



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

# Little Readers PRESCHOOL BOOK CLUB

# News for Parents

## May 2009

Website: [www.littlereadersbookclub.ca](http://www.littlereadersbookclub.ca)

E-mail: [littlereadersbookclub@shaw.ca](mailto:littlereadersbookclub@shaw.ca)

*"Reading aloud with children is known to be the single most important activity for building the knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read."*

Marilyn Jager Adams

Dear Parents of Little Reader Book Club Members:



Little Readers celebrates a milestone this month - we have been serving Langley preschool children and their families for one year this May! We currently deliver books to over 600 children each month and have over 50 volunteers who play some role in our operation. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers for the important work they do: collecting books from the bins; sorting books into age appropriate categories; cleaning books for deliveries; preparing delivery packages for our members; and promoting our program out in the community. Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of the youngest members of our community! We could not do what we do without each and every one of you!

### Literacy Tips for Parents of Club Members:

Reading to your child is a wonderful way to bond with your child. When reading with your:

#### **Baby** (newborn to 18 months)

- get comfortable, cozy and relaxed - baby sitting right on your lap, or if you are reading to a newborn, baby can be lying on your chest
- make sure your child can see the book the right way up as you read
- read songs, chants and nursery rhyme books - they are wonderful beginning books
- your little one may grab and turn the pages, often faster than we adults are ready for; don't despair, just keep at it!



#### **Toddler** (1 to 3 years old) Keep in mind the 4 points above, plus:

- point at the pictures and say the names of things
- say a word and ask your toddler to point to the item
- ask your toddler to say the names of items in the pages
- spend time talking about the pictures before turning the page



#### **Preschooler** (3 to 5 year-olds)

- give your child lots of time to look at the pictures before you read
- ask questions such as "Where's the...?" and "What do you think she's doing?"
- always follow text with your finger as you read
- with familiar stories, see if your child can join in or finish phrases
- read books that develop their vocabulary and their ear to get them ready to learn to read and write - teachers call this "phonemic awareness" - understanding spoken language by becoming aware of the sounds and patterns of language (e.g. letter sounds, rhyming words)



This month's literacy tips for parents come from "The Child's Literacy Center" at [www.childliteracy.com](http://www.childliteracy.com).

Sponsored by:



Langley School District #35

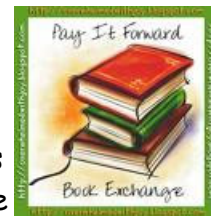


Langley DPAC (District Parent Advisory Council)



Langley School District Foundation

## Volunteer of the Month:



May's Volunteer of the Month is Lacey Bishop! Lacey is a mom of seven, and two of her children are enrolled in our book club. Lacey has gone far beyond her volunteer duties as Shortreed's bin emptier; last month she completed her own personal book drive for Little Readers. In Lacey's words, "When I heard about the book drive and how many members we now have, I knew I had to step up and give back. I sent out emails to everyone I could think of and drove to many places to pick up books to be donated. I did this to *"Pay it Forward."* I love to read and have passed down that love to my children and I believe every child should have many books, and that is why I got involved with this program." Lacey's efforts resulted in 4 huge boxes of beautiful books which will be distributed to little ones in Langley. Thank you for your big heart and willingness to go above and beyond, Lacey! We're very fortunate to have you on our team!



## District Happenings:

- **CHILD Day:** Shortreed Elementary (27330-28th Ave) is holding a regional **CHILD Day** (Children's Health, Information, Learning & Development Day) on **Tuesday, May 12th from 9 til 11 a.m.** CHILD Day hosts a wealth of knowledge about children, all together under one roof; health and child development specialists in speech, language, nutrition/allergies and behaviour, as well as an immunization clinic all come to the regional school for an entire morning. Pick up **FREE** resources for families of children 0-6 years. There is child-minding available for this CHILD Day session. Parents from ALL Langley regions are welcome. Hope to see you there!



## Community Events for Families:

- **Cloverdale Parade:** Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. (176<sup>th</sup> Street & 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue) Everyone loves a parade! Highlights of this one include clowns, floats, and horses! Yee haw!!
- **Fort Langley May Day Parade:** Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. (Glover Road & 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue) Marching bands, the Vancouver Police motorcycle drill team and lots of wonderful floats! Kiddie rides and Maypole dancing near Fort Langley Historic Park afterwards. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the 87<sup>th</sup> year of this fun family May Day tradition in the Historic Village of Fort Langley.



## Cooking With Kids

**Crunchy Homemade Granola** A sweet and crunchy treat that little ones can help make, and then serve to their mom for breakfast in bed on Mother's Day!

- In a large mixing bowl, **stir together:** 4 cups rolled oats, 1 cup wheat germ, 1 cup of slivered almonds, 1/4 cup brown sugar, 1 tsp cinnamon, 1/4 tsp salt
- **Combine:** 1/3 cup vegetable oil, 1/3 cup honey, 1/3 cup apple juice
- Stir the dry and wet ingredients together, then **spread** evenly on a cookie sheet.
- **Bake** the granola at 300° for 40 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes.
- **Cool** completely, then stir in 1 cup of dried cranberries or your favourite dried fruit.
- **Store** in an airtight container. Makes 7 cups of granola.



Super served with fruit and milk for breakfast, stirred into yogurt or sprinkled on ice cream. Yummy!