

Wee R Kids Parent News - December 2010



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Upcoming Statutory Holidays For Christmas

December 27 & 28, 2010

For New Year

December 31, 2010

Providers receive these days off and the office will be closed on these days.
Thank you.

OFFICE HOURS:

8:00am-4:30pm

**Please call ahead
Fridays as only one
staff member is in
the office**

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



Dear Parents,

Our Year is almost over, I can hardly believe that 2011 is almost upon us. I hope 2010 overall has been a pretty good year for you all, and that you are looking forward to the new year with joy.

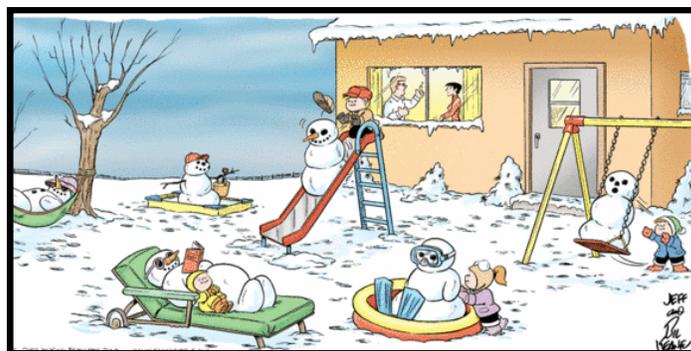
I am also pretty excited to see Christmas coming. As I look outside our windows at the office, I am reminded that winter is also here. There are so many wonderful winter activities that your children, I am sure will be doing with their Day Home Provider.

I hope that you will share with your provider how you celebrate Christmas, so that your family traditions can be experienced in the Day Home as well.

Our office will be closed from December 25 and will re-open Jan 3, for Christmas and New Year. If you need to contact us, please do so on or before December 24 or you can call and leave a message on our office phone and we will call you back after we re-open.

I hope you all have a very joyous Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Angel Dick



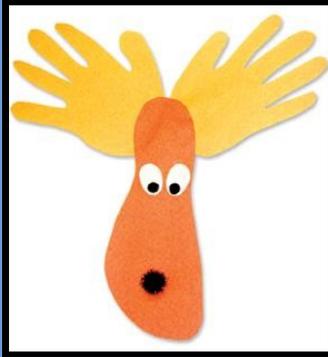
Fun Activities for home

Craft

Hand & Feet Reindeer

Large plastic eyes
Large red pom-poms
Brown construction paper, craft foam or cardstock paper
Lighter brown or tan paper for the ears (optional)

Construction paper in any color; optional if you would like to glue the reindeer onto another piece of paper.



How to Make It:

First, with one shade of brown, cut the antlers and reindeer, using your child's handprint and shoeprint as a pattern. Then, cut the ears with the other brown. We used a lighter shade of brown to add yet another layer to the ears but that's not necessary.

Glue the antlers together at a slight angle. Then add the ears and glue the head on last. Glue the eyes and nose the head and add a smile with a marker.

Sing a Song

Here Comes Santa Claus

Here comes Santa Claus!
Here comes Santa Claus!
Right down Santa Claus Lane!
Vixen and Blitzen and all his reindeer
Are pulling on the reins.
Bells are ringing, children singing;
All is merry and bright.
Hang your stockings and say your prayers,
'Cause Santa Claus comes tonight.



Cooking

Peppermint Snowball Cookies

Makes four dozen.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups butter
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp peppermint extract
- 3 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 8 oz white chocolate chips
- 1 cup sweetened shredded coconut

Directions:

1. In a large mixing bowl, cream together the butter and powdered sugar. Add in peppermint extract.
2. Gradually add in flour 1/2 cup at a time, until full incorporated. Refrigerate for 2-3 hours to firm dough and make it easier to handle.
3. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (176 degrees C). Roll out dough into 1" balls. Place onto a baking sheet and bake at 15-20 minutes or until golden brown. Place on a wire rack to cool.
4. Meanwhile, place white chocolate chips into a microwavable bowl and microwave on high for 30 seconds. Stir and then return to the microwave at 15 second intervals, stirring in between, until melted. Dip each cooled cookie into the white chocolate to coat, then roll in shredded coconut. Let sit until chocolate has set.



Here comes Santa Claus!
Here comes Santa Claus!
Right down Santa Claus Lane!
He's got a bag that is filled with toys
For the boys and girls again.
Hear those sleigh bells jingle jangle,
What a beautiful sight.
Jump in bed, cover up your head,
'Cause Santa Claus comes tonight.



AROUND TOWN

Tour of Annandale the Christmas House**Dec 7-8 & 10-12**

6:30-8:30pm

1280 ~ 4 Ave South Lethbridge

Admission \$5 (Kids under 10 free)

Multicultural Holiday Ornaments**Dec 11**

1-2 pm

The Galt Museum

Contact Leslie Hall 403-320-4700 for
more information**A Christmas Carole Dinner Theatre****Dec 10**

260 ~ McGill Blvd West Lethbridge

Contact 403-308-0339 for ticket information

Kids & Conversations**Each Wednesday**

10-11:30am

The Family Centre

A safe place for children to play and parents to
connect

Contact 403-320-4232 for more information



Parent Reminders

Just a reminder that as winter settles in around us, it is important to make sure you are sending warm clothes with your children to their day home. It is great to send layers that can be taken off or added to as the weather changes. Make sure that your children have mittens/gloves, hats (that cover ears), scarves or something to cover necks, warm coats and boots.

Remember that even in colder weather the providers will be taking the children outdoors, so they need to be warm while outside.

Also please remember to check with your provider to find out when they are closed for Christmas Holidays. Please also let them know when you will be away so that they can plan ahead.



Christmas can be expensive, but it doesn't need to be. Here are some great, inexpensive, or free ideas to enjoy the holiday season with those you love.

Churches and universities give free or inexpensive concerts in December, check your local papers or websites.

Take an evening to drive around looking at Christmas lights, if you take along some hot chocolate and some Christmas cookies, it will be even more festive.

Go to the library and check out Christmas books or movies. Read or watch one or several during December for a cozy, free family fun time.

Make a batch of cookie dough, buy some food coloring and sprinkles, get out the cookie cutters, and let your kids cut out and decorate cookies.

Make Cinnamon, or red/green play dough and cut out shapes, bake and make them into tree ornaments, something to treasure as the years go by.

Watch the TV listings for Christmas movies and specials to watch together.

Search the Web for age-appropriate crafts for the kids, and make it a new family tradition to give out handmade gifts, and Christmas cards.

When the season gets too hectic, turn off all the lights except the tree lights and snuggle together with the kids. Add mugs of hot chocolate and marshmallows and tell them stories about your own childhood Christmas memories.

Whatever you do, do it together. **Make Christmas special**, spend time together and leave the worry of money behind you, what matters is family.

Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time.

~Laura Ingalls Wilder

