

Wee R Kids Provider News – March 2011



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Upcoming Statutory Holidays

No Holidays In March

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

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

Reminder:
Most Fridays there is
only one staff member
in the office. Please
call ahead if you need
to see us.



Dear Providers:

I hope you are having a great end of winter with the children in your day homes! Guess what, it's almost spring! Time for flowers, birds, nature walks to collect green leaves!

I just know you have some wonderful plans this month. Remember to plan a craft, an indoor and an outdoor activity every day. If you need any help with this, Lynda or I can share lots with you.

Hope you have a wonderful month, see you soon!

Angel Dick



“There is more treasure in books,
than in all the pirate's loot on
Treasure Island.”
~ Walt Disney

St. Patrick's Day

Green Eggs

What you need:

Green food coloring
Eggs
Green peppers
Green onions
Celery

Stir fry the chopped veggies in a pan. Whip up the eggs and food coloring in a bowl. Add green eggs to pan and cook until firm.



Cooking

Leprechaun Jell-O

Mix together to dissolve:

2 large packages (6 oz each) of green Jell-O
1 packet of unflavoured gelatine
4 cups boiling water

Add, 1 quart vanilla ice cream. Stir until dissolved. Pour into a 9 x 13 glass dish, refrigerate overnight, cut and serve! The ice cream will float to the top of the Jell-O.



Leprechaun Foot Prints

What you need:

Long paper
Green Paint
Glitter



Pour paint onto paper plates. Roll out a long amount of paper.

Take each child's socks and shoes off. Have each child take turns stepping in the paint and walking on the paper. Make sure to

have some warm soapy water at the end of the paper for the children to wash their feet off.

After the footprints are made, help children to sprinkle glitter onto the prints. Once it is dry, children can decorate the rest of the paper, they can even glue some "gold coins" onto the paper. Hang up and enjoy!

Arts and Crafts

Shamrock Stamping

What you need:

Sponges
Scissors
Green Paint in all shades
Paper

Cut out a Shamrock shape from paper and use it to trace onto the sponges. Cut out the sponges, you will use these as stamps.

Give each child a piece of paper, a stamp and a plate with a dollop of each shade of green.

Allow the children to stamp all over the paper with their shamrock stamp. These are easily washable and re-usable.



Don't forget to wear **GREEN** and to encourage the children to as well, how much green can you wear?



Cut out Tuna Sandwich**You will need:**

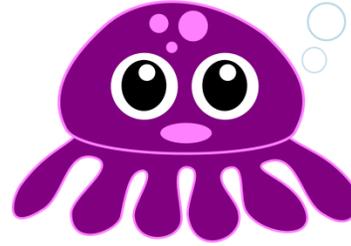
Can of Tuna
Mayonnaise
Brown Bread
White Bread
Lettuce
Tomatoes
Cheese
Cookie cutter



Mix together mayo and tuna. Take both types of bread and cut one or two shapes out of them with cookie cutter. Shape should be ocean related. Place brown bread cut out in white bread and vice-versa. Make sandwich and serve.

Cooking ActivitiesOcto-pop**You will need:**

Juice
Paper Cups
Popsicle Sticks
Gummy Worms



In a Dixie cup, pour juice (orange, apple, fruit punch), put in a popsicle stick.

Put in gummy worms hanging over the edge to look like legs. When the pop is taken out of the cup it looks like an octopus on a stick.

Fishy Snack**You will need:**

Blue Jell-O
Swedish Fish or gummy fish

Prepare the Jell-O to liquid form. Pour a bit of Jell-O into clear plastic cups or glass bowls. Give each child some fish and an ocean, have them put their fish into their "oceans." Once finished, prepare as directed and serve.

Craft ActivityOcean Diorama**You will need:**

Shoe Boxes
Magazines with Ocean Animals
Paper
Glue
String
Paint
Sponge

Have children paint inside of box ocean colours, they can use sponges to make coral design, use pencils in paint to make waves.

Help children cut out animals from a magazine or they can make their own with paper. Help children hang the animals from the top (which is the side) of the box.



They can decorate by adding vegetation and rocks, or even by gluing sand onto the bottom of the "ocean."

