

Martha Speaks *Read Aloud Book Club*

What is Martha Speaks?

Martha Speaks is an animated series for children ages 4-7 that follows the adventures of Martha, a loveable dog whose appetite for alphabet soup gives her the power of speech. Using her speaking abilities, Martha gets jobs, wears disguises, foils bad guys, wins contests, runs for office, and orders lots of steaks! Based on best-selling books by Susan Meddaugh, the series is designed to address the vocabulary deficit common among lower socioeconomic and at-risk groups. It is funded in part by a cooperative agreement from the US Department of Education's Ready to Learn grant. You can learn more about MARTHA SPEAKS at <http://pbskids.org/martha/>.

How does the Martha Speaks *Read Aloud Book Club* work?

The **Martha Speaks *Read Aloud Book Club*** is a program designed to establish or support book clubs at public, or school, libraries in your community or anywhere students gather. It is based on the Martha Speaks broadcast program that can be found on PBS and Eight, Arizona PBS. The program introduces children ages 4 to 7 to an engaging collection of dog-themed books and activities designed to foster their love of words and books. Librarians or Facilitators are supplied with a Leader's Guide to conduct 10 Read Aloud Book Club sessions. Each session is a stand alone experience which consists of watching **Martha Speaks** episode (13 – 15 minutes each), reading a related book and doing a follow up learning activity.

Martha Speaks *Read Aloud Book Club* Elements:

- **Leaders Guide:** Designed for librarians or facilitators, this guide includes an introduction to the book club, ten session guides (one per session), character trading cards, booklists featuring dog-themed titles, and more.
- **Community Guide Pages:** These provide specific suggestions for working with special guests, such as veterinarians and therapy dog teams, and hosting Martha Speaks viewing party for children.
- **DVD:** The Read Aloud Book Club DVD contains the ten (11 minute) episodes featured in each Book Club session.
- **Books:** One copy of each of the ten titles featured in the ten sessions.
- **Sign-up Sheet:** This Martha Speaks Read Aloud Book Club sign-up sheet can be displayed at the circulation desk in the children's section of the library.
- **Flyer:** This flyer can be customized with times, dates, and other information specific to the local book club program.
- **Poster:** This Book Club poster helps promote the book club.
- **Martha Speaks Stickers**
- **Martha Speaks Pencils**
- **"Paws" stamp**

10 week Loan from Eight Outreach PBS Martha Speaks *Read Aloud Book Club*: \$500

Martha Speaks *Read Aloud Book Club* Investment: \$1,500

Martha Speaks Character Appearance: \$1,500

