HAMPTON MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB

May 2026

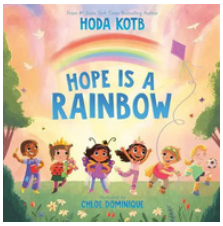
Mayor's Book Club

May Book-of-the-Month - Hope is a Rainbow

Sponsored by Healthy Families Partnership Inc.

Did You Know

As parents, you work hard to give your children the very best you can provide. It may surprise you to know that giving your children what they need to succeed in school is not expensive. In fact, "The least expensive thing we can give a child outside of a hug turns out to be the most valuable: words."
The Read-Aloud Handbook by Jim Trelease (Penguin, 2006, 6th edition)
Simply knowing more words and being able to use language skillfully will give your child a real advantage in school. The amount of time you spend talking with and listening to your child not only determines the size of his vocabulary, it can influence his future school success.



It's Fun and Easy!

Hope Is a Rainbow by Hoda Kotb
This poetic book connects colors with feelings of hope, strength, and love. Its gentle rhythm and repetition help young readers develop early literacy skills through sound and emotion

Tip #1 – Listen for patterns:
Read the book aloud slowly and ask your reader to listen for repeated words or phrases. Can they chime in when they hear a phrase again? Repetition builds early fluency.

Tip #2 – Color-word connections:
Choose a color and brainstorm together: what words or feelings come to mind when you hear "yellow"? How about "blue"? This builds vocabulary and emotional literacy.

Tip #3 – Ask your reader:
If you wrote a book like this, what would each color mean to you? Try writing a few lines together using your own color associations.

F	M	V	G	Q	I	R	A	I	N	B	O	W	D	M
K	H	A	A	H	P	S	L	D	C	G	Q	B	R	Y
M	B	R	A	V	E	L	N	Q	Y	V	N	M	Q	B
M	R	H	A	P	P	Y	Y	C	J	R	L	M	T	L
E	F	Y	Q	N	O	Z	V	W	U	W	Q	O	H	D
G	T	A	W	S	H	P	B	X	P	L	O	V	E	L
J	P	H	O	J	Q	K	H	W	W	F	E	C	U	T
C	U	D	W	O	O	S	G	G	N	Z	H	O	P	E
D	T	O	S	G	T	O	G	E	T	H	E	R	B	J
Q	S	E	K	I	N	D	M	I	P	S	K	G	Y	Q
L	G	W	H	V	C	R	V	J	W	W	C	Z	W	P
E	S	M	I	L	E	M	D	R	N	Z	H	K	X	J
P	K	I	M	C	G	J	I	W	H	O	O	P	K	C
Y	L	N	J	O	Y	F	N	R	T	C	A	R	E	O
V	W	B	U	V	I	U	O	H	M	A	W	H	M	C

HOPE
RAINBOW
LOVE
KIND
HAPPY
BRAVE
TOGETHER
JOY
CARE
SMILE

mayorsbookclub.org

757-848-7814

The images in this newsletter were taken from these resources: Bing, atozteacherstuff.com, and Lowe's and Barnes & Noble.

Community Resources to Bring the Story to Life

Sweet Frog Premium Frozen Yogurt
97 Coliseum Crossing, Hampton, VA 23666

SPCA Barnyard and Petting Zoo
523 J Clyde Morris Blvd, Newport News, VA 23601

Cold Stone Creamery
1986 Power Plant Pkwy, Hampton, VA 23666

Learning Through Play: Rainbow Fruit Kabobs

Materials (Ingredients)
Aim for one fruit per color so it really pops
-Red: strawberries or raspberries
-Orange: mandarin orange segments or cantaloupe
-Yellow: pineapple chunks or banana slices
-Green: green grapes, kiwi, or honeydew
-Blue: blueberries or blackberries
-Purple: purple grapes or chunks of plum
-Mini marshmallows (great as spacers)
-Honey or yogurt for dipping
-Wooden skewers

Directions
1. Wash fruit and cut into small, bite-size pieces.
2. For safety, cut grapes in half and use blunt or short skewers.
3. Help kids slide fruit onto skewers in rainbow order: red → orange → yellow → green → blue → purple.
4. Lay on a plate and chill until snack time.

What's Happening in Hampton

Barnes & Noble Storytime
Saturday, May 9, 2026
11:00 am

Lowes Kid Workshop
Garden Basket Crafting
Saturday, May 16, 2026
10:00 am- 1:00 pm

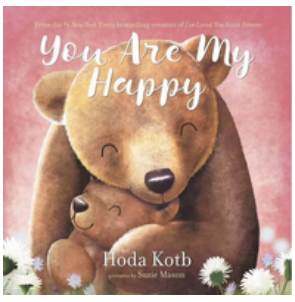
LOWE'S

DIY-U KIDS' WORKSHOPS By Lowe's

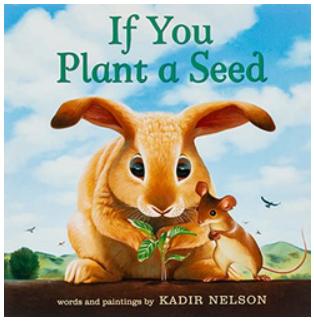
Book Picks

Rain Before Rainbows by Smirti Prasadam- Halls

You Are My Happy by Hoda Kotb



If You Plant a Seed by Kadir Nelson



Thanks to Langley Civic Leaders Association, Air Force Association - Langley Chapter, Exchange Club of Wythe for their monthly support of the Mayor's Book Club