

Postal Patron

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 03  
Chula, MO

Livingston County R-III School District  
Chula Accelerated School  
PO Box 40  
Chula, MO 64635

# From the Principal's Desk...

 Mrs. Megan Hardie

## Trustworthiness



In January students focused on the character trait of Trustworthiness: being honest, reliable, and dependable. Preschool students performed the play "The Boy Who Cried Wolf". Thank you Preschool students for presenting on Trustworthiness during Morning Rally!

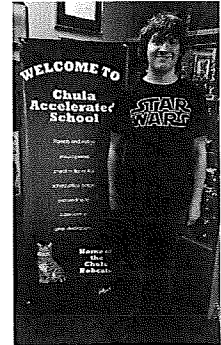
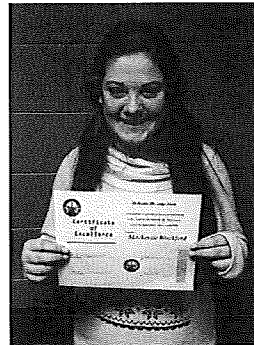


**School Board Recognition Week**  
January 21st-January 27th

### January 24th School Board Breakfast & Recognition

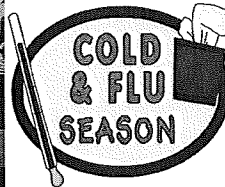
Pictured Left to Right:  
Shasta Eckert, Jeremy Searcy, Jacob Hibner,  
Dan Murphy, and John Graves  
Not pictured: Jimmy Meservey & Steve Case

- March 2 Read Across America Day
- March 6 BBall vs. Laredo (Home)
- March 8 No Preschool
- March 9 End of 3rd Quarter  
No Preschool  
7th/8th Grade Dinner Theater
- March 13 School Board Meeting
- March 15 Early Dismissal @ 12:20  
Spring Open House
- March 16 No School
- March 19-24 Bishop Hogan Tournament
- March 20-21 PK Screenings
- March 22 Stuco Meeting
- March 23 Early Dismissal @ 12:20
- March 23 OPT Carnival
- March 30-April 2 No School—Spring Break



**Elks Lodge Essay Winner: Mackenzie Blackford**  
"Why Our Veterans Are American's Heroes"

**DAR Essay Winner: Mathew Meservey**  
"World War I: Remember the War to End All Wars"



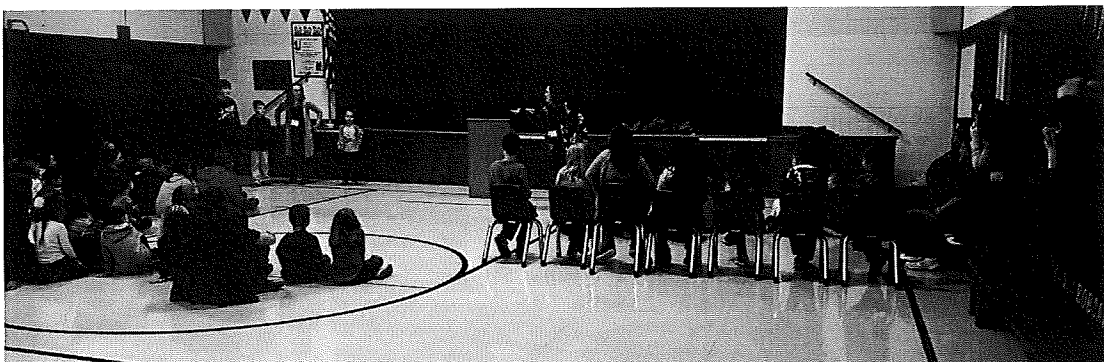
The "bug" is certainly going around right now! People who have the flu often feel some or all of the following signs and symptoms: fever or feeling feverish/chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue (extremely tired), and/or vomiting and diarrhea.

The CDC recommends the following preventative actions: Stay home when you are sick; Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing; Wash your hands often with soap

and water; Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth; and Clean and disinfect surfaces of objects.

