

Beloit Daily News  
July 2017

When I decided to pursue my Master's in Library and Information Sciences degree, I wanted to be a cataloger. I liked the idea because I naively thought that figuring out why Mr. Melville Dewey assumed every single thing on this great earth of ours could be categorized into only one of ten very broad subject fields, would be fun. And then I took a cataloging class. Don't get me wrong. Organizing stuff is kind of my thing, and I commend the catalogers at the Beloit Public Library for their ability to put a book exactly where it belongs. It's just that, fortunately, I realized very early on that other people do that job way better than I could ever hope to do it.

I've been at the library for over 20 years now and it took me 19 of those years to finally figure out what I wanted to do. It isn't scheduling staff, it isn't writing policy, it isn't ordering books, and though this may come as a shock to my coworkers, it isn't weeding the collection either. What I have discovered is that I love reading books to kids and their families. I love letting parents know the importance of talking, singing, writing and playing with their children. I love modeling those pre-reading skills at the library's ABC Playgroup program, and I love seeing the kids light up when they start to recognize letters and words in the stories I read. As it turns out, early literacy is kind of my thing. In fact, it is kind of a library thing too.

The Beloit Public Library offers a variety of early literacy programs including Baby Play Dates, ABC Playgroup, Preschool Discovery Time, and starting in the fall, Sensory Story Time, a gentle story time designed to engage special needs children through movement, music, stories and sensory activities.

To find out more about these programs and many more, Like us on Facebook or visit us online at [www.beloitlibrary.org](http://www.beloitlibrary.org). In the meantime, check out these great new books coming soon to your Beloit Public Library:

*13 Things Mentally Strong Parents Don't Do: Raising Self-Assured Children and Training Their Brains for a Life of Happiness, Meaning, and Success* by Amy Morin. When children have the skills they need to deal with challenges in their everyday lives, they can flourish socially, emotionally, behaviorally, and academically. With appropriate support, encouragement, and guidance from adults, kids grow stronger and become better. (Book Description)

*The Power of Moments: Why Certain Experiences Have Extraordinary Impact* by Chip Heath and Dan Heath. What if a teacher could design a lesson that he knew his students would remember twenty years later? What if a doctor or nurse knew how to orchestrate moments that would bring more comfort to patients? Many of the defining moments in our lives are the result of accident or luck—but why would we leave our most meaningful, memorable moments to chance when we can create them? (Book Description)

*Sam Sorts: One Hundred Favorite Things* by Marthe Jocelyn. Sam's things are in a heap. Time to tidy up! He starts to organize his things, but quickly runs into trouble. He can make a pile of black and white things. But the penguin also belongs in the things with wings pile. He can make a pile of rocks. But the round rock also belongs in the round things pile. How will he ever sort his 100 things? (Book Description)

