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Gladstone Center offers free books at Story Hour

Come to Story Hour at the Gladstone Center for Children and Families (GCCF) on Thursdays from 4:15 to 5 p.m. on the following dates:

- February 6: Friendship and Love
- February 20: Community Members
- March 6: Stories by Dr. Seuss
- March 20: Stories by Eric Carle
- April 3: Pets
- April 17: Earth Day

The free event helps children build early reading skills through shared reading play, vocabulary development, and fun language activities. Children five and under will receive a free book. The Center is located at 18905 Portland Avenue in Gladstone.

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Gladstone Library events serve babies, tots, and preschoolers

School readiness begins with early verbal skills built from a child's earliest years. That's why the Gladstone library offers several story time events for small children.

Saturday events every 2 weeks:

January 25, February 8 & 22, March 8 & 22, April 5 & 19; May 3, 17, & 31

Book Babies (6 to 18 months), from 9 to 9:50 a.m.

Tiny Tots Read (18 months to 3 years), from 10 to 10:50 a.m.

Preschool Story Time (Age 3 and up), from 11 to 11:50 a.m.

Weekly Thursday events:

Stories and Crafts, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

For more library events, follow them on Facebook or Twitter, or visit the website at <http://gladstonepubliclibrary.wordpress.com/>

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Play Groups provide exercise, fun, and friends

Families with children, ages 5 and younger, are invited to participate in free play groups at the Gladstone Center for Children and Families, 18905 Portland Ave.

The groups meet weekly from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Mondays in the indoor play area and weekly from 3-4:30 p.m. Thursdays in the covered outdoor play park and indoor play area. The center also provides information and resources for families with young children. For information, call: 503-655-8601.

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Parent Power class helps with motivation, discipline, & communication

If your New Year's resolution is to learn parenting strategies that work, we have the perfect class for you. And it's free! Bring your spouse or come with a friend. Here is a lesson from the class.

Register now for Parent Power, a 4-night course in February at John Wetten Elementary. Classes will be held Tuesday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. on February 4, 11, 18, & 25. Free childcare will be provided. Sign up now at www.lastingrelationships.org or call 503-546-6377.

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Gladstone early childhood center seeks volunteers

Head Start, Family Stepping Stones, and kindergarten classes at the Gladstone Center for Children and Families need volunteers who can give an hour or two a week.

Volunteers can mentor small groups, supervise playtime, guide art projects, supervise learning zones, and help children build reading skills. To get involved, call Volunteer Coordinator Susan Trone at @ 503-496-3939, ext. 306.