

CO-OP CAPERS

The Newsletter of the Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool

CO-OP CALENDAR

12/1 (R)	December Tuition payment due
12/10 (Sa)	Co-op Barnes and Noble Day
12/15 (R)	Holiday Open House: 4 Day 4's and 5's; 2 Day AM 3's; 2 Day 2's
12/16 (F)	Holiday Open House: 1 Day 2's; 3 Day 3's; both 3 Day 4's
12/19—1/2 (M-M)	NO SCHOOL—Winter Vacation
1/1/13 (Su)	January Tuition payment due
1/3/13 (T)	School reopens
1/16 (M)	NO SCHOOL—Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Co-op's "First Ever" February FUNraiser
When: Saturday, February 11, 2012
Time: 7:00 pm—10:00pm
Where: The Williamsburg Community Building, 401 North Boundry Street

Why: This year we are dedicating the annual fundraising event to celebrating the relationships which help to make co-op a leader in early childhood education. The evening will feature heavy hors d'oeuvres by Second Street Bistro Executive Chef Chris Long (co-op dad), a short live auction, dancing, raffles, and most importantly, a wonderful time with great friends.

Visit the new co-op blog coopplayandlearn.blogspot.com to learn about: [Upcoming Events](#), [Co-op Calendar](#), [Event Tickets and Donations](#), [Business Directory](#), [*Sponsorships AND MUCH MORE!](#)
And remember to like us on Facebook!

***If you know of any businesses that might like to sponsor our event, please contact Lauri Wawersik at lwawers1@gmail.com**

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE ON FEBRUARY 11, 2012!

Deadlines for submissions to Co-op Capers are the 25th of each month, except December, which is the 15th.

Please contact Lorelee Clark at 258-3254 for further information.

We welcome news of local opportunities for family activities and/or any parent- or child-related materials. Submissions via e-mail: loralee13@verizon.net

Save the Date!
Santa Claus is coming to town!
 Join us for the 3rd annual
 JWCW Breakfast with Santa.

Saturday, December 10, 2011
 The Williamsburg Hospitality House
 415 Richmond Road, Williamsburg VA

*Includes a full
 breakfast buffet,
 complimentary
 family photo from
 C. Ritchie Photography,
 crafts, dancing,
 carolers, and new
 this year- festival
 of wreaths sale!*

Seatings:
 8:00am & 11:00am



Adults - \$20.00 • Children (3-10) - \$16.00
 Children (2 & under) - \$8.00

Tickets go on sale on October 29, 2011 at www.williamsburgjuniors.org.

Proudly brought to you by the
 Junior Woman's Club of Williamsburg.
 All proceeds benefit local charities.

**For
 after
 the
 holidays
 are
 over...**

Dear _____,

Thank you very much for the

you gave me! I really like it because

Thanks for thinking of me, and I hope
 you like this picture I colored for you!

Happy New Year,



copyright 2009 nancy bersner - www.kiddiblog.org

Gearing up for Holiday Shopping?

Co-Op's Barnes and Noble Day is
 Saturday, December 10th.

Present the voucher
 you'll receive from Co-Op
 and we'll receive
 a percentage of the sale—
 two great gifts at one time!

Ho, ho, ho!

BARNES & NOBLE
 BOOKSELLERS

Family Fun Ideas



Simple Games for Passing the Time

www.makeandtakes.com

Rhyme Time: I usually start by having my kids give me a word like, “blue”. Then I show them how to rhyme it by choosing the word, “shoe”. I’m the one rhyming for a while, until they hear how it works and are ready to try. Then I give the word and they try to rhyme it. If I say “red”, they may say “blue”. I try to explain that although red and blue are colors together, they don’t have the same sound in their words. They need to be “same, same”, as we call it. It’s important to remember that when kids are just learning to hear and recognize rhyming words, even the silliest nonsense words can be used. You may be tempted to correct your little ones, but if they make up silly words it’s okay as they’re just getting used to the idea that rhyming words have the same ending sounds. Then as they get better, try to ask them to only rhyme with “real” words. As their comprehension grows, they’ll understand this more.

