



**Little Readers  
PRESCHOOL BOOK CLUB**

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

**News for Parents**

**September 2009**

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

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*"Many things we need can wait. The child cannot. Now is the time his bones are formed, his mind developed. To him we cannot say tomorrow, his name is today."*

Gabriela Mistral (Nobel Prize winner)



Dear Parents of Little Reader Book Club Members;

WELCOME BACK! We're so glad to be up and running again! Our book depot is filled with thousands of wonderful children's books donated by Langley families, and we can hardly wait to share them with you! If you are a new member of our program, welcome! If you are a returning member, we hope you continue to enjoy the books you receive throughout the coming year. Happy reading with your child!

**Literacy Tips for Parents of Club Members:**



- **Reading Websites for Children:** The internet is full of websites targeted at preschoolers. Parents often ask are they educational or entertainment? Is the internet "good" for preschoolers? While nothing can replace face-to-face interaction between caregiver and child in developing a love of books and reading, there are some excellent interactive websites which can supplement your child's learning. **Reading is Fundamental** ([www.rif.org](http://www.rif.org)) is an amazing website for preschoolers and their parents - complete with nursery rhymes, finger plays, songs to sing along with and even books read by authors (eg. Brown Bear read by Eric Carle himself!). It also has an excellent section for parents - we've enclosed their "Top 10 Tips for Parents of Young Children." **Starfall** is an equally excellent website dedicated to "fun with phonics" and helping little ones discover the joys of reading. Check them out at [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com) - lots of fun!
- **All Aboard for Kindergarten:** This Fall, the **Fraser Valley Regional Library** will continue to sponsor "All Aboard for Kindergarten" for 5 and 6 year olds. If you have a child in Kindergarten, he/she should receive a pamphlet from his/her teacher sometime in September outlining this wonderful program. If your child is not yet of Kindergarten age, he/she can still benefit from the ideas and tips offered through the program's newsletter at [www.fvrl.bc.ca](http://www.fvrl.bc.ca) (click on the "PLAY" icon and then on "All Aboard for Kindergarten").



**Volunteer of the Month**

September's Volunteer of the Month is Holly Wiebe! Holly has been helping with our program since last Fall; she empties the book bin at North Otter Elementary and also cleans all of the books donated by the families from North Otter. Although Holly's daughter has "graduated" from Little Readers, we are absolutely thrilled that she is willing to continue to share some of her valuable time with us. One of the reasons Holly enjoys helping with the book club is that "I find the odd book that used to be my favorite



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growing up. Most of the time I had forgotten all about those books but as soon as I see the cover, the memories come back." It's wonderful to be able to share the books and stories we've enjoyed as a child with our own children! Thanks for all you do, Holly! We're so glad you're part of our team!



## How Can We Help with the Club?

Our program is run by volunteers and as our membership grows, so does our need for help. We have attached a list of possible ways our Little Reader families can contribute to our program. E-mail us at [littlereadersbookclub@shaw.ca](mailto:littlereadersbookclub@shaw.ca) if one of our **volunteer opportunities** is of interest to you or someone you know. If you would be able to help out with our program, we'd love to have you as part of our team!



## District Happenings:

- **Your Local StrongStart Centre:** Come on out and visit one of Langley's StrongStart Centres! StrongStart Centres are located at **West Langley, Parkside, Douglas Park, , Langley Meadows, Nicomekl, and Simonds Elementary Schools** and offer wonderful opportunities for preschoolers (newborn to 5) and their parents to sing, play, create and learn together, 5 days a week - and it's free! Further information about StrongStart programs, locations and start times are available at [www.sd35.bc.ca](http://www.sd35.bc.ca) (click on "Parents" at the top of the homepage and then "Early Learning").
- **CHILD Days!** Please find attached a copy of the schedule for 2009/10 CHILD Days. Parents of preschoolers are welcome to attend one or all CHILD Days! Hope to see you there!

## Community Events for Families:

- **BC Rivers Day Community Festival:** Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 11 am - 4 pm at Williams Park (238<sup>th</sup> St and 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue). Free family event including activities such as gold panning, face painting, birdhouse building and tree planting. Should be lots of fun!
- **Fort Langley Cranberry Festival:** Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 9 am - 5 pm in the village of Fort Langley. A pancake breakfast, live music, entertainers... fun for the whole family! For more information visit [www.cranberryfest.ca](http://www.cranberryfest.ca)



## Cooking With Kids

Spend some time with your kids in the kitchen every day - talking, laughing and even teaching them about roles and responsibilities. The kitchen is a natural place for little ones to learn to count and measure. Preschoolers can wash fruits and veggies, and cut up tender fruits with table knives. Older children can break and beat eggs, and measure out ingredients. Clean-up is the perfect time to model completing a project from beginning to end. Most importantly, have fun and enjoy time well spent together!

**Yummy Apple Crisp** Lovely on a cool autumn day, served up warm with some ice cream!

- **Topping:** 1/2 cup flour; 1/2 cup brown sugar; 1 teaspoon cinnamon; 1/2 cup rolled oats; 1/3 cup margarine
- Mix all the topping ingredients until the mixture is crumbly. Set aside.
- **Filling:** 6 cups apples (peeled, cored, and cut into 1 inch chunks - cutting up apples with a butter knife is a perfect job for a little one!); 1 cup fresh or frozen blackberries or raspberries (optional); 3 tablespoons sugar; 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- Place the apple chunks in a large bowl, along with the berries (if using) and toss with the sugar and lemon juice. Transfer to a buttered 8x8 baking dish.
- Spread the topping evenly over the apples.
- Bake at 375 degrees for 30-40 minutes or until the topping is golden brown. Yummy!

