

# Wee R Kids Provider News – October 2010

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Angel Dick- Family Day Home Consultant

October 2010  
Provider Newsletter



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## Upcoming Statutory Holidays

**Thanksgiving Day**  
**October 11, 2010**

Providers receive this day off and the office will be closed on this day.

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
**Monday ~ Friday**  
**8:00am ~ 4:30pm**



Dear Providers:

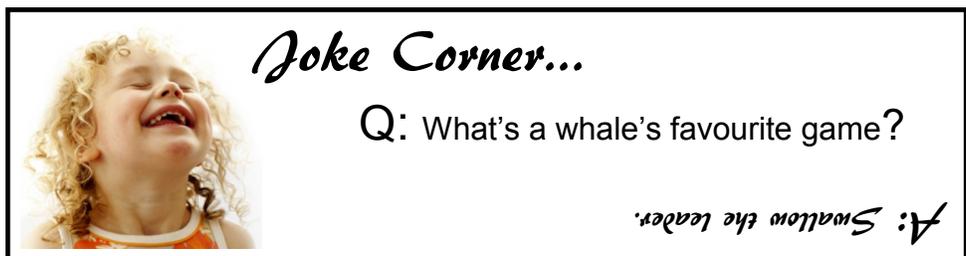
It doesn't matter how old you are, this month is filled with fun! I know you have lots of plans for Thanksgiving and Halloween, remember while you are planning to check out our web site and our facebook pages as they are full of ideas as well. We would also love you to share your ideas with everyone. If you have a craft, cooking, or other activity idea to share, please email it to me or post it on our facebook page.

Remember that cooler weather is coming and children will need to wear warmer clothes for walks and other outings. Layering is the best option for this as it gives you the ability to take off or add layers when the children are warmer or colder.

Please also remember to let us know about your holiday hours for Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Years as soon as you know what you are doing.

Thanks so much. Have a great October!

*Angel Dick*



## Joke Corner...

Q: What's a whale's favourite game?

A: Swallow the leader.

# HALLOWEEN SAFETY

- 🕷 Purchase only those costumes, wigs, and props labelled “flame resistant” or “flame retardant.”
- 🕷 When creating a costume, avoid highly flammable fabrics and accessories.
- 🕷 Do not make costumes with billowing or long trailing features.
- 🕷 Be sure each child knows the “stop, drop, and roll” technique if their clothing catches fire.
- 🕷 Secure hats so they don't slip over your children's eyes.
- 🕷 Make sure children are able to see and breathe easily when using masks.
- 🕷 Adult shoes may look cute with a kids' costume, but they also can cause a tumble. Stick to shoes that fit, preferably with non-skid soles.



### Halloween Safety Facts:

- A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study says children 14 and under are four times more likely to be hit by a car on Halloween than on any other night of the year.
- Falls are the most commonly reported injury on Halloween night.



## Did you know?

In 1879 a national Thanksgiving Day was declared.

After World War I it was combined with Armistice Day for some years.

In 1931 it was made a separate holiday to be celebrated on the Second Monday in October.

Americans did not invent Thanksgiving. It began in Canada. Frobisher's celebration in 1578 was 43 years before the pilgrims gave thanks in 1621 for the bounty that ended a year of hardships and death. Abraham Lincoln established the date for the US as the last Thursday in November. In 1941, US Congress set the National Holiday as the fourth Thursday in November.

## Arts & Craft Activity

### Paper Bowl Jack-o-lantern

Paper bowls  
 Orange acrylic paint  
 Green, brown and black paper or craft foam  
 Glue stick or glue dots  
 Paint brush  
 Scissors  
 Permanent marker (optional)



Turn the bowl upside down so that you can paint the outside of the bowl with orange paint. Cut the leaf and stem pieces and the black Jack-o-lantern faces while the paint is drying. Using a pencil to draw the faces on the paper first will make this job easier. Once the paint is dry lightly make black, brown or dark orange lines on the bowl to give it more of a "pumpkin look" then use the glue dots to add the remaining features.

### Gauze Ghost

Large plastic soda bottle  
 Sheets of gauze or Cheese Cloth  
 White glue  
 Wiggly eyes or Black felt eyes

Thin down white glue with water. Dip gauze sheets into glue and drape over the soda bottle. Shape into a ghostly figure. Let dry. When dry, remove bottle and add eyes. Hang from a string or display on a shelf for a spooky decoration. You can easily make a larger one and hang outside.

*"Hold on, man. We don't go anywhere with "scary," "spooky," "haunted," or "forbidden" in the title."*



*From Scooby-Doo*



## Cooking Activities

### Spooky Sandwiches

Make your sandwiches, any kind will do, then take a cookie cutter and cut the sandwiches with the cutters. You can decorate the outside of the sandwiches to match the cutter, or make open face sandwiches.