Animal Guessing Game: Each person takes a turn saying an animal sound, then the others try to guess. You can start with animals that live on a farm, move onto a jungle, or in the ocean. Then, once you’ve gone through 20 or so, start all over. Or, play this by describing an animal with only 3 clues, then let them try to guess. If they can’t guess the correct animal, give another clue or you can always give the sound it makes.

I Spy With My Little Eye: The person who is “it” chooses an object in the room they can see. Then they say “I spy with my little eye, something blue”. The rest of the group takes turns making a guess at the object. If they have trouble, ask for another clue. This is a great game to play with kids who are just learning simple concepts like shapes, colors, and letter.



Random Ideas

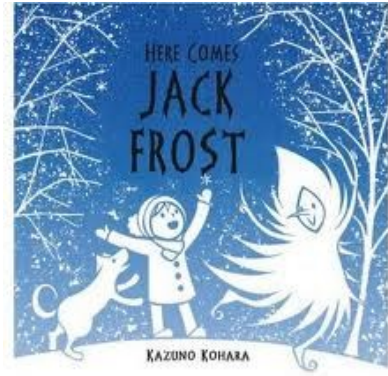
- Gather several pairs of mittens. Sort them by size, color, design, left hand, right hand, etc.
- Make a 'tent' using blankets draped over a table or chairs. Pretend it is a bear cave and you are a bear getting ready to hibernate.
- Use white clay to make tiny snow people. Embellish with small twigs, pebbles, chenille stems, scrap material, etc.
- Make a pin the nose on the snowman game. Play by seeing who, blindfolded, can pin a paper carrot nose closest to where it belongs.
- Trace your winter boots, gloves, mittens, hats, etc and color them.
- Design your own snowflakes using white play dough and with silver glitter mixed into it.

The Drawing Game:

Each person, regardless of age or artistic ability, gets a piece of paper and a pencil. They draw one part of an animal (such as eyes) and the paper is then passed to the player on the right. (So, if there are 3 people playing there will be 3 pieces of paper being passed around.) The next player adds to the animal part already drawn (add head to the eyes already drawn) and the paper is passed again. The game continues until the paper arrives back to the original artist. It is funny to see what your original picture turned out to be and show off pictures to the other artists. (No one can erase another artists’ work.)

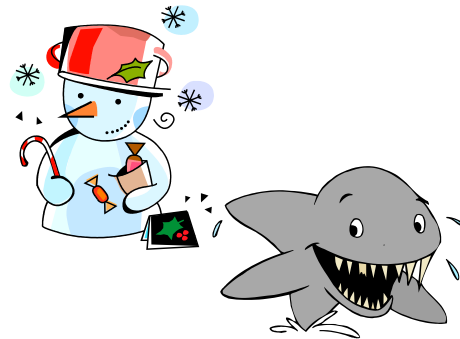
Jack Frost

Where did you get that little red nose?
Jack Frost kissed it I suppose.
He kissed it once. He kissed it twice.
Poor little nose it's as cold as ice!

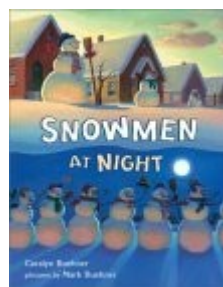
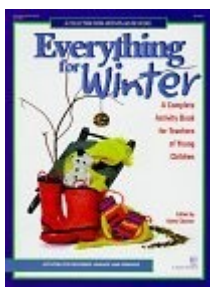
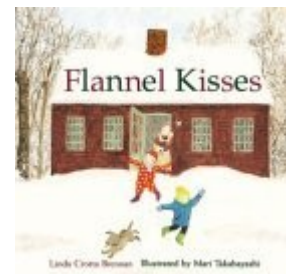
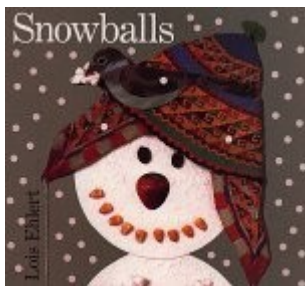


Q. Where does a snowman keep his money?
A. In a snow bank.

Q. What do you get if cross a snowman and a shark?
A. Frost bite!



WINTER BOOKS TO CHECK OUT...