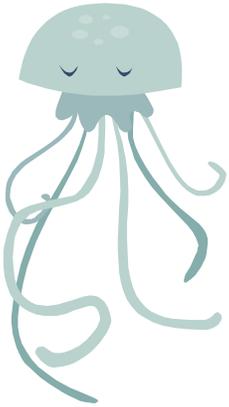
Puffer Fish**You will need:**

Styrofoam Ball
Pipe Cleaners
Google Eyes
Paper
Paint



Pre-cut pipe cleaners into small sizes. Allow children to paint their ball any colour. Help children to stick pipe cleaner bits into the fish. Glue eyes on, make a pouty mouth out of paper and glue on. You can hang this from the ceiling.

Songs and Finger plays



What Do You See?

Goldfish, goldfish, what do you see?
I see a Lobster swimming with me.

Lobster, lobster, what do you see?
I see a shark swimming with me?

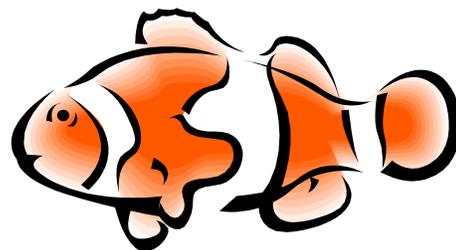
Shark, shark, what do you see? I
see a jellyfish swimming with me.



Gulp, Gulp

Slippery fish, slippery fish
swimming in the water
A slippery fish, a slippery fish
Gulp, gulp
OH NO! He's been eaten by a
Jellyfish, a jelly fish
swimming in the water
A jelly fish, a jelly fish
gulp, gulp
OH NO! He's been eaten by a
Tuna fish, a tuna fish
swimming in the water
A tuna fish, a tuna fish
gulp, gulp

OH NO! He's been eaten by a
Great White Shark, a great white shark
swimming in the water
A great white shark, a great white shark
gulp, gulp, gulp
OH NO! He's been eaten by an
Enormous Whale, an enormous whale
Spouting in the water
Enormous Whale, enormous whale
Gulp, gulp, BURP!
Excuse ME!



(have pictures they can hold up for each creature, or have children act out the animals.)

Gross Motor Activity

Flying Fish Socks

Supply a large box. Paint the box blue to represent the ocean. Ask parents to send in any clean unmatched socks they do not want. Have the children use permanent markers to decorate the socks to resemble fish.

Once the fish have been decorated, fill the socks partially with handfuls of dried beans, sand or rice. Then secure the ends with rubber bands or better yet, with younger children, sew the ends. Let the children take turns tossing the flying fish into the box.



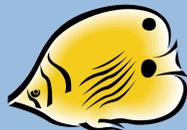
Sensory Activity

Ocean Goo

What you need:

Instant pudding, blue food coloring, small containers for pudding, long sheet of bulletin board paper or heavy craft paper, soap and water.

Prepare pudding and tape paper to a table. Teachers can pre mix food coloring with the pudding or let the children do it. Give each child their own container of pudding, then let them use their fingers to do the rest. Talk about how it feels between their fingers.



Ocean BINGO!

Materials:

Ocean Nature DVD

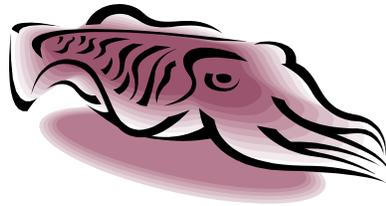
Paper

Erasable Felts

Pictures of Ocean Animals

Ruler

Felt Pen

Math Activity**BINGO**

Find a nature DVD that is suitable to the ages in your day home. Make sure it is one with lots of different sea creatures in it. Pre-view it so that you know what animals to use.

Take paper and draw lines on it like a bingo sheet. Find and cut out square photos of each animal that is in the DVD. Make lots of copies of them. Glue the pictures onto the squares in different orders.

Laminate the sheets of paper with the photos. Have children sit down with a paper and an erasable ink felt. While watching the DVD encourage the children to put a circle around the animals they see. Whoever makes a line wins. Have some fun prizes, even blue whales for an ocean theme.

Dramatic Play Activity**Fish Count & Tag**

What you need:

Large Box

Paper

Clipboard

Pencil

Butterfly Net

Bucket



Make a large box into a boat. Cut out some fish shapes from different coloured paper. Laminate the fish. Make a tick sheet with each coloured fish pictured on it. Put that on the clip board and string a pencil onto the board.

Encourage the children to catch the fish in the net put into the bucket, or they can "swim" in the ocean and catch the fish. Then they can count how many fish of each colour they catch, just like scientists. Then release the fish.

