

Families for Literacy Program Newsletter

December, 2019

Tutors: please go over this newsletter (whatever is appropriate) with your adult students and encourage them to visit the Story Times with their children, it's a lot of fun and so very important →

Children who grow up being read to, grow up to love books and reading.
Join our free Library Story Times to become a Family of Readers:

Lakeport Library, 1425 N. High Street, **Fridays, 10:15 am and 2:30 pm**

Middletown Library, 21256 Washington Street, Middletown, **Tuesdays, 11:30 am**

Redbud Library, 14785 Burns Valley Road, Clearlake, **Thursdays, 10:30 am**



This year's special Christmas Story Time:

Middletown Library: Tuesday, December 10th, 11:30 am

Redbud Library, Clearlake: Thursday, December 12, 10:30 am

Lakeport Library, Friday, December 13, 10:15 am and 2:30 pm

♥ Surprises are waiting for you! ♥

Upper Lake Library: Pick up a free Christmas book during opening hours



"Either we spend time meeting children's emotional needs by filling their love cup, or we will spend time dealing with behaviors caused by their unmet needs. Either way, we spend the time." -Pamela Leo, connectionparenting

Holidays can be a hectic time for a family. Try the following tips to make it less stressful for you and your child while spending quality time, filling their "love cups":

♥ Have a space where your child can go for quiet times. This can be large pillows in a corner with books, puzzles, puppets and other calming things to do.

A large cardboard box with one side cut open makes a great "quiet place": →

♥ Pick up Christmas books at your library to read with children in that special corner!

♥ Turn off the television and play some calm, soothing music while your child plays.

♥ Have some calm, one-on-one time with your child every day, even if it's just for a few minutes. Talking with and really listening to your children will make them feel good.



- ♥ Offer your child choices of two or three favorite things to do. They will feel special when able to make a choice.
- ♥ Make wrapping gifts a family affair by letting kids help wrap. It can save you time, and getting children involved makes them feel like they're giving, too.
- ♥ Double or triple any cookie recipe and place the leftover batter in ice cube trays. Seal them in a plastic bag and pop them in the freezer. When it's time for the party, just take out the "batter cubes" and bake as you normally would. Voila! Quick, freshly-baked cookies.
- ♥ Don't forget to breath! Taking a couple deep, slow and conscious breaths into the belly is one of the best ways to calm down. Simple and effective.

Two fingerplays - one tune:
"I'm a little teapot"



SING
with us

A Shy Santa

Isn't it the strangest thing
That Santa is so shy? (hide face with hands)
We can never catch him, (make fingers run)
No matter how we try.
It isn't any use to watch, (hold hand to eyes and look)
Because my parents said,
"Santa Claus will only come
When children are in bed!" (shake finger)



I'm A Little Snowman

I'm a little snowman, short and fat.
Here is my broom (pretend to hold broom handle)
Here is my hat (pat top of head)
When it's cold and icy, (hug self and shiver)
I will stay.
But when it gets hot (wipe brow)
I melt away! (shrink down to floor)

CRAFT
with us

Cute and simple fingerprint snowmen for a Christmas craft with your kids! You can even turn these little prints into adorable and affordable homemade Christmas cards.

Happy Christmas crafting!



What you need:

- card stock (or pre-made blank cards)
- (finger) paint in white and orange
- sharpie
- Optional: glitter glue or glitter pen

What you do:

- ✂ Use pre-made blank cards if you can find them, otherwise grab a sheet of card stock and cut and fold it to the size you would like.
- ✂ Have the kids dip their finger in white paint and print it on the paper to make snowmen bodies.
- ✂ After the white paint dried, have them paint orange noses on and add snowman eyes. Add a mouth, arms, buttons, and anything else you want - hats and scarves with different colors, maybe a touch of glitter? Snowflakes (print with pinkie finger)?



--- Families For Literacy December Book Give-Away ---

Starting Tuesday, December 10, tutors may pick up books for their learner's families at their closest library. These book are meant to be holiday gifts for their children.

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