

The Provider Chronicle

October

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Dear Providers:

It's finally Autumn, oh I love Autumn! I hope you are all excited about the crisp mornings and the holidays that are on their way to us. Thanksgiving, Halloween and the best, Christmas!



I love sharing with children all of the excitement this time of year brings! The food that is made, the amazing colours that pop up everywhere, and of course the smells of the season! Autumn/Winter are great times for all types of play from sensory to gross motor, no matter what you have planned, I am sure you and the kids will have a great time!

I hope you enjoy this newsletter, I know that I have enjoyed making it for you. Happy: Thanksgiving, Halloween and AUTUMN everyone!

~Angel

Upcoming Statutory Holidays

Thanksgiving

October 10, 2011

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

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday ~ Thursday

8:00am ~ 4:30pm

Friday

8:30am ~ 4:00pm



*"Autumn is a second spring
when every leaf is a flower."*

~ Albert Camus

Cooking Activities

Rice Krispie Pumpkins

You will need:

Rice Krispie Mix
Orange Food Colouring
Candy or Fruit

Make Rice Krispie recipe following the directions on the cereal box and add orange food coloring to the marshmallows. When cool roll into balls and add faces to them. You can use shoelace licorice

for a mouth, green gumdrop for the stem, M&M's for the eyes and nose or even different kinds of dry or fresh fruit.



Pumpkin Spice Cookies

You will need:

2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup butter, softened
1 1/2 cups white sugar
1 cup canned pumpkin puree
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Frosting:
2 cups confectioners' sugar
3 tablespoons milk
1 tablespoon melted butter
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, ground cloves, and salt; set aside.

In a medium bowl, cream together the 1/2 cup of butter and white sugar.

Add pumpkin, egg, and 1 teaspoon vanilla to butter mixture, and beat until creamy.

Mix in dry ingredients.

Drop on cookie sheet by tablespoonfuls; flatten slightly.

Bake for 15 to 20 minutes in the preheated oven.

Cool cookies, then drizzle glaze with fork.



To Make Glaze:

Combine confectioners' sugar, milk, 1 tablespoon melted butter, and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Add milk as needed, to achieve drizzling consistency.

Sensory Activity

It Smells and Feels Like Autumn

You will need:

Shoe Boxes
Leaves
Spices
Anything else Autumn

Cut a hole in each shoe box large enough for a child's hand or nose. Place in side of one box autumn leaves, in another pumpkin spice, in another pumpkin seeds, and so on. Allow the children to feel and smell the items and let you know what they think.



Dramatic Activity

Dress To Your Hearts Content

You will need:

Costumes
Change room
(use curtain or divider)

Set up your dramatic play area with a change space and lots of fun costumes. You can have real Halloween costumes or just different pieces of clothing and accessories for the children to choose from. Allow the children to dress up any way they like and wear the costumes for the day or for a while.



Art Activity

Sticky Ghost

You will need:

White Glue
Glitter
Google Eyes
Wax Paper
String



Give each child a slice of wax paper. Allow them to pour glue out in the shape of a ghost. They can add glitter and eyes as well. Hang to dry. Once dry you can peel the ghosts off for the children and hang on string in the window or from the ceiling or even as a necklace.

Science Activity

Cold Hands

You will need:

Food Colour
Water
Latex Gloves
Elastics



Pour water and food colour

(whatever colour you like) into each plastic glove. Tie elastic to close the opening. Place in freezer until the day you need them. At a Halloween party, take the ice hands out, cut off the gloves and place in punch or in a sensory table.



For Better or For Worse

by Lynn Johnston



Q: What does a skeleton orders at a restaurant?

A: *Spare ribs.*

Q: Why did the skeleton go disco dancing?

A: *To see the boogie man.*

Q: What do you call two spiders that just got married?

A: *Newly-webbed.*

Q: What has webbed feet, feathers, fangs and goes quack-quack?

A: *Count Duckula.*

Q: What is a Mummies' favourite type of music?

A: *Wrap!*

Q: What do birds give out on Halloween night?

A: *Tweets.*

Q: Where do ghosts mail their letters?

A: *At the ghost office.*

Q: How do you mend a broken Jack-o-lantern?

A: *With a pumpkin patch.*

Q: When does a skeleton laugh?

