



School-Home Connection

Your child is reading “I’m in Charge of Celebrations” by Byrd Baylor. In this narrative poem, a young girl creates holidays to celebrate the many special, wondrous natural events she witnesses in the American Southwest desert. You may enjoy discussing this poem and doing these activities with your child. Together you can develop and explore your child’s language skills.

Nature Tales

Ask your child to tell you about some of the natural events the young girl celebrates in the poem. Look for these additional nature books in your local library:

- *Deserts* by Neil Morris. Raintree Steck-Vaughn, 1997.
- *By the Blazing Blue Sea* by S. T. Garne. Harcourt Brace, 1999.
- *Desert Voices* by Byrd Baylor. Scribner’s, 1981.

AT THE LIBRARY

Vocabulary Lookout

The following words are new vocabulary your child has learned while reading “I’m in Charge of Celebrations”:

signal	choosy
celebrations	average
tracks	admiring

To reinforce meanings, ask your child to choose one word each day of the week and use it as many times as possible throughout that day. Record the number of times your child uses each word correctly.



TIME TO READ

Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes outside of class each day.

Let’s Celebrate

Talk with your child about some of the special days that are celebrated in your home and in your community. If possible, take your child to a community celebration and talk about what is being celebrated and why. Then invite your child to ask family members and friends about the ways they like to celebrate their special days and to note the ways the celebrations are similar and different. Encourage your child to write what she or he has learned in a notebook.