Science Activity**Ocean Pet**

What you need:

Fish tank or Bowl

Fish

Extras



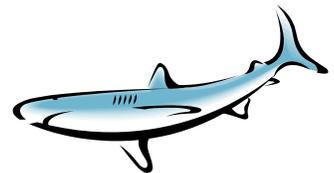
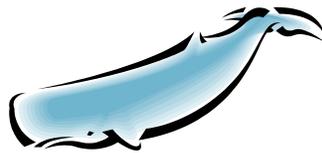
You can plan a trip to the fish store, have the children pick out their pet fish and bring it home. Have the children help you prepare the home for the fish and help take care of him.

Explain to the children how the fish survives, how life is different in the ocean and how important it is that we keep the ocean as clean as we keep the fish bowl.

The children will enjoy seeing this lesson swim to life!

Ocean Facts

- Around 70% of the Earth's surface is covered by oceans.
- Ocean tides are caused by the Earth rotating while the Moon and Sun's gravitational pull acts on ocean water.
- While there are hundreds of thousands of known marine life forms, there are many that are yet to be discovered, some scientists suggest that there could actually be millions of marine life forms out there.
- The largest ocean on Earth is the Pacific Ocean, it covers around 30% of the Earth's surface.
- The Pacific Ocean's name has an original meaning of 'peaceful sea'.
- Located to the east of the Mariana Islands in the western Pacific Ocean, the Mariana Trench is the deepest known area of Earth's oceans. It has a deepest point of around 11000 metres (36000 feet).
- The Pacific Ocean is surrounded by the Pacific Ring of Fire, a large number of active volcanoes.
- The second largest ocean on Earth is the Atlantic Ocean, it covers over 21% of the Earth's surface.
- The Atlantic Ocean's name refers to Atlas of Greek mythology.
- Amelia Earhart became the first female to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932.
- The third largest ocean on Earth is the Indian Ocean, it covers around 14% of the Earth's surface.
- During winter the Arctic Ocean is almost completely covered in sea ice.

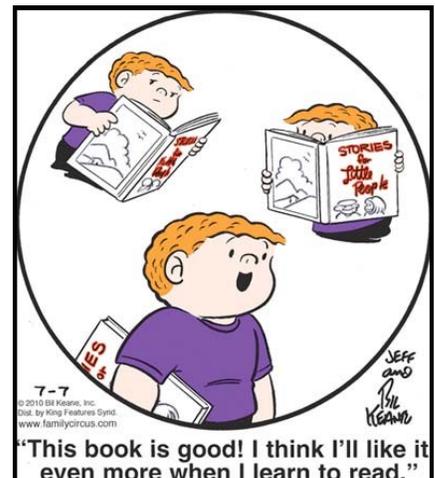


HA! HA!
HA!

Joke Corner...

Q: What sea animal can be adjusted to play music?

A: A Tune-A Fish!

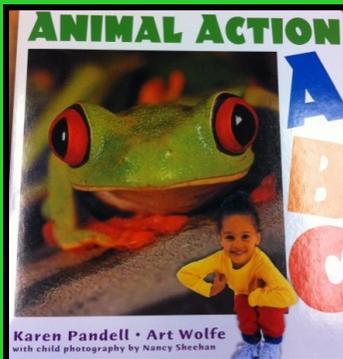
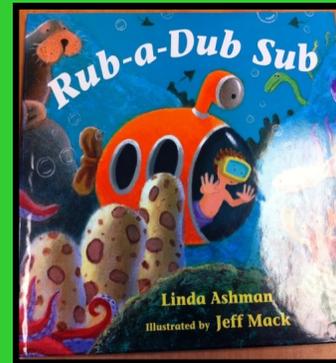


The Reading Corner

Rub A Dub Sub

By Linda Ashman

What sort of under the sea adventure can you have in a bright orange submarine? Pull on a swimsuit, grab a pair of goggles and get ready to find out!



Animal Action

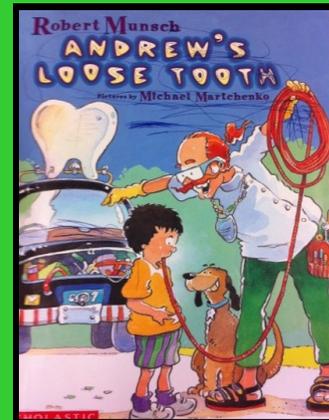
By Karen Pandell

Clear, handsome, and beguiling photos of familiar and exotic wildlife— offset by equally delightful photos of young children imitating the animals' movements— make an appealing and highly original approach to the alphabet.

