



December 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>Kindergarten Field Trip</i>	2
3	4	5 <i>Terrific Kids @6:00</i>	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 <i>Christmas Concert @6:00</i>	15 <i>Early Release!</i>	16
17	18 <i>No School!</i>	19 <i>No School!</i>	20 <i>No School!</i>	21 <i>No School!</i>	22 <i>No School!</i>	23
24	25 <i>No School!</i>	26 <i>No School!</i>	27 <i>No School!</i>	28 <i>No School!</i>	29 <i>No School!</i>	30
31						

Home & School

CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

December 2017

Bladenboro Primary School
Deborah Guyton, Principal



SHORT NOTES

"I heard that!"

Good listening skills will help your child do well in every subject. Here's an active way to practice. Choose a common word (*also*, *because*), and read a newspaper or magazine article aloud to her. She has to listen closely for the word—and do a jumping jack each time she hears it.

The importance of loyalty

It may seem easier for your youngster to stay quiet when others say unkind things about a friend. But explain that speaking up shows loyalty, and it's the right thing to do. Help him brainstorm what to say, such as "That would really hurt his feelings" or "You'd be upset if someone said that about you."

Let's wash our hands

Hand washing is one of the best ways for your child to stay healthy—and to avoid spreading germs. She could make a poster by writing and illustrating the steps: 1. Wet. 2. Lather. 3. Rub 30 seconds. 4. Rinse. 5. Dry. Have her hang her poster in the bathroom to remind herself, and other family members, to wash properly.

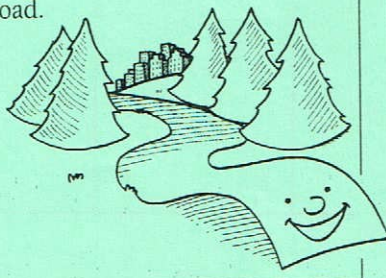
Worth quoting

"A problem is a chance for you to do your best." Duke Ellington

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What goes through towns and over hills but doesn't move?

A: A road.



Winter reading

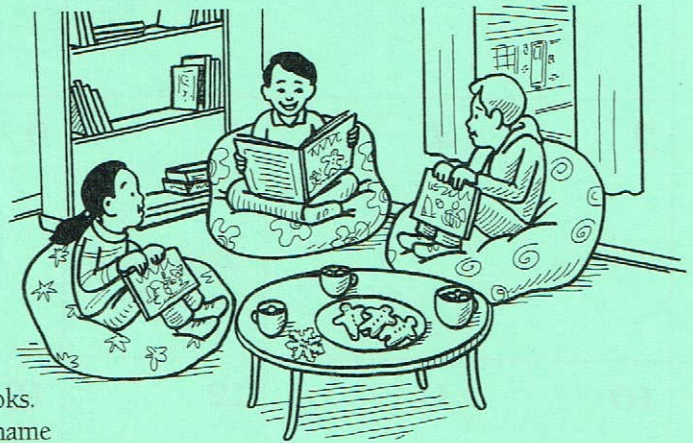
Does your youngster prefer to read alone, with family members, or in the company of friends? With these ideas, he can do all three this winter.

Choose themes

Encourage your child to read more by coming up with wintry themes for choosing books. For example, he might name "ice-skating" or "penguins" and pick out a biography of an Olympic skater or an adventure tale set in Antarctica. After he finishes each book, he can write the title on a paper snowflake and tape it to a wall. How many snowflakes can he hang up?

Discuss poetry

On a snowy day—or any day—read winter poetry together. Get a volume like *It's Snowing! It's Snowing!* (Jack Prelutsky) or *Winter Bees & Other Poems of the Cold* (Joyce Sidman). Boost your youngster's reading comprehension by talking about the poets' word choices.



Why did Prelutsky write "the air is a silvery blur"? What did Sidman mean by "the sun's pale wafer"?

Read with friends

Your child can see friends over winter break and practice reading at the same time by forming a book club. They might pick a chapter book to read, then meet to discuss it and enjoy a related snack, craft, or game. Or they could each bring a different picture book and take turns reading aloud. *Idea:* Suggest that they keep their club going all year long!♥

Coping with stress

Whether your child is stressed about a test or worried about a disagreement with a friend, try these strategies for helping her cope.

- **Name it.** Have her say what, specifically, is making her feel stressed. Maybe she's afraid she'll forget everything she studied or she doesn't know what to say to her friend.
- **Focus on solutions.** Help your youngster think of ways she could relieve some pressure. She might review her study guide one last time the morning of the test or write a note to her friend saying she misses her and wants to play.
- **Think positive.** Remind your child of tests she did well on or ways she resolved problems with friends in the past. Suggest inspiring phrases she could say to herself, such as, "I know I can do it!"♥