Handmade Craft Kits

These handmade craft kits are great for stocking stuffers or for children to put together to give to their friends.

They're also good to have on hand as a special surprise to pull out when things are getting difficult...perhaps those holiday get-togethers and lunches coming up!

Wooden spoon puppet gift set

Our wooden spoon puppets remain one of the most popular crafts we've ever done. Put all the supplies together in a cute package and you've got a simple and creative gift with heaps of appeal.

You will need

1. two wooden spoons
2. small tape dispenser
3. two squares of fabric
4. two rubber bands
5. two or three colored markers
6. wool and/or curling ribbon for hair
7. gift box/container and supplies to decorate it

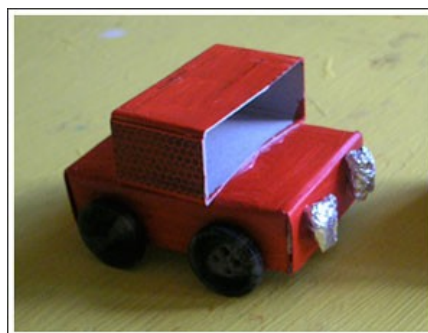


Match box car gift set

Little car lovers will love to make their own fleet of vehicles using this simple and very effective match box technique.

You will need

1. two match boxes
2. two sets of four buttons
3. two thick markers in contrasting colors
4. small tube of glue
5. small pieces of aluminum foil
6. gift box/container and supplies to decorate it



—kidscraftweekly.com

Earth Corner



Spend 15 minutes taking a walk outside and turn it into a mini-adventure, whatever the weather!

Depending on where you live in the world here are some different ideas of ways you can make your outside time into a fun play time!

Winter scavenger hunt

How many of these winter treasures can you find? Whatever is growing on a tree (such as leaves, branches, flowers and seeds), the tree still needs it. Please collect only from the woodland floor.

- Spiky, shiny holly leaves
- Long tickly pine needles
- Tough, smooth leaves of an evergreen plant such as box
- Smooth bark of a cherry tree, with its horizontal stripes
- Bumpy, jigsaw pattern bark of a Scots pine
- Rough oak bark with its deep vertical cracks
- A green cone still to ripen on the tree (please leave it there)
- A ripe cone with open bracts
- A cone shorter than your thumb
- Seed catkins on birch trees
- A leaf skeleton
- A twig with two or three different species of lichen



Build an outside structure using branches and leaves.

Search for fairies/ elves under branches and in hidey holes in trees!

Play hide and seek.

Take a basket for some treasure hunting!

Throw and kick leaves and go searching for the crunchiest one possible!

Climb trees.

Make a snowman or snow Animal.

Build an igloo or snow cave.

Make some snow tracks and follow them.

Take a spray bottle filled with diluted paint in water and make snow art!

Take umbrellas and dance in the rain.

Jump in puddles with boots on.

Do some drawings with markers then take them out to watch the rain make them into watercolors!

There's no such thing as bad weather—just inappropriate clothing!

—theimaginationtree.com

Crafty Kids

I have named these owls Wilomena, Prudence, Albert, Martin, Orson, Gertrude and Herbert. I am going to print them on cardstock paper, glue them to popsicle sticks and they are going to sing Christmas songs to my kids.

What are you going to do with them?

Glitter Scene

Have your children paint a winter scene on black paper using glue. Before the glue dries sprinkle glitter all over it. This makes a lovely winter scene.

Suddenly Snowy

Have your children create a summer scene. Then once they are done give them white paint and let them make it a winter one.