### Jack-O-Lantern Pizza

English muffin halves  
 Pesto or Marinara Sauce  
 Grated Cheddar cheese  
 Sliced Black Olives

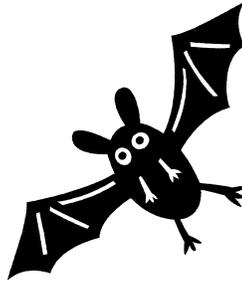
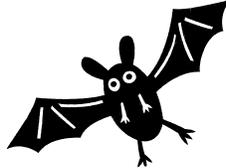
Lightly spread sauce on the English Muffin halves. Cover with grated cheese. Make a jack-o-lantern face with olives. Place mini-pizzas on a cookie sheet and broil in oven until the cheese is melted.



## Autumn Songs

### The Bats Are Sleeping

Bats are sleeping, bats are sleeping  
Upside down upside down  
Waiting for the night to come  
Waiting for the night to come  
Then they fly around, then they fly around.



### Jack-O-Lantern

Jack-o'-lantern . jack-o'-lantern  
You are such a funny sight  
As you sit in the window  
Looking out at the night  
Once you were a yellow pumpkin  
Growing on a sturdy vine  
Now you are a .jack-o'-lantern  
Let the candle light shine.

## Dramatic Play Activity

### Just Who Do You Think You Are?

Find some old Halloween costumes and put them in your dress up centre, give the children the freedom to dress up and act out the character. You can also cut photos out of magazines of Halloween characters and paste them to the wall to inspire their imagination. Ask your parents to lend or donate some old costumes to your day home. Even some old clothes work.



## Gross Motor Activity

### Acting Up

Cut out photographs of various Halloween creatures. Hold up the photos and each child can take a turn at acting out what is on the photo. Some great ideas are, cats, bats, ghosts, Frankenstein, and a monster.



### Dancing to the Music

Put on some Halloween songs, have the children come up with some new Halloween dance steps like the cat's crawl, the bats wings and the monster's mash.

## Math Activity

### Pumpkin Sort

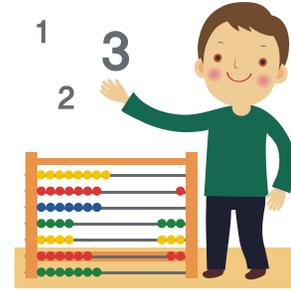
#### What You Need:

30 laminated pumpkin pictures (3 sizes 10 of each size)  
Laminated large sheet of paper with 3 rectangles on it

Put three rectangles on the paper and write large on the top rectangle, medium on the middle one and small on the bottom one.

Laminate paper. Find Pumpkin pictures and either colour in, or print them in colour. Laminate these and cut them out.

Have children sort from largest to smallest and then have the children count how many there are in each pile. You may alternate how many pumpkins are in each size category.



## Science Activities

### Pumpkin/Jack-O-Lantern

Pumpkin  
Safety Knives  
Permanent Markers  
Baking Pan  
Spoons  
Newspaper



Place Newspapers all over your table and floor. Cut a hole at the top of the pumpkin by the stem with a knife, then help the children scoop out the meat of the pumpkin.

Have the children draw a face on the pumpkin. You can now cut the face out with a knife while the children watch.

Help the children separate the seeds from the meat. Then wash the seeds and place them dry onto a baking pan. Season and bake.

Place an electric candle into the pumpkin and watch him glow. While snacking on his seeds.

### Making Slime

Medium bowl  
1 cup water  
1 cup corn starch  
Green food coloring

Pour 1 cup of corn starch and 1 cup of water into the bowl. Mix the two together with your hands until it becomes gooey and doughy. If it's not thick enough, add more corn starch or if it's too thick, just add more water. Once the texture is thick and smooth, add green food coloring to achieve icky, green gooey slime.

## Sensory Activity

### Missing Hands



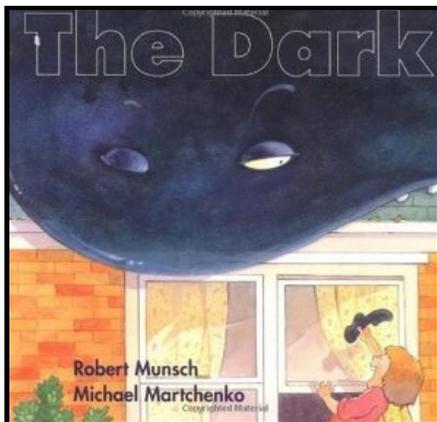
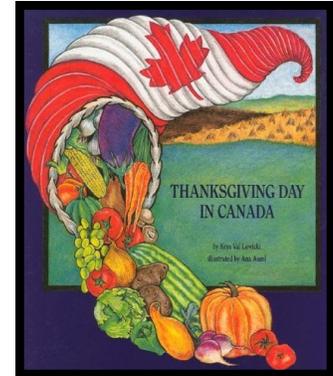
Fill latex gloves with food coloring and water. Put into the freezer over night. You can take them out when they are just beginning to freeze and move the fingers in different positions and then re-freeze. When frozen, peel back the latex gloves, put in sensory bin along with some water. You now have Halloween hands.