We have had several confirmed cases of Influenza A in the past couple of weeks. If your child has a fever or the chills, please keep him/her home from school. Not only will that allow him/her time to recuperate, but it will also help prevent him/her from spreading germs to the rest of the student body and staff.

One more reminder: It is winter outside. The temperatures are not warm enough for students to be without coats when they go to recess at 10:30/11:15 in the morning. Please send your children to school with clothing appropriate for the winter season.



### Missoula Children's Theater

On January 12th, the Missoula Children's Theater did a program for K-6th grade students. The students got to interact during the program. This is always a great program sponsored by the Chillicothe Area Arts Council.

We appreciate them sharing with us!



# February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div> <div> </div> <div> <i>Won't you be my Valentine?</i> </div> </div>						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

# Menus

**School:** Livingston County R-3

**Academic Year:** 2017-18

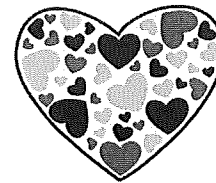
**Meal:** All

**Month:** February 2018

February				
M	Tu	W	Th	F
<p>29</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain waffles, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>30</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain pepperoni pizza, tossed Romaine salad w/low-fat Ranch, whole kernel corn, fruit, milk</p>	<p>31</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain biscuit, sausage patty, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain fish wedge, au gratin potatoes, green beans, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>1</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Scrambled eggs, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Mac &amp; cheese, carrots, cole slaw, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Breakfast bites, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Taco soup, corn chips, celery sticks, fruit, milk</p>
<p>5</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain biscuit, sausage patty, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Hamburger patty on whole wheat bun, potato wedges, whole kernel corn, fruit, milk</p>	<p>6</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain chicken patty, mashed potatoes, carrots, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain cereal bar, gogurt, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> BBQ pork ribette, au gratin potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>8</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain pancakes, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Lasagna roll-up, tossed Romaine salad w/low-fat Ranch, green beans, whole wheat breadstick, fruit, milk</p>	<p>9</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Cheese omelet, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Walking tacos w/shredded cheese, shredded lettuce, refried beans, fruit, milk</p>
<p>12</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain breakfast bites, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, carrots, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>13</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Spaghetti w/meat sauce, tossed Romaine salad w/low-fat Ranch, green beans, whole wheat breadstick, fruit, milk</p>	<p>14</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain corndog, mashed potatoes, broccoli, fruit, milk</p>	<p>15</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain biscuit, sausage gravy, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Chicken &amp; cheese burrito, refried beans, whole kernel corn, fruit, milk</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain French toast, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Vegetable beef soup, PBJ Jamwich, celery sticks, whole grain crackers, fruit, milk</p>
<p>19</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Poptart, gogurt, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> BBQ Pork Ribette, au gratin potatoes, whole kernel corn, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, mixed fruit, milk</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain biscuit, whole grain breakfast chicken patty, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain chicken patty, mashed potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain fish wedge, au gratin potatoes, green beans, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Scrambled eggs, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese, raw baby carrots, celery sticks, whole grain crackers, fruit, milk</p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain pancakes, reduced syrup, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Hot dog on whole wheat bun, potato wedges, baked beans, fruit, milk</p>
<p>26</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Whole grain chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Breakfast burrito, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> BBQ pork ribette, au gratin potatoes, whole kernel corn, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>28</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain waffles, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Mac &amp; cheese, cole slaw, carrots, whole wheat bread &amp; butter, fruit, milk</p>	<p>1</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Cheese omelet, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Taco soup, corn chips, celery sticks, fruit, milk</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>Breakfast:</b> Whole grain biscuit, sausage patty, fruit, juice, milk</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Sloppy Joe on whole wheat bun, potato wedges, green beans, fruit, milk</p>

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# Chula Accelerated School



February 2018

## Preschool News

Another month will soon go to sleep, but we are wide awake learning and exploring in our classroom. Our classroom goal for the month of January is to have the alphabet complete. We are well on our way to meeting that goal. Not only are we learning the letters and their sounds, we are also learning which ones are consonants and which ones are vowels. We have some smart cookies in our room! In January, we have also been learning about the character trait trustworthiness. We have learned that telling the truth is extremely important along with being a trusting friend. We will present our version of the story of the little boy who cried wolf at the end of the month during rally to help share our knowledge about trustworthiness. Our 100<sup>th</sup> day of school is fast approaching, and we are looking forward to celebrating that with Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade!

