



Helping Langley preschoolers develop a love of reading – one free book at a time!

Little Readers PRESCHOOL BOOK CLUB

News for Parents

June 2009

Website: www.littlereadersbookclub.ca

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"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."

George Bernard Shaw

Dear Parents of Little Reader Book Club Members;



June Updates:

- **Great News!** We have a wonderful new sponsor! **TAG Construction** has made an extremely generous donation to our Little Readers Program. We are so thankful to our local Langley businesses that are willing to support our work. TAG's donation helps ensure that we can continue to serve Langley's preschoolers without charging for membership. Thank you TAG!!
- **Summer Deliveries:** As most of our deliveries are completed through the school district mail, and school is not in session during the summer, books will not be sent out to our members in either July or August. All **book deliveries** will resume in September. See you then!
- **Birthday Books:** If your little one celebrates a **birthday** in July or August, his/her birthday book will be included with this month's delivery. Happy summer birthdays!
- **Moving? Changing Schools?** If your child's registration information will be changing over the summer, could you please email us with your updates (e.g. new school, new e-mail)? Thanks!



Literacy Tips for Parents of Club Members:

Summer is the perfect time to relax, have fun and play games with your little one! This month's literacy tips come from www.familyeducation.com - a website which offers parents great ideas to get involved with their children's learning through fun and entertaining family activities.

Playing games with your child helps promote literacy development by:

- providing preschoolers with a natural opportunity to **practice academic skills** such as counting and matching;
- helping little ones develop their **listening and speaking skills**;
- providing a fun way to work with **numbers** (e.g. card games);
- helping children develop important **memory skills**;
- providing a wonderful **opportunity to model** basic game playing expressions and **vocabulary** (e.g. It's your turn; Do you have a...? Here you go; Good luck; Nice try; Please; Thanks; You're Welcome);
- helping increase a child's ability to focus his/her **attention**.



Playing games with your child also helps develop other skills; playing games:

- enables and encourages your preschooler to practice important **social skills** that he/she will need to play well with other children (e.g. taking turns, sharing dice or a spinner, waiting for a turn, patience, and learning how to be a good sport);
- provides parents with an opportunity to teach their preschooler about "**real-life lessons**" (e.g. rules, success, disappointment, integrity, honesty, and luck) in a fun, meaningful way.



Different types of games are best suited for different stages in a child's development:

- **Babies** - love lap songs (e.g. This Little Piggy, Round and Round the Garden), as they provide face-to-face interaction. Your local library has some great books about games to play with babies and toddlers, including This Little Piggy and Other Rhymes to Sing and Play by Jane Yolen - a lovely book which includes simple games and lap songs to play with babies and toddlers;
- **Toddlers** - enjoy finger plays (e.g. This Little Piggy, Eensy Weensy Spider, Patty Cake);
- **Preschoolers** - are ready for simple board and card games (e.g. Fish, Concentration, CandyLand);
- **Kindergarteners** - love board games (e.g. checkers, Monopoly), hopscotch, hand games (e.g. Rock Paper Scissors, Cat's Cradle), and card games (e.g. War, Crazy Eights, Snap).



Langley School District #35

Sponsored by:



Langley DPAC (District Parent Advisory Council)



Langley School District Foundation



In this month's delivery, you'll find a "Little Readers Travel Pack" to keep in the car. The baggie contains books, games and fun ideas of things to do while traveling this summer. Feel free to supplement your kit with other goodies (e.g. little cars, a safety mirror, finger puppets, a pad of paper, felt pens, etc.), and keep your little one happy during long trips. Happy trails to you!!



Volunteer of the Month:

June's **Volunteer of the Month** is Delphine Renfrew! Delphine does "double duty" for Little Readers at Simonds - she collects the books donated by families within her school and also gets the books ready for deliveries by cleaning them. Delphine has two sons - a little one who is a member of Little Readers as well as an older son - and she works full-time outside of the home. And she still manages to find time to volunteer with our program - inspirational!! In Delphine's words, "I really believe in the program because it is so important to instill enjoyment of reading at an early age. The program has really helped my son. He likes looking at all the interesting books that I volunteer to clean and pick up." After they've completed their work, her boys get to choose 5 books to keep - a nice reward for a job well done! We're so grateful you're part of our team, Delphine! Thanks for all you do!



Community Events for Families:

- **Summer Library Programs:** Is your preschooler a member at the local library? It's never too early to discover the joys of owning a library card! The **Fraser Valley Regional Library** is hosting lots of exciting events over the summer - there's something for everyone! FVRL is hosting a new **Kids' Summer Reading Club** - check it out at <http://kidssrc.bclibrary.ca>. Some of their summer programs include: Babytime; Read-to-Me Club; Saturday Story-time & Craft; and even Canada Day Crafts! To find out about the events at your branch, go to www.fvrl.bc.ca. You'll be amazed at all of the wonderful programs that are available for babies, toddlers and preschoolers over the summer!
- **Langley Community Days Parade & Celebration:** Saturday, June 20th - A wonderful parade including floats, marching bands, horses and more begins at 10 am at 201A Street and finishes at 207th Street and a Celebration from 12 til 4 pm at Douglas Park (Douglas Crescent & 206th Street).
- **Canada Day Celebration:** June 30th & July 1st at McLeod Athletic Park (next to the Langley Airport). Celebrate Canada's birthday in Langley with kiddie rides, The Clyde Ride and fireworks - fun for the whole family! For further information go to: www.langleycanadaday.ca and check out the itinerary. Happy birthday, Canada!
- **Langley's International Festival:** Saturday, August 8th from 10:30 am till 7 pm at Douglas Park (206th Street and Douglas Crescent). An outdoor event that showcases Langley's multicultural society in a fun and entertaining environment. Free admission, music, rides, kids' entertainers, games and crafts. For more information go to www.internationalfestival.ca



Cooking With Kids!



Ice Cream in a Bag Great for kids to make on those hot summer days! Yummy!

You'll Need:

- Ice cream: Combine 1 tbsp sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup whole milk (white or chocolate) and $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp vanilla in a small Ziploc plastic bag - seal carefully
- Salt brine: Shake 6 tbsp coarse salt and 3 cups of ice cubes together in a large Ziploc bag

How to Make It:

1. Place the small bag inside the large bag and seal carefully.
2. SHAKE... SHAKE... SHAKE... In about 10 minutes you will have cold hands and yummy ice cream!
3. Wipe off the top of the small bag (or your ice cream will be salty), open carefully and enjoy!

Wishing you and your family a wonderful summer full of fun and adventures! Till we meet again in September, happy reading!!

