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## **Dia de los Niños: Children’s Day at St. Stephens Library**

**Newton, NC** – The Catawba County Library System invites the entire community to “Dia de los Niños” or “Day of the Child” on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm at the St. Stephens Branch Library. “Dia de los Niños”, commonly known as Día, is a celebration every day of children, families, and reading that culminates yearly on April 30th. The celebration emphasizes the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds. It is a full day of family fun to celebrate the joy of childhood, learning, and community and was made possible through grant support from Dia (Diversity in Action) and Dollar General.

Come and enjoy free food catered by El Quetzal, games, free books, entertainment, and demonstrations throughout the day. While you’re there, take time to browse the library, pick up some take home activities and stop by to learn more about resources available in our community.

*Scheduled demonstrations and activities include:*

*9:30 am: Baby Bounce Bilingual Storytime*

*10 am: DIY Baby Food Demonstration*

*10a-12p: Car seat safety checks*

*10:30 am: Stretch-n-Grow for ages 2-5*

*11 am: Sensory Play and Music Crafts*

*11:30 am: Family Dance Party (HG Fitness)*

*12:30-1:30 pm: Face Painting*

*1:30-2 pm: Storytelling and Dance from Latin America*

*All day: Smart Start NC Partnership for Children and Imagination Library*

Día, an initiative of ALSC (American Libraries for Services to Children) is nationally recognized for its emphasis on the importance of literacy for all children from all backgrounds. It is a daily commitment to linking children and their families to diverse books, languages and cultures. The common goals of all Día programming are to celebrate children and connect them to the world of learning through books, stories and libraries, to nurture cognitive and literacy development in ways that honor and embrace a child’s home language and culture, to introduce families to

community resources that provide opportunities for learning through multiple literacies, and to recognize and respect culture, heritage and language as powerful tools for strengthening families and communities.

Grants from Dia are made possible by the generosity of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, which understands that various life circumstances may prevent individuals from learning to read or graduating from high school. Through funding initiatives, they commit to helping individuals of all ages receive the educational foundation they need to increase their ability to access post-secondary education opportunities and attain increased employability.

This multicultural event is free and open to the public. The St. Stephens Branch Library is located at 3225 Springs Rd. NE, Hickory, NC 28601.

For the latest in library news, visit [librarynews.catawbacountync.gov](http://librarynews.catawbacountync.gov) or stop by your local branch.

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**About:** *The Catawba County Library is our community's place to connect, explore, and grow. We empower lives and build our community by bringing people, information, and ideas together. The library, headquartered in Newton, serves the community with seven locations throughout the county and is a year-round, integral provider of early literacy and lifelong learning resources and programming. The library also provides a full complement of computer and digital services, classes, and support to bridge the digital divide, empower job seekers, and enhance community quality of life and economic health.*