Mrs. Mindy & Mrs. Tabby

## First and Second Grade News

We are so happy to have some warmer weather. We enjoyed our extra days off, but are glad to be back! The warmer weather means we can enjoy recess outside instead of in the gym. Thank goodness for Miss Wanda and Mrs. Singleton who brave the winter air to take us outside. We are very grateful for them.

We enjoyed a special assembly presented by the Missoula Children's Theater. They taught us about all the people it takes to put on a play. Who knew it took so many people? We were disappointed that school was canceled on the day of Randy Nadler's assembly, but we're hoping he comes to see us soon.

Fairy tales and folk tales have kept us entertained this month. We've started our genre unit and tales were our first stop. We read several versions of *Goldilocks and the Three Bear* with our favorite being *Goldilocks Rocks* in which Goldilocks and Baby Bear, who prefers to be called Sam, are really friends. After we finish with fairy tales, we'll move on to science fiction. The kids have been hard at work writing, doing math, learning about energy, and how things move. In social studies we're doing an economics unit and are getting ready to be consumers and producers.

We are looking forward to celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school on February 2. Can you believe it's been 100 days? Time is going by quickly. We'll be having our annual celebration with our pals in kindergarten and pre-school.

With Valentine's Day coming up, love is on our minds. Here's how we know someone loves us:

**Liam** – They love you!

**Kaleb** – Uncle D loves me because he said so!

**Charlee** – They are grateful and they try to be the best at loving you.

**Rocklyn** – They will write you a note saying "I love you."

**Levi** – They make the "I heart you" sign.

**Oliver** – They xoxoxox.

**Tymer** – They give you treats on Valentine's Day.

**Mylo** – Dad says it all the time.

**Tori** – They give you hugs and kisses.

**Ian** – They buy you a DS.

**Jordyn** – I know because when I ask them something they listen instead of just walking away.

Miss Stone

## Kindergarten News

We started our month off with a visit from the Missoula Children's Theater. We had a great time learning about the different types of jobs that are involved in putting on a production. Kay and Alli were great teachers!



Randy Nadler was scheduled to come tell us about Thailand, but it was too cold and we had to cancel school. We are hoping he will be able to come back to talk to us.

Laura Numeroff will be the author we study this month. Her most popular book series is based on her book *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. These books are about the humorous chain reaction that happens when you give an animal something. We will be reading *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, *If You Give a Cat a Cupcake*, *Beatrice Doesn't Want To*, *10 Step Guide to Living With Your Monster*, and *Would I Trade My Parents*. I'm sure we will love them all!

We are looking forward to joining our preschool and 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade friends to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school on February 2nd (if we have no more school cancelations before then!)

Mrs. Cypert

### Third & Fourth Grade News

January flew by, especially with several snow days! I think we are finally back on track, though, and ready to tackle the next few months. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and we will not have to miss any more days! In January we did several fun science activities, learned about plants and plant growth, and started learning about the first Americans. We also continued our reading groups, which means lots and lots of reading! In math we have been working on multiplication and everyone has been doing great! Soon we will begin practicing for the MAP test. I am really looking forward to February - Valentine's Day, Valentine's dance, and basketball games!

Student highlights from January:

**Marley**—I liked playing on the Chromebooks and basketball!

**John**—I really like eating at lunch and breakfast!

**Brooke**—One day in January we had free time and we were able to play any game on the Chromebooks.

**Lucas**—My favorite part was the snow days because we had no school.

Mrs. Leadbetter

### Seventh & Eighth Grade News

Looking for an exciting night out on the town? Join the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders as they present their annual Dinner Theatre March 9. Dinner will begin at 6, with an exciting play to follow.

