

Prince Albert Literacy Network

# Prince Albert Literacy Network

## Family Literacy Focus

W I N T E R 2 0 1 0

### Family Literacy Day is January 27th

Family Literacy Day is quickly approaching and schools, childcare centers, the John M. Cuelenaere Public Library and families all over Prince Albert are getting ready for it. The Prince Albert Literacy Network is hosting 2 contests -a family draw for Family Literacy Day prizes and a school draw for a Family Learning Olympics Event. Prizes supplied by:



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#### Need ideas for Family Literacy Day?



**Check out our collection of Storysacks.** They are great for large or small groups. **Cooking something together;** will increase math, reading, recognition, and listening skills as you mix, measure and talk about what you are cooking.



**Make up a story and write it down, include pictures;** this helps with vocabulary, thought process, sequencing, language development, spelling, writing, drawing and storytelling skills. **Sing and dance together;** to work on vocabulary, balance, memory, coordination, and exercise.

### Storysack Lending Library

**Mondays 12-4pm**  
**54 11th Street East**  
**Storysacks are Free to borrow on a weekly basis**



## Family Literacy Training



Share the Love  
of reading with  
your child as you  
read together  
daily.

**Rhymes, Songs, and Storytelling Facilitator Training will be held Friday, February 26th.** This program trains facilitators to help parents build a collection of activities to use with children to improve language development and parent-child interactions. *Training costs \$100.00.* Facilitators interested in taking this training must have the **Introduction to Family Literacy Workshop**. The **Intro to Family Literacy Workshops** will be offered at no cost on January 29th or February 25th.

Registration forms can be found on our website:

[www.nald.ca/paln](http://www.nald.ca/paln)

Please let us know if you are interested in training for Storysacks, Aboriginal Literacy and Parenting Skills, Plain Language, or Introduction to Family Literacy so that we can schedule the sessions.

If you are trained in Family Literacy Programs and would like to facilitate a program, please contact us .

## What's new on the Website?



New features, pictures, and information have been added to the PALN website.

Check it out and let us know what you think.

[www.nald.ca/paln](http://www.nald.ca/paln)

"We teach our children many things; most of all, we can teach children the fun of growing and learning together."

(My Extraordinary Family)

## Things To Do While You Wait

What do you do to make time go by faster while you and your children wait for *your turn*? Our poster of ideas helps with keeping peace and patience while increasing literacy skills. The poster has been placed around the city in Medical and Immunization Clinics to benefit the families waiting. If you know of a place that could use a poster, please make them a copy. If you need more ideas or posters, please contact us or look for them on the PALN website.

# Things To Do While You Wait!

- ♠ **ABC and 1,2,3-** find items around you that start with each letter of the alphabet. Count what you see.
- ♠ **Make up stories** using the items around you.
- ♠ **Sing songs and rhymes.** Try **Tongue Twisters** - “She sells seashells by the sea shore.”
- ♠ Play “**I Spy**” using shapes, colors, or sizes.
- ♠ Take turns **drawing letters, numbers or shapes** with your finger on each others back or arm and guess what it is.
- ♠ **The smiling game** — use weird expressions to make the other person smile first.
- ♠ Play **Rock, Paper, Scissors!**

For more ideas, contact the

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Or check out our website at:

[www.nald.ca/paln](http://www.nald.ca/paln)



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**The Prince Albert Literacy Network** meets monthly to discuss literacy activities in our area. Meetings are:

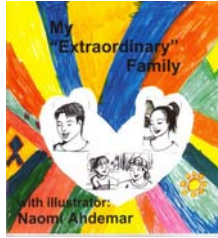
- Held the *first Thursday* of each month
- 4-6 pm at the Bison Café  
1210 Central Avenue.

**Everyone is welcome to attend!**

## Newcomers' Focus Group

*Bookmates Manitoba* will be holding a focus group with *Newcomers to Canada* and agencies that support them. From this group, a family literacy program will be developed to meet the specific needs of newcomer families and a local training will be held *Fall 2010*. Please contact us if you would like to take part or would like more information.

## My Extraordinary Family



Written by participants of the Open Doors to Family Literacy Project in 1989, this book celebrates different family literacy activities we can do within our homes. It highlights five points for helping young children learn.

1. **Talk** about what you are doing.
2. **Look** your child in the eyes. **Listen** as your child talks.
3. **Read** to your child **each day**. Then **talk** about the story.
4. **Praise** your child.
5. **Share** one new word, song, craft or activity each day.

The book was reprinted and re-launched at the PA LN's 20th Anniversary celebration in Sept. 2009. **The book is available from PALN for \$5.00/copy.**

## Book Share Idea

### **"Snowballs" by Lois Ehlert**

This is a simple story about what one person does when it finally snows.

#### **Looking at the Book:**

- How many snow-people were created? Can you name them all?
- Can you find all the "good stuff" that was put on the snowmen?
- How many animals and birds can you find in the book?

#### **Talking about the Story:**

- Read the pages about snow and talk about it with your child. What other kinds of weather do we have?
- What do we wear when we go outside in the winter-time? Do snowmen and animals dress the same as we do? Why?
- What do animals eat during the winter? What are the animals in the book eating?

#### **Things to Do:**

- Go outside to make snowmen, snow forts, snow angels, tracks in the snow, feed the birds and animals, slide down a hill, etc. Enjoy some warm soup or hot chocolate when you come inside.
- Make snowmen out of marshmallows and decorate them.

