



**The Summer Reading Program for youngsters at Hastings Memorial Library is a popular attraction, with many children taking advantage of the free program that offers story time, activities, and a reading club. Library director Robin Quinn shares her storytelling talent with a group last Thursday who ranged from age three through kindergarten. Quinn said summer reading is very important to keep kids interested and help them learn during the months school is out—factors that make a difference when they are tested in the fall. Stop in or call the library for information on the free program at 308-352-4894. The storytime portion of the program ends July 12 with a celebration in city park. The reading club ends July 21 for fourth through sixth graders who can earn prizes for reading independently.**



**Attracted to colorful magazines, nine-month-old Eric Swesey, son of Vern and Jordon Swesey of Grant, entertains himself as children gather for the Summer Reading Program at Hastings Memorial Library June 21. The annual program exposes children to an exciting world of books, helps develop skills and promotes a love of reading. (Photos by Jan Rahn)**