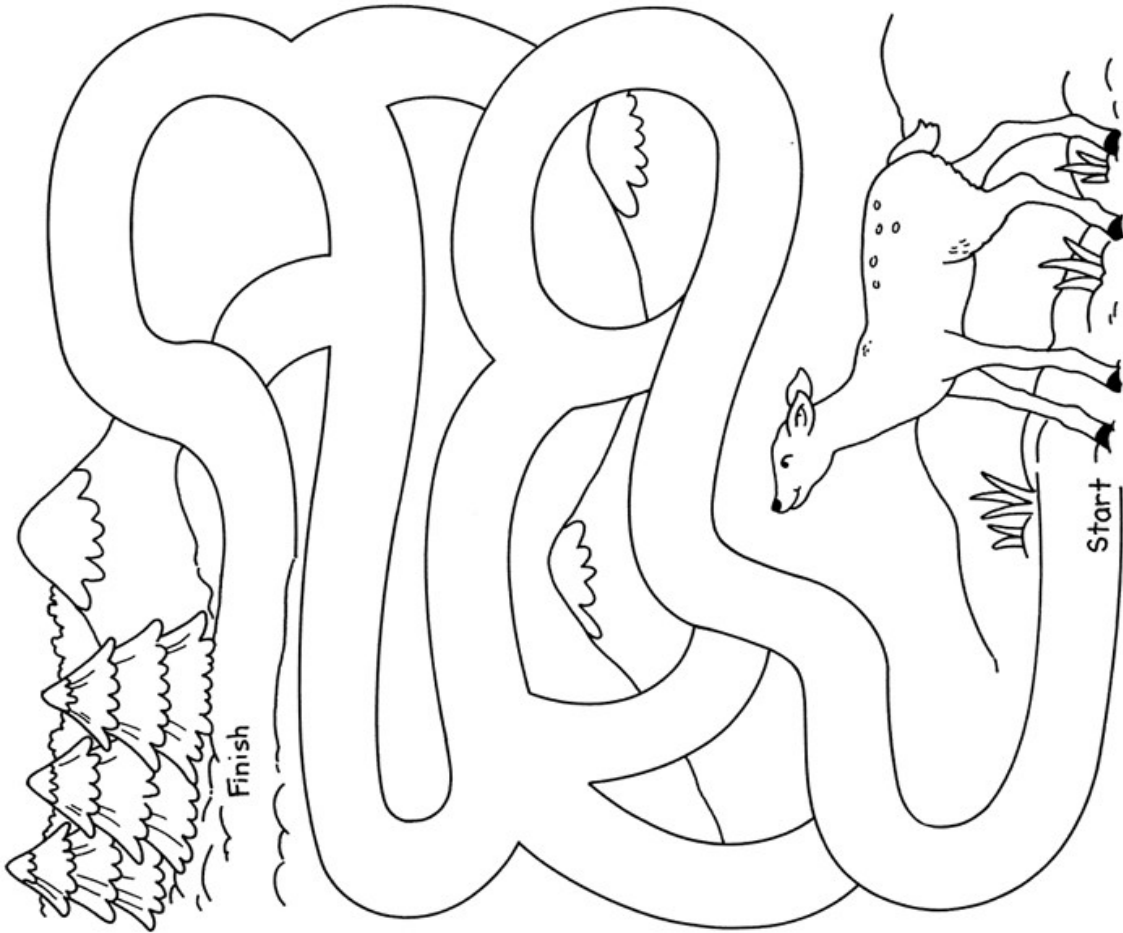
Cut out this stocking filled with gifts and make a holiday card!



Color and cut out for more fun!



Wouldn't this make a nice ornament or tag? Is he wearing a colorful sweater or scarf? Any ornaments hanging from his antlers?

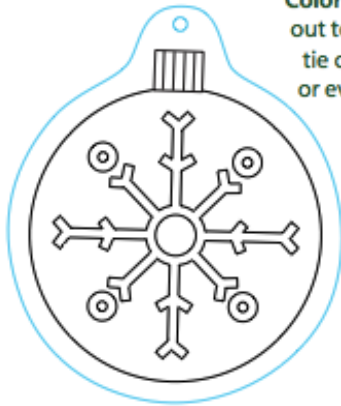


Can you take this deer along the path to reach the forest? Color the path orange.

These make nice ornaments or gift tags; a great activity for when you have to sit in front of the computer, or are dealing with the dozens of other holiday activities that are “Mommy Only.”

Color and make your own
CHRISTMAS
ORNAMENTS!

Color these in and then have a grown-up help cut them out to make these into ornaments. Put them on a tree, tie onto your backpack, hang one from a door knob, or even tie a couple onto the handlebars of your bike!



Poke a hole at the top of each ornament with a pen or pencil. Use string or a twist tie from a loaf of bread to complete your ornament.

Works best printed on thicker paper!

