.
Make a wish.

Birthday Wishing Candles Picture
Materials: one sheet of colored construction paper,
cake and candles cut from various colors of
construction paper; glue stick; crayons or markers;
decorating materials (rick-rack, ribbon, glitter glue,
etc.)
Have child glue cake to larger sheet of construction paper and glue candles on cake. Decorate cake with rest of materials.

Festive Birthday Hats
Take a piece of 11"x17" colored construction paper
and bend it around to form a cone and tape it in place.
Trim the base of the cone so that the hat will sit flat on a table. Now you are ready to decorate your hat with markers, crayons, sequins, glitter, or whatever craft supplies you have on hand.

Birthday Cupcakes
Bake a batch of cupcakes and decorate with frosting, sprinkles, and whipped cream.
Add some candles too - even if it isn't your birthday!

Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library®
Learning to read begins before your child starts school.
Help your children develop early literacy skills now; this makes it easier for children to learn to read once they begin school.
Five of the best ways to help your child get ready to read are:

- Talking
- Singing
- Reading
- Writing
- Playing

If you would like more information, please ask the staff in the children’s area.

Every Child Ready to Read® is a project of the Association for Library Service to Children and the Public Library Association, divisions of the American Library Association.

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Old Town Library
201 Peterson
Children’s Desk 221.6680

Council Tree Library
2733 Council Tree Avenue

Harmony Library
4616 South Shields
Children’s Desk 204.8404

A joint-use facility of
Front Range Community College
and Poudre River Public Library District

www.PoudreLibraries.org
221.6740

Reasonable accommodations will be made for access to programs for people with disabilities. Please call 221.6740 for assistance.