

Holiday Literacy Fun!



The holidays are a busy time full of fun and excitement. They are also a wonderful opportunity for literacy enriching experiences such as:

- Reading
- Writing
- Oral language
- Active Literacy

This Holiday Literacy Fun newsletter will share various ideas for incorporating literacy enrichment into your festive activities in a fun and seamless way!

Reading

Reading can be a wonderful way to relax and reconnect. Children of all ages love read alouds. Cuddling up on the couch with a good book, hot chocolate, and soft lighting sets a relaxing mood for reading.

Taking turns reading with your child, whether it is reading the words or reading the pictures, boosts reading enthusiasm and success.

Writing

The Holiday Season is the perfect time to enrich writing skills!

Writing thank you letters for gifts, helping to write lists for groceries and fun activities, and keeping a journal are fun ways to create personal connections to writing.



Oral Language

Oh, the joy of oral language! Sharing favourite family memories, listening to a grandparent tell about their childhood holiday traditions and celebrations, singing favourite songs, and cuddling up together at bedtime to share about your day are wonderful ways to enrich oral language.



Literacy isn't just about pencils and paper... there are lots of fun hands-on activities that can work for all ages!

Active Literacy



Fun!



Cook Up Some Fun!

Take Literacy into the kitchen!

- * Make your favourite recipe together, having your child read the recipe.
- * Make up some playdough and use it to “write” letters, words, and pictures.
- * Have an Alphabet Cereal scavenger hunt; fill up your bowl and look for letters or build words.
- * ABC pasta silly words; cook up the pasta, dip up a spoonful and see what word you can create!

Get Moving!

Rev up literacy with lots of movement!

- * Make words with your footprints in the snow.
- * Print letters on Lego blocks and build word towers.
- * Print words on Lego blocks and build stories!
- * Spell words while tossing a beanbag back and forth for each letter.
- * Trace your foot and cut out footprints. Print words or letters on them and make reading paths.

Family Fun

Get the whole family in on the fun!

- * Dig out those “old favourite” board games to promote oral language and conversation
- * Pick up a few new games, such as Headbandz or Pictionary
- * Story Cubes are tons of fun; roll the dice and tell a story using the pictures
- * Play charades - talking, moving, AND laughing!

Technically Speaking...

Technology can enrich literacy learning, especially on those long car rides!

- * Add a literacy app to that tablet! Search “literacy for kids” and load a few free apps
- * Check out Epic! for online stories
- * www.starfall.com has great early learning activities
- * Create interactive puppet shows with the Puppet Pals app

Literacy is everywhere; when you are having fun and spending time together, the learning will blossom!

Happy Holidays!