*Country-Ella* re-envisions the classic Cinderella rags-to-riches fairy tale with a clever fish-out-of-water twist. Cinderella is an über-perky city girl who comes to visit her distant country relatives, Uncle Johnny and his wicked wife, Aunt Zilla. When her bratty twin cousins, Hilly and Billie, make her life a chore, an unexpected visit from her Country Godmother allows her to attend the Hoe-Down, where she meets the town's most eligible deer hunter, Bubba. At midnight, naturally, she departs in haste, dropping her cellphone as she leaves. Bubba desperately searches for her, knowing that only the right person will know the passcode for the phone. Young actors and family audiences alike will delight in this modern country retelling of everyone's favorite tale!

Tickets will soon be available from any 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grader, or by calling the school office at 639-3135. Tickets are \$6.00, and \$3.00 for preschool age children.

Mrs. Kerr

### Care Club News

Start saving your pop tabs! We'll be having a special contest in March. Stay tuned for more details!



Care Club is also collecting Box Tops for Education. We receive 10 cents for each Box Top. Send them to school with your favorite Chula student. We are no longer collecting the Campbell's labels. Campbell's has discontinued their program.

Miss Stone

### Fifth & Sixth Grade News

It's so busy in our classroom! I love this time of year when the kids have learned enough of the basic skills needed to start doing some bigger projects that stretch their brains. Our favorite is always our Social Studies and Science classes. The Revolutionary War has become a hot topic as the kids listen, watch, and research all about it in order to complete their own American History booklets! In Science we have been able to do some great experiments as we study the earth and its processes. They especially loved knowing enough about the layers of earth and rock processes to be able to take a handful of random rocks and classify them just like a Geologist would. What kid doesn't love to look at rocks?

Basketball and Cheerleading is well underway and the kids are getting excited to show off their new skills at our first ballgame. We hope to see you there on February 15 as we play against Bishop Hogan!

Mrs. Pauley

### From the smART Room

An essential element of any art is risk. How can you be creative without taking a risk? This is true in life as well. We start elementary basketball this month. The first risk is participation. For some that is the biggest risk. But how can you achieve without taking that risk?

So many students fear taking creative risks or athletic risks because they fear ridicule. They fear making mistakes. My aim in life as an educator and coach is to try to help students overcome unproductive fear and take a positive risk, and diminish the fears. Mistakes will ALWAYS happen, ALWAYS!!! In art they are called "happy accidents" and in sports they come from risks that don't always succeed, but do lead to later successes. Quite a few mistakes will be made in elementary basketball, but it's all about the effort.

My point is that we need to take positive risks to be creative and expand the possibilities of what we can do. We don't know what that is if we don't try...and take a risk!

Mrs. Locker

# Early Years

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREAT START

February 2018



Livingston County R-III School  
Megan Hardie, Principal

## KID BITS

### My own business card

Creating a pretend “business card” is a fun way for your child to learn her address and phone number. Show her a real one (yours, one from an office you visit), and then have her make her own using an index card. Help her write her name, address, and phone number. She could draw a small picture (ballet shoe, soccer ball) to show something she does.

### A gracious host

Having friends over lets your youngster practice social skills. Explain that it's nice to let his guest take the first tricycle ride, for example. Make sharing easier by allowing your child to put away one special toy before his friend arrives—everything else is for both youngsters to enjoy.

### Not afraid of the dark

Help your child overcome her fear of the dark by making it “friendlier.” Try decorating her ceiling with glow-in-the-dark stars from a dollar store, or give her a night-light for her room. She may also feel better cuddling a stuffed animal who “likes” the dark, perhaps an owl or a raccoon.

