

Wee R Kids Provider News – November 2010

Lynda Leslie - Family Day Home Coordinator

Angel Dick- Family Day Home Consultant

November 2010
Provider Newsletter



Dear Providers:

Hello all, and happy November. Wow, October really did fly by, didn't it. I hope you all have recovered from the Halloween fun, and are getting excited for Christmas and all of the fun winter activities to come.

Please remember to let us know if and or when you will be closing for Christmas and New Years, that way we can plan when the office will be open.

I am so excited to see so many people visiting our new web site, I hope it is informative and fun for you as well. Please remember to write something up for your page on the site, and I will take some photos of your space and yourselves when I come for visits this month.

Please let me know if you would like me to bring a craft or a circle time activity when I come for my visit, I would love to help you out, and to play with the children.

I hope you have a wonderful month, talk with you soon!

Angel Dick



Upcoming Statutory Holidays

Remembrance Day November 11, 2010

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



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

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Joke Corner...



Q: Where does a snowman keep his money?

A: A snow bank



Winter Play Safety Tips



- ❄ Stay away from snowploughs and snow blowers. Choose play areas away from roads, fences and water.
- ❄ Take extra caution when crossing roads because it might be hard for drivers to see children playing if they have snowy or frosty windows.
- ❄ Children should play indoors if the temperature falls below -25C (-13F), regardless of the wind chill factor.

Children should play indoors, regardless of the temperature, if:

- ❄ The wind chill factor is reported as -25C (-13F) or greater (This is the temperature at which exposed skin freezes in a few minutes)

Winter Riddles



- 1) I can swim or walk for miles. I'm big with thick, white hair. I live up in the Arctic.
- 2) I'm usually made of coloured yarn, By someone who is knitting. Unless one's lost I come in pairs.
- 3) My antlers tower above my head. Where I live--- it's cold all year. I can pull a sled or pack a load.
- 4) I'm big and white and made of snow, So I'll never have a tan. When the sun comes out, I melt away.

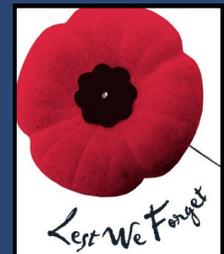


Answers on Page 8



Did you know?

- Remembrance Day commemorates Canadians who died in service to Canada from the South African War to current missions.
- The first Remembrance Day was conducted in 1919 throughout the Commonwealth. Originally called Armistice Day, it commemorated the end of the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m.: the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.
- The poppy is the symbol of Remembrance Day. Replica poppies are sold by the Royal Canadian Legion to raise money for Veterans.



Creamy Hot Chocolate

- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 pinch salt
- 1/3 cup boiling water
- 3-1/2 cups milk
- 3/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup half-and-half

Cooking Instructions

Combine the cocoa, sugar and salt in a sauce pan.

Blend in the boiling water. Bring this mixture to an easy boil while you stir. Simmer and stir for about 2 minutes. Watch that it doesn't scorch.

Stir in milk and heat until very hot (do not boil!) remove from heat and add vanilla. Divide between four mugs. Add the cream to the mugs of cocoa to cool it to drinking temperature.

Snow Globe

What you'll need:

- Materials
- Small clear bottle or jar (baby food jars or spice jars

work well – they must have a lid)

- Corn syrup
- Glitter
- Popsicle stick or child-safe butter knife
- Water

Directions:

1. Place the jar on a paper plate or some newspaper.
2. Fill the jar 1/3 of the way full with corn syrup. The corn syrup helps the glitter stay in suspension longer.
3. You will use water to fill the rest of the jar. At this point, only add about half of the water you need and then mix the corn syrup and water together until the corn syrup dissolves most of the way. If you fill the jar the whole way full and then have a preschooler stir it, we guarantee a mess! Once the corn syrup is dissolved, top the jar off with water.
4. Sprinkle in some glitter. Use as many colors as you'd like, and as much as you'd like.
5. Put the lid on the jar and shake to watch the snow swirl.



Cooking Activities

Snowball Cookies

Ingredients:

- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar, sifted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2-1/2 cups flour, sifted
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup pecans, chopped

Cooking Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Cream butter in large bowl. Add sugar, cream until light. Stir in vanilla. Mix in flour and salt. Stir in nuts.

Shape into balls.

Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake in preheated oven for 15 minutes. Dust powdered sugar on snowball cookies as soon as they come out of oven.

After the cookies cool, dust them with powdered sugar again. (Roll the cookies in powdered sugar each time.)

Craft Activity

*Snowflakes are
one of nature's
most fragile
things,
but just look
what they can
do when they
stick together.*

- Vesta M. Kelly



Winter Songs

The Snow Is Falling

Tune: "The Farmer In the Dell"

The snow is falling down,
The snow is falling down,
Heigh ho, fast then slow,
The snow is falling down.

The yards are covered with snow,
The yards are covered with snow,
Heigh ho, just watch it snow,
The yards are covered with snow.



Did You Ever See Jack Frost

Tune: "Did You Ever See A Lassie?"

Did you ever see Jack Frost, Jack Frost,
Jack Frost?

Did you ever see Jack Frost painting
things white?

When the temperatures cold, he gets oh
so bold.

Did you ever see Jack Frost painting at
night?

(Continue with other places the snow might fall on;
such as, the streets, the cars, the houses, me.)

Dramatic Play Activity

Shovelling Snow

Tape down newspapers to your floor. Pour a bag of packing peanuts onto the paper. Provide children with winter clothing and child size shovels to shovel the snow into piles. Ask the children how shovelling snow outside would feel, what are some safety ideas etc.



Gross Motor Activity

Materials:

Music

Two pieces of wax paper per child (pieces must be big enough so that the child can stand on the wax paper)

Lots of room for skating

Description: Transform your room into an imaginary frozen pond or skating rink. Give the children two pieces of wax paper that they are to stand on. Have the wax paper pre-cut ahead of time. Remind the children that the paper is slippery and the magical skates will work better if they glide, keeping their feet firmly planted on the wax paper. Play some waltzing music and have the children 'feel' the music and skate around.

The wax paper works well on carpet and tile flooring. Remind the children to skate slowly.



Snowman Match

Materials: File folder, cut outs of twenty snowmen, twenty coloured scarves for the snowmen and a laminator or clear contact paper.

Description: Teachers cut out the snowmen and scarves then place a different coloured scarf on each snowman and place ten of them on the file folder. I use the colors: red, orange, green, yellow, blue, violet, pink, brown, black, and white. Now, laminate the file folder. Next, take the other snowmen and scarves and laminate them separately. Cut them out and place them in an envelope on the back of the file folder for a matching game.



Math Activity

Science Activities

Ice Block Design

Materials: Large ice blocks
(You can make them by freezing water in empty one gallon milk containers. When the water is completely frozen, tear off the cardboard container.)

Coarse salt
Food coloring
Eye droppers

Description:

1. Place ice blocks on trays covered with several layers of newspaper.
2. Children sprinkle coarse salt on top of the ice blocks.
3. Children drip various colors of food coloring on top of the ice block.
4. Tunnels of color are created as the salt melts through the ice block.
5. Put the colourful ice blocks outside. If it's cold enough, they should stay frozen for several days. Children can continue to examine the melting process during outdoor play.



Snow Examination

Materials: Large piece of black paper, or many small ones, Magnifying glasses, Snow.

Description: Put a black piece of paper in the freezer. When it snows have your children bundle up and take them outside.



Help them catch the snow on the paper and then examine the snowflakes with magnifying glasses.

Sensory Activity

Icy toys

Place small winter toys into ice cube trays and fill them up with water. Freeze trays in the freezer over night.

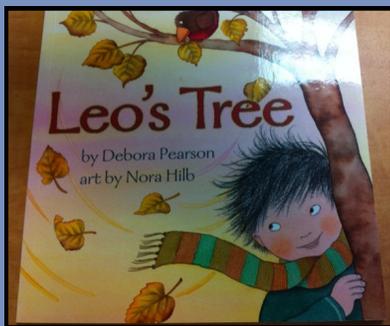
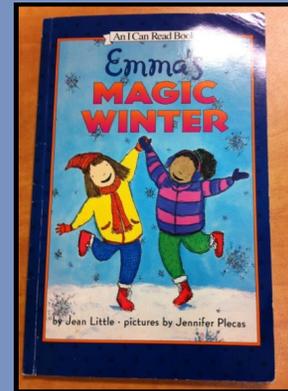
Fill up your water table or tub with cool water, and put all of your new ice cubes filled with toys in the water table, ask the children what they feel when they pick up the ice cubes, and watch them melt. Do they melt faster when they are held?