Andrew's Loose Tooth

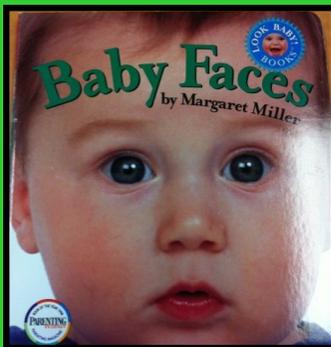
By Robert Munsch

A story about a boy named Andrew who has a loose tooth and all the funny ways he tries to get it out.



Baby Faces

By Margaret Miller



A book with real photos of babies using their faces to express how they are feeling.

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.

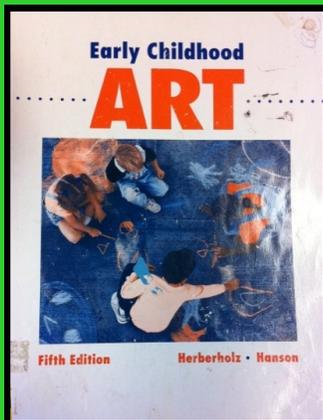
The Reading Corner

Staff Resources

Early Childhood Art

By Barbara Herberholz/Lee Hanson

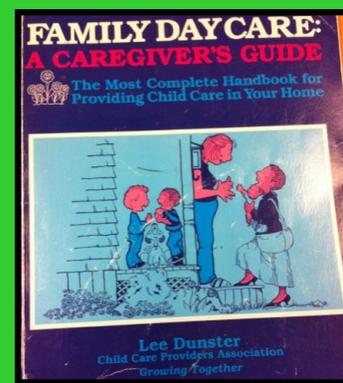
Future teachers will discover methods of helping children understand, investigate, and develop critical thinking skills about art..



Family Day Care: A Caregiver's Guide

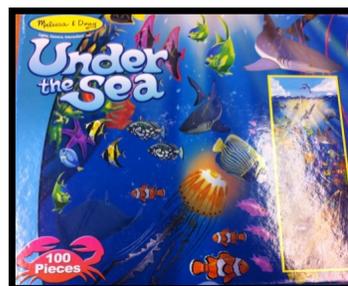
By Lee Dunster

The most complete handbook for providing Child Care in your home. This Alberta edition was made possible through a project sponsored by the Alberta Association for Family Day Home Services. It includes everything from organizing your home to taking care of you.



Lending Library

These are a sample of some of the wonderful things we have to borrow in our Lending Library. Check out our **Lacing** and our **Ocean Floor Puzzle**. If you are in need of something different, please make sure to check our shelves out next time you visit with us.



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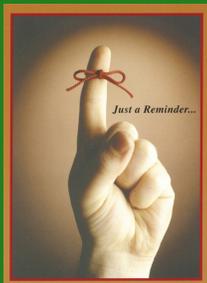


March Visits:

This month we will be doing some of the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale. The focus will be on Space and Furnishings, you will have been given a copy of the scale for this section during February's meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all again.

Angel



Reminders:

Just a note regarding positive child guidance.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, or need some ideas and strategies for your children, please call us or ask when we are out on our visit.

Also, please remember that we need to make sure to follow the Canada Food Guide when choosing meals and snacks. Packaged noodle soup, Kraft Dinner and other such items are not healthy if given often. Please keep these foods to a bare minimum.

Merci

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Gracias

Thank You

Provider Appreciation

The provider that we are honouring this month is Amanda Burton. Amanda is one of our newest additions as a provider. Amanda is a mother of twin boys, she and her husband Matt live in Coaldale and she is our only provider in Coaldale.

Amanda has set her home up wonderfully. She has centres set up on two levels of her day home. Amanda offers lots of free play, activities and of course crafts.

Amanda's husband also enjoys being involved and plans a trip to the fire house in the near future.

Thank you Amanda for all that you are doing. I know that the children enjoy being in your home. Thank you for teaching and caring for the children in your day home.

Take some time to thank Amanda!

Merci

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Gracias

Thank You

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY TO:



4 ~ ANIKA



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, call the office or suggest it at a provider meeting whatever format you are most comfortable with.