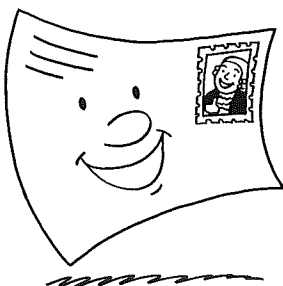
### Worth quoting

“Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.” *Chinese proverb*

### Just for fun

**Q:** What did the envelope say to the stamp?

**A:** Stick with me, and we'll go places.



## Playful ways to boost self-control

Little ones learn many skills through play, and self-control is no exception. These games and activities can help improve your youngster's ability to slow down and think before he acts.

### Stop and go

Name an action for your child to do, such as jumping up and down. Every time you call out, “Go,” he should start jumping. When you say “Stop,” he stands still. But if you say a random word instead of “Go” and “Stop” (“Bananas,” or “Jupiter,” for example), he should ignore you. He'll need to listen carefully so he knows whether you're giving a command—or just being silly!

### Be a mirror

Face your youngster, and strike a pose. Maybe you'll stand with one hand on your hip and the other on your head. Ask your child to copy you. Now, slowly move to a new pose while he moves with you as your mirror. He'll practice



resisting the urge to make any other movements—after all, a mirror reflects only what's in front of it.

### Count down

In a situation where your youngster tends to get antsy (say, waiting for food at a restaurant), have him pretend he's an astronaut. Suggest that he put on his imaginary spacesuit and get ready for launch. Slowly count backward from 10 together. This will give him a chance to settle down. ♥

## Reasons to write

Your child is probably excited about learning to write. Whether she's just making squiggly lines or starting to form words, here are ways to nurture her new skill:

- Write lists together. Your youngster could list animals she'd like to visit at the zoo, jobs she might have when she grows up, or rainy-day activities to try.
- Let her leave messages for family members. You can help her spell the words on a sticky note (“Let's play a game!”) and find a place to put it where it will be found. Or give her dry-erase markers to write a greeting on a window or a bathroom mirror. She can easily wipe off the glass when she's finished. ♥



## More curiosity = more learning

“Why are the trees bare in winter?” “What are clouds made of?” Kids this age wonder about everything—and that’s good, because curiosity fuels learning. Try these suggestions to feed your youngster’s natural inquisitiveness.

**Encourage exploration.** Hands-on experiments can satisfy your child’s curiosity and lead to new things to wonder about. For instance, if she wants to know whether toy cars will float, let her test them



to research on your next visit to the library or when you’re online together. That will give both of you a chance to learn new things—and your youngster will see that even grownups are still learning.♥

in a sink. As she experiments, she might wonder which of her other toys will sink and which will float. After she tries them, ask her what the toys that float or sink have in common.

**Find out together.** Don’t worry if you’re not sure why we get hiccups or why lightning comes before thunder. You can simply say, “That’s a good question. Let’s write it down.” Keep a notebook full of questions

## PARENT TO PARENT



## Q & A

### Advice for parent volunteers

**Q:** This month, I will be volunteering in my daughter’s classroom. What should I expect?

**A:** It’s great that you’re going to help your daughter’s teacher. Your youngster will feel proud to see you in her classroom, and volunteering is one way to show her that you care about her school.

When you arrive at school, go to the office first, since you may need to sign in and get a badge. In the classroom, the teacher will explain what to do. She may have you work with a small group of children, perhaps doing jigsaw puzzles or making a snack. Or maybe she’ll ask you to make copies or cut out letters and numbers. After you leave the classroom, be sure to keep information about the students confidential.

**Note:** If you have younger children at home, arrange for someone to watch them while you volunteer. Consider swapping child care with another parent who volunteers at a different time.♥



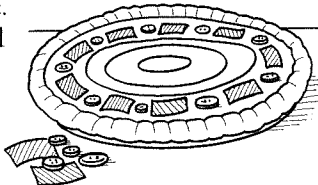
## Artsy patterns

My grandson Noah loves doing arts and crafts with me. He’s learning about patterns in school, so I thought our projects could be a great way to practice patterns at home.

