

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Local children to benefit from healthy reading program

(Lawrence, KS) – The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department will teach preschool-aged children the benefits of healthy habits in a special reading campaign Nov. 16-22. The agency anticipates that 425 Lawrence and Douglas County children will be reached by the program.

The project is part of a statewide initiative created by the State Library of Kansas and the Kansas Center for the Book. In addition to the Health Department, the Lawrence Public Library, ERC Resource and Referral and the Success By 6 Coalition of Douglas County have made the local program possible through staff time or donations.

The book, “Bear Feels Sick,” by Karma Wilson, which has a health and wellness theme, will be discussed and reinforced in activities at each reading. Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department staff will read or lead activities at each of the 17 locations, which include day care centers, day care homes and the Lawrence and Eudora public libraries.

“Part of the Health Department’s mission is to educate the public on healthy behaviors,” said Dan Partridge, Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department Director. “This campaign is a fun way to reinforce healthy habits at an early age.”

The campaign’s public readings or events are:

- WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children) class, 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, **Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department**, 200 Maine St., Lawrence.
- **Lawrence Public Library**, 707 Vermont St., Lawrence:
10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18.
7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20.
10:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 21.

(Author Karma Wilson will be signing copies of the book at 7 p.m. tonight at the library).

- **Eudora Public Library**, 14 East Ninth St., Eudora.
10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19.

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Healthy People Build Strong Communities
www.ldchealth.org

Note to Editor/Reporter: If interested in covering a reading at a day care center or home, please contact Communications Coordinator Lisa Horn at (785) 843-3060 for more information.