The Reading Corner

Emma's Magic Winter

By Jean Little

An I Can Read book about making friends with the new kids in class. How wonderful and sometimes scary can new friendships be, how priceless they are once they are started.



Leo's Tree

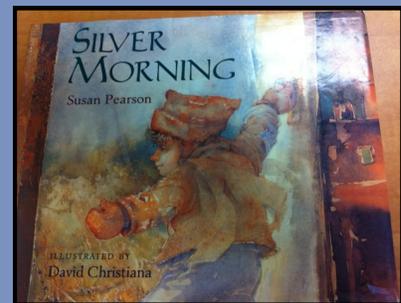
By Debora Pearson

Both Leo and the tree that his father planted for him are growing and changing. Watch as they both go through seasons and change together.

Silver Morning

By Susan Pearson

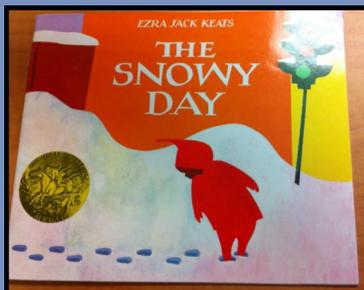
A winter morning walk filled with chill and fog. What is the world like covered in snow and frost, might we see a deer? Take a walk with them as they explore the beauty of winter.



The Snowy Day

By Ezra Jack Keats

What wonderful things will Peter find to do in the newly fallen snow? After breakfast he climbs into his snow suit and explores the wonders of a wintery day in the city.



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



Finger Play Fun

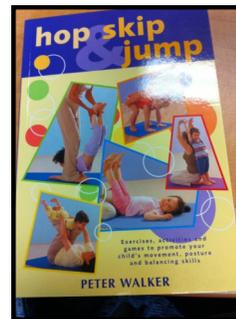
By Violette G. Steiner & Roberta Evatt Pond

A collection of finger plays for a variety of themes and topics.

Hop, Skip and Jump

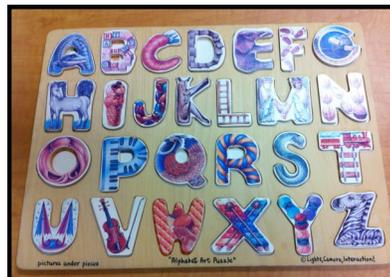
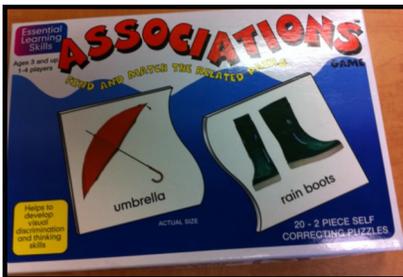
By Peter Walker

The most important period of physical growth in a child's life is in the first few years. This is a great resource for providers who would like to help their young children with their physical abilities.



Lending Library

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



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.



November Visits:

This month our focus will be on how to implement a child centred program for your children. Some ideas on how to take the information we learned about Emergent Curriculum and implement it into your daily program.

I am looking forward to coming to your day homes this month. Please let me know if there is anything you would like me to bring out with me, like resources for you.

Angel

Reminders:

Please remember to send in and post your daily schedules if you have not yet. The schedules help your parents to know what is happening in their children's day, they also help us when we are planning our monthly visits. Please also remember to include in your day - two, one hour blocks of free play.

Answers to the Riddles from page 2



- 1) Polar Bear
- 2) Mitten
- 3) Reindeer
- 4) Snowman



Provider Appreciation

The provider that we are honouring this month is **Rhonda Cream**. Rhonda has worked in child care for many years and missed working with the children when she was in the Wee R Kids office, so this year she started a day home in her west side home.

We are so thankful for all that Rhonda does in her day home. The children have lots of fun things to do from baking to crafts and lots of free play ideas.

Rhonda really does a great job teaching the children in her care, she does a lot of prep work and always seems to enjoy her job.

The children missed her when she went on vacation this year and could not wait to go back to her home, which shows how special she is.

Thank you Rhonda for everything that you do and for caring for and loving the children in your home!



HAPPY NOVEMBER!
**PLEASE REMEMBER TO LET US
KNOW WHEN YOU WILL BE
CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS!**

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.