I suggested that we color together in my “grown-up” coloring book. I started coloring a swirly design, alternating its stripes purple, blue, purple, blue. I asked Noah to color the next stripe in the pattern, and he made it purple.

Then, Noah wanted to make his own patterns. I gave him craft supplies like crepe-paper scraps and buttons, and he glued them in a pattern around the border of a paper plate.

Now Noah points out patterns to me all the time—in the scarf I’m knitting, on my couch where we snuggle up and read, and on a cake we decorated together!♥

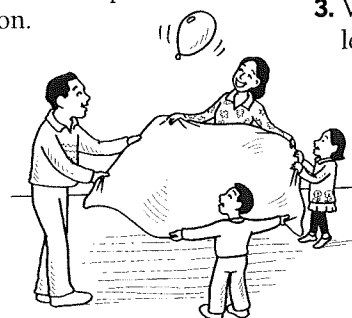


## ACTIVITY CORNER

### Parachute games

You and your child can play parachute games at home with just a flat bedsheet. Have each family member hold one side of the sheet, and enjoy these activities that promote cooperation and coordination.

**1.** Take turns deciding how everyone will move the “parachute.” Lift it up high, or make low waves, for example. Keep going until everyone has had a chance to give an instruction.



**2.** Place a ball on the sheet, and lift to roll the ball from player to player. Your child can count how many times the ball is passed before it falls off. How high will he count?

**3.** Work together to launch a balloon as high as possible.

**4.** Fill the center of the sheet with “popcorn” (several crumpled sheets of paper). Everyone shakes the sheet and calls, “Pop, pop, pop!” until all the popcorn “pops” off the parachute.♥

## OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote school readiness, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators,  
a division of CCH Incorporated  
128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630  
800-394-5052 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com  
www.rfeonline.com

ISSN 1540-5567

# Home & School

## CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

Working Together for School Success

February 2018



Livingston County R-III School  
Megan Hardie, Principal

### SHORT NOTES

#### I love you because...

Family members can share what they love about each other with this writing activity. Have your youngster cut out paper hearts. Write love notes on them and hide for others to find. For example, maybe your child will put one under her sister's placemat that says, "I love you because you make me laugh."

#### On the road again

Carpooling with other parents is a great way to save time and money—and to get to know your youngster's classmates. When you drive, you'll probably hear them discuss school, sports, and friends. *Note:* Ask parents about booster seats—if a child uses one in his parents' car, he'll need one in yours, too.

#### Indoor "recess"—at home

When winter weather keeps your family inside, ask your child to show you what she does during indoor recess at school. She could teach you games, crafts, or songs she enjoys. Then, encourage her to come up with new ideas to try at home or in class.

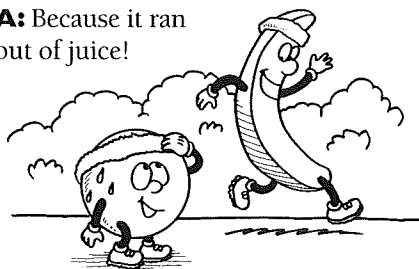
#### Worth quoting

"Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale." *Hans Christian Andersen*

### JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** Why did the orange lose the race?

**A:** Because it ran out of juice!



## Olympic-sized learning

While the 2018 Winter Olympic Games are taking place thousands of miles away, your child can earn a "medal" in learning at home. Turn Olympic magic into educational gold with these suggestions.

### Reading

Speed skating, ski jumping, luge... which Winter Olympics sports does your youngster enjoy watching? Head to the library together to pick out books about their history, the rules, and how the athletes train. *Idea:* Hold a "reading Olympics." Let family members count the books they read in February. At the end of the month, everyone can award medals to their three favorites.

### Math

Your child will practice gathering, recording, and calculating data to find out which of his favorite countries wins the most medals. Encourage him to divide poster board into four columns: "Country," "Gold," "Silver," "Bronze." In column one, he can list teams he'd like

to follow. Every day, have him check a newspaper or [olympic.org](http://olympic.org) and add tally marks for each country's medals. After the Olympics end, he can total them up to see who got the most in each category.