## The Reading Corner

### Thanksgiving Day in Canada

**By Krys Val Lewicki**

As the family gathers for Thanksgiving, the grandchildren ask, “why do we call it Thanksgiving Day?” So Grandpa tells the story of Canadian Thanksgiving. A great story to share with your children as we near this holiday filled with traditions.



### The Dark

**By Robert Munsch**

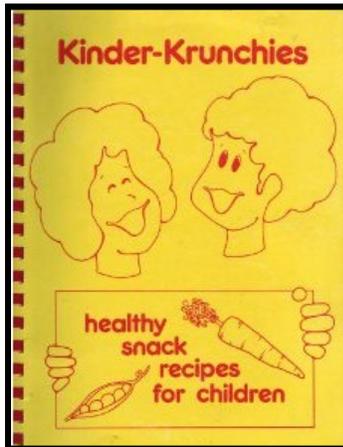
When Julie Ann comes downstairs for breakfast and dumps a small dark lump out of her cookie jar, she has no idea that she has just unleashed the Dark, a veritable shadow-eating monster.

### Wee R Kids Lending Library

All of these books are available to providers through our lending library. We have over 250 titles available. Come and take a look! If you are looking for a book on a specific title or by a specific author, let me know, we might just have it here in the office.

## The Reading Corner

### Staff Resources



### Kinder Krunchies

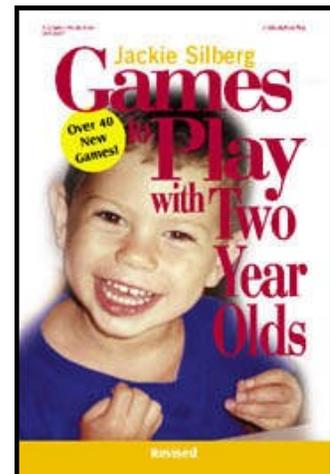
By Karen S. Jenkins

Nutritious recipes to make with children. Recipes and activities for adults and children alike. Step-by-step pictures and instructions that are easy enough for any age to help out.

### Games to Play With Two-Year-Olds

By Jackie Silberg

There's nothing more delightful than playing with a two-year-old, especially when you know you're encouraging your child to develop essential skills. Games to Play with 2-year-olds contains fun activities for toddlers. Parents and children alike will enjoy these easy games which foster vital skills, including: language; balance; coordination; problem-solving; fine motor skills; creativity; listening. This fully revised edition contains over 50 new games and a new design, grouping the activities into three-month bands, making the book even easier to use. Guidelines for growth show how the toddler's development should progress during their second year.



### Wee R Kids Lending Library

All of these books are available to providers through our lending library. We have over 250 titles available. Come and take a look! If you are looking for a book on a specific title or by a specific author, let me know, we might just have it here in the office.

## October Visits:

I have really been enjoying getting to know each of you and seeing your spaces each month. This month will be focused on schedules. I know that some of you have sent us your schedules, some have not yet, but we will be discussing the schedules when I come to your house. If you are in need of some assistance with them, please let me know. I look forward to seeing all of you this month. If I do not see you before Thanksgiving, I hope you have a wonderful holiday!

*Angel*



## Provider Appreciation

We would like to mention Lindsay Adams this month. Lindsay has been a provider with Wee R Kids since August 2006 and she is a caring and fun caregiver. Lindsay is leaving Wee R Kids and moving with her family away from Lethbridge this month. We would like to thank Lindsay for her great work with the children in her care and her dedication to her day home. Please make sure to say good-bye to Lindsay and her family. Lindsay and her family will be missed.



## Refuel Your Tank -- A Conference for the Caregiver

Thursday, October 21, 2010 3:30 PM -  
Friday, October 22, 2010 5:15 PM



Coast Lethbridge Hotel  
(403) 327-5701

526 Mayor Magrath Drive South  
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 3M2

Keynote Speaker Session by Brenda Robinson  
Evening Reception

Wellness Exhibitors on-site during the conference  
Continental Breakfast  
Luncheon

Refreshment Breaks

Choice of 7 Concurrent Presentations

Choice of 4 Activity Sessions

Multiple networking opportunities throughout the conference

Chance to win door prize and exhibitor draws!

Early Bird Registration Fee: \$179 plus GST prior to September 15, 2010

Regular Registration Fee: \$239 plus GST after September 15, 2010

Registration Deadline: October 7, 2010

### Suggestions

This newsletter is for you, the providers and we would like to hear from you. If there is anything that you would like to see in this newsletter that hasn't been added please let me know. Any suggestions you might have can be forwarded by email to [weerkids@telus.net](mailto:weerkids@telus.net), call the office or suggest it at a provider meeting whatever format you are most comfortable with.