

Families for Literacy Program Newsletter

December, 2018

Tutors: please go over this newsletter (whatever is appropriate) with your adult student and encourage him/her to visit the Story Times with their children, it's a lot of fun!

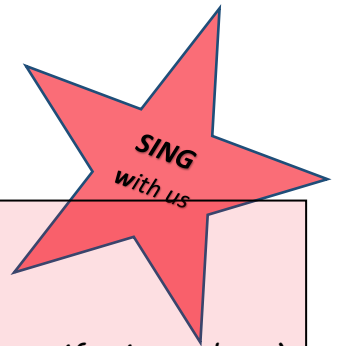
Lakeport Library, 1425 N. High St. Lakeport, **Fridays, 10:15 am and 2:30 pm**
Middletown Library, 21256 Washington Street, Middletown, **Tuesdays, 11:30 am**
Redbud Library, 14785 Burns Valley Rd. Clearlake, **Thursday, 10:30 am and 3:30 pm**
Upper Lake Library, 310 2nd St, Thursday, December 13, **2:30pm pm**



Special Christmas Story Time:

Middletown Library: Tuesday December 11, 11:30am
 Redbud Library, Clearlake on Thursday, December 13, 10:30am
 Upper Lake Library Thursday, December 13, 2:30pm
 Lakeport Library, on Friday, December 14, 10:15am and 2:30pm

♥ Surprises are waiting for you! ♥



Math concepts, language development, body awareness and fine motor skills - all in one fun Fingerplay to the tune of "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed":

Fingerplay: Five Little Elves

Five Little Elves hitching up the sleigh, *(Display five fingers in the air)*
 One got up and ran away, *(Bend one finger down)*
 Rudolph called Santa and heard him say: *(Put one hand with folded fingers up to ear as if using a phone)*
 "We must get ready for Christmas Day!"

Four Little Elves hitching up the sleigh,
 One got up and ran away ...*Continue on until there is only 1 elf left:*

One Little Elf hitching up the sleigh,
 He got up and ran away,
 Rudolph called Santa and heard him say
 "It's Christmas eve, up, up, and away!"

Incorporate books on Santa Claus and his elves or other **Christmas stories** to read with children!

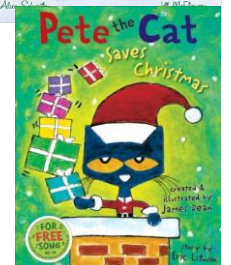
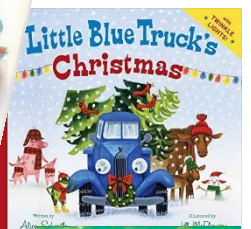
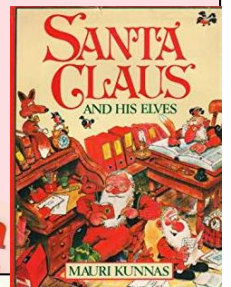
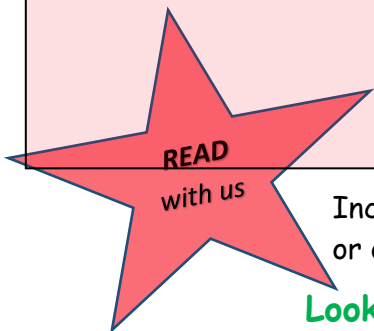
Look for these books at your local library:

Alvin and the unruly elves, by Ulf Lofgren: When Santa finds it impossible to control his mischievous elves he brings Alvin to the North Pole to solve the problem.

A classic: **Santa Claus and his elves**, by Mauri Kunnas: Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, elves, and reindeer get ready for Christmas at their North Pole workshop.

Little Blue Truck's Christmas, by Alice Schertle: Little Blue Truck is spreading cheer by delivering Christmas trees to his animal friends. Can you help count each green tree?"

Pete the Cat saves Christmas, by Eric Litwin: When Santa falls ill and Christmas may have to be canceled, Pete the cat comes to the rescue.





Cute and simple fingerprint snowmen for a Christmas craft

with your kids! How about turning these little prints into adorable and affordable homemade Christmas cards?

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)?

Happy Christmas crafting!



Holidays can be a hectic time for a family. Try some of the following tips to make it less stressful for you and your child:

- ♥ 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 off makes a great "quiet place".
- ♥ 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 child will make him feel good.
- ♥ Offer your child choices of two or three favorite things to do. She'll feel special when able to make a choice.
- ♥ 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.
- ♥ 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.



--- Families For Literacy December Book Give-Away ---
 Starting Tuesday, December 11, tutors may pick up packages of 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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