### Social studies

Where in the world do the Olympic athletes come from? To explore geography, help your youngster use a map to find countries represented in the Olympics. He might put star stickers on the countries on a wall map. Or let him print out a world map and make a dot on each competing country.♥



## Decisions, decisions

Learning to make smaller decisions now will prepare your youngster to make bigger ones later. Here are ways to build her decision-making skills:

- Hearing you think through your choices gives your child an example to follow. You might say, "I'd like to visit Aunt Sue tonight, but then I might not finish this proposal for work. I'll go Saturday instead."
- When possible, give your youngster two to three specific options. That way, she can make a decision without feeling overwhelmed. *Example:* "Do you want to sweep or dust?" rather than "Which chore would you prefer to do?"♥



## An anti-bullying attitude

Having a positive attitude toward others can help to keep your youngster from participating in bullying. With these ideas, she'll be more apt to be kind to others and want them to feel included.

**1. Watch your words.** Let your youngster know you expect her to speak kindly. Before she says something she's unsure about, she could ask herself if she would want *you* to hear it. If she overhears another

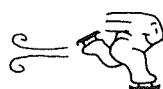


student calling a classmate names or gossiping, she could counter the unkind words with nice ones. ("I hear you're really good at gymnastics.")

### 2. Accept everyone.

Leaving people out on purpose is a form of bullying. Suggest that your child look for chances to make others feel that they belong. For example, she might ask to

join someone who normally sits alone on the bus. Or she could invite a new student to her birthday party. She'll see how good it feels to make someone's day—and perhaps she'll even gain a friend!♥



## ACTIVITY CORNER

### Inspired by art

Art unleashes your child's imagination and lets him practice fine-motor skills. Try these tips to encourage him to experiment.



### Use natural supplies

Challenge your youngster to find free art materials right in your backyard! For instance, he might use sticks or feathers as paintbrushes. Or he could draw on rocks with colored chalk.

### Try new formats

Suggest that your child arrange objects (toys, fruits) on a table and sketch a *still life*. Or go outdoors where he can paint a *landscape* of natural scenery like trees or a pond. If he wants to draw a *portrait*, he could ask a family member to pose—or look in a mirror and create a self-portrait.♥

## PARENT TO PARENT

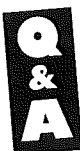
### Safe to make mistakes

My third grader, Mark, gets discouraged when he can't do something correctly right away. While he was practicing his typing skills, he said, "Forget it, I'm no good at this," and walked away from the computer.

I told Mark that mistakes are part of learning. I admitted that when I was his age, I wanted to quit the violin because I couldn't get the notes right on my favorite piece. Luckily, the school music teacher encouraged me to continue, and Mark knows that I enjoy playing the violin to this day.

To show Mark his mistakes were "stepping-stones," I drew circles across a sheet of paper. Each time he made a mistake while typing, I suggested he cross out a stepping-stone and start the sentence again. I knew that if he kept trying, he'd type an error-free sentence before he got to the last stone—and I was right.

Now Mark has a way to track his progress with typing and other things that require persistence.♥



## Study with a pencil in hand

**Q:** When my daughter studies for a test, she simply reads through her notes or textbook chapter once and announces she's finished. How can I help her study more effectively?

**A:** Reading is an important part of studying. But writing and drawing can help cement the information in her mind—in fun and interesting ways.

For example, if she's studying a textbook chapter, she could write answers to

the end-of-chapter questions or even design her own quiz. When she studies with a classmate, they might write questions on index cards and play "quiz show."

Sketching pictures is another good study strategy. To prepare for a test on planets, she can draw and label the solar system. Or she could draw pizzas and write fractions on the slices while studying for a math test.♥



## OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators,  
a division of CCH Incorporated  
128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630  
800-394-5052 • [rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com](mailto:rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com)  
[www.rfeonline.com](http://www.rfeonline.com)  
ISSN 1540-5621