This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. If you are doing some reading this summer, you might need to set your book down and go outside to play. You need a bookmark to save the page that you were reading. So let’s stop monkeying around and make a special bookmark for our summer tales. Do you know what monkeying-around means? Some say it means to do things that are silly and not useful, or a waste of time. I think being silly and having a little fun is a great way to use your time— if it is the right time. Also, who couldn’t use a clever, but maybe, mischievous monkey to hold your book page? Make two and share one with a friend!

1- Use a brown paper bag or brown construction paper and cut out two circles about 3 inches across. You can also use white, heavy paper and color it brown. Then cut out a rectangle from heavy paper that is about 7 inches long by 2 ½ inches wide. The circle is the head of the monkey and the rectangle will be the body. Cut out one heart, a little bit smaller than the head in the lighter brown of the paper bag. Glue the heart onto the front of one of the circles. Draw and cut out a very long, curly monkey tail. Place one circle down, glue the rectangle to the middle of the circle. Cut out two smaller circles of light brown for the ears. Glue them on the circle on either side of the head. Place the tail down on the opposite end of the rectangle and glue the rectangle over the top.

2- Glue the circle with the heart on over the rectangle and matching the first circle. Glue on an oval shape in the lighter brown for the monkey face. You can use a small piece of paper folded to make the face stand out or a tab, under the face. Make a big smile, two dots for the monkey nose, and then two round dots for the eyes. Add a poem or silly saying on the body of the monkey.

What did the monkey say when it got its tail caught in the book? “It won’t be long now!”

Let’s have some fun with silly stories and monkey madness!

Ms. Susan