A: *When something tickles his funny bone.*

A Message from Donna:

Hi Everyone,

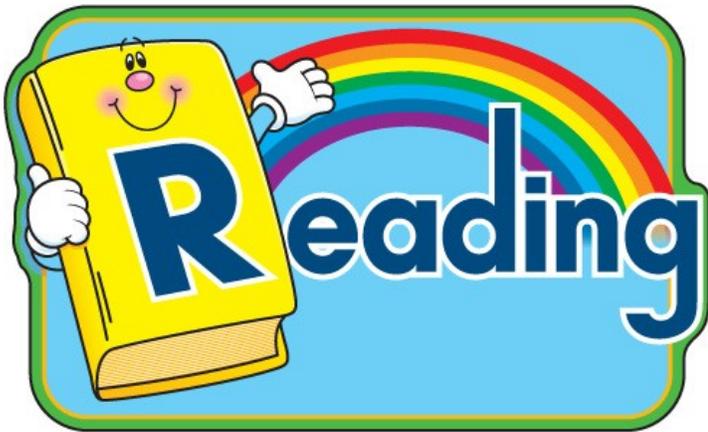
Just wanting to extend my thanks to all of you providers who have welcomed me into your homes, and patiently helped me to get through all of the new learning (and new forms). I am really happy to be working with you at Wee R Kids. I am encouraged and impressed by all of the skill and energy you providers possess.

As was mentioned in our September meeting, I will be coming out to scheduled visits for the month of October. Please ensure that you have taken the time to rate yourself on the FCCERS booklet we handed out. I will be staying for longer than usual visit in order to observe as much of your day as I can, in order to properly and score you. Just remember when rating yourselves, to give yourselves all of the credit you deserve. As professionals, we can be very hard on ourselves. Tune into what you are doing well first, on what you can improve upon second.

Thanks, and see you soon!

Donna

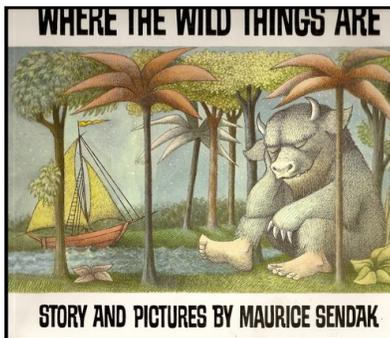




Corner

Where the Wild Things Are

By Maurice Sendak

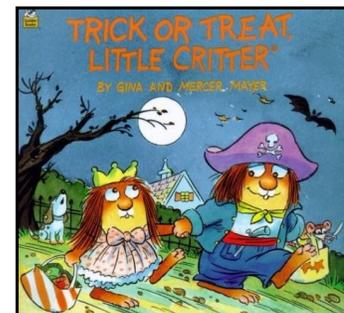


The book tells the story of Max, who one evening plays around his home making "mischief" in a wolf costume. As punishment, his mother sends him to bed without supper. In his room, a mysterious, wild forest and sea grows out of his imagination, and Max sails to the land of the Wild Things. The Wild Things are fearsome-looking monsters, but Max conquers them by "staring into all their yellow eyes without blinking once", and he is made "the king of all wild things", dancing with the monsters in a "wild rumpus". However, he soon finds himself lonely and homesick missing his mom and returns home to his bedroom where he finds his supper waiting for him still hot.

Trick Or Treat

By Mercer Mayer

Through his beloved illustrated character, Little Critter, Mercer Mayer, author and illustrator, has become a household name representing quality children's books that address the major issues of childhood through humorous storytelling. The Little Critter title, Trick or Treat is a great Halloween treat for any child. Colourful illustrations will delight children of all ages.



Listed on this page are books that may be found in the Public Library, online or even in our Lending Library. If you have any other books that fit this theme, please let us know.

Song or Finger Play

Turkey In The Brown Straw

Turkey in the Brown Straw
Ha Ha Ha,
Turkey in the brown straw
Ha Ha Ha,
Turkey in the brown straw
Ha Ha Ha,
Turkey in the straw my darlin'
Turkey in the green tree
Hee Hee Hee,
Turkey in the green tree
Hee Hee Hee,
Turkey in the green tree
Hee Hee Hee,
Turkey in the tree my darlin'.
Turkey in the white snow
Ho Ho Ho,
Turkey in the white snow
Ho Ho Ho,
Turkey in the white snow
Ho Ho Ho,
Turkey in the snow my darlin'.
Turkey in the red barn,
Harn Harn Harn,
Turkey in the red barn,
Harn Harn Harn,
Turkey in the red barn,
Harn Harn Harn,
Turkey in the barn my darlin'.



Cut a paper plate into eighths like a pie. Allow children to colour or paint the edge brown. Paint the rest orange, while it is still wet, sprinkle pumpkin pie spice on the piece and glue a cotton ball on the top to finish.

Art Activity

Thanksgiving



Cooking Activity

Thanksgiving Dinner

This is a great activity for the children and yourself. Have a potluck a few days before Thanksgiving. You can cook a turkey or maybe just a turkey leg or breast and have the children each bring a piece of the meal from home. Then when you sit to eat, you can each share something that you are thankful for.

The children could even each draw a picture of something they are most thankful for. Don't forget to get a photo of the meal and all of the kids with their food.



Artsy Pie

You will need:

Paper Plate
Brown and Orange Paint
Pumpkin Pie Spice
Cotton Balls
Glue