



Ontario Early Years News Haliburton County



Haliburton Early Learning Centre

December 2011



December Exploring the Sights and Sounds of Christmas can provide fun and easy ways to include early learning. Skills practiced can be fine motor, colour, letter and number recognition and opportunities to develop social skills and sensory awareness.

Christmas Party - December 20 Join us for a festive morning of crafts and activities. Santa will be visiting to meet with the children and enjoy milk & cookies too! Please bring a wrapped book with your child's name on it. If you wish, you may also bring a healthy or fun snack to share. Sign-up for this special day with staff.

January Family Literacy is Everyday! Join us each week for fun, games, songs and crafts to celebrate selected children's books. Activities are sure to help bring the love of books into your child's life. Ask about our take home activity pages to continue the learning at home.

February Haliburton's Youngest Fine Arts Students! This month is dedicated to the wonders of exploring arts and creations through the use of our senses. You may want to bring extra clothes with you as some days will be messy!



Valentine's Day Party - February 14 Let's celebrate Valentine's Day by showing love and appreciation to family and friends through special treats and gifts to make. Dress in pink or red for added fun!

Haliburton Centre Hours

Monday through Thursday
9:30 am. to 1:00 pm. for songs, crafts, early learning activities and free play. Closed the last Thursday of the month.

Call Brenda or Wendy at **457-2989** for information.

Minden Centre Hours

Monday through Thursday
9:30 am. to 1:00 pm. for songs, crafts, early learning activities and free play. Closed the last Thursday of the month.

Call Julie or Jan at **286-1770** for information.

Children's Learning Centre

Monday to Friday Childcare
Preschool & Toddler programs
7:30 am.- 5:45 pm.
After School program at Archie
Stouffer School 3:30 to 5:45
Call Gord at **286-4074**
16 Prentice St. Minden

Parenting Programs and Workshops or Early Literacy

Monday to Friday. Call Brenda or Bev at **286-4625**

Closed for Christmas

Our last day open before Christmas will be December 21.

We will re-open on January 9 with our new hours.

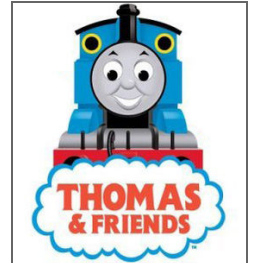
Minden Early Learning Centre

Ontario Early Years



Christmas Celebrations Our Annual Potluck Party will be held on **Wed. December 21**. We have lots of fun activities planned such as decorating gingerbread men, singing Christmas songs and a scavenger hunt. Please bring a wrapped book for your child to receive from Santa. This year we are also accepting donations for the Minden Food Bank. Please sign up by Dec. 19th.

Celebrate Family Literacy Day at the Minden OEYC On Saturday January 28, we will be having "Thomas the Train Day" from 10 am to noon. There will be train books, crafts, a healthy snack and a visit by Doug Stephen and his model train display featuring Thomas the Train and friends. For families with children ages 0-6. (older siblings welcome)



Baby Mornings in Minden starting January 24 for 6 weeks. We will have special programming for parents with babies each Tuesday from 10-11 am. Topics could include infant massage, making baby food, sleep routines and book making. Let us know your ideas and we will try to arrange it! In Partnership with Point in Time .

Our Hours are Changing!! The results of our Hours Open survey are in. Some parents preferred us to open earlier because of the time they are in town. We have also noticed in Minden, because of the younger ages of the children attending, that fewer families were staying until 1 pm. Enough families chose the earlier opening time to make it worth trying out. **So as of January 2012, we will open at 9 am and close at 12:30 pm.** We will try this until the end of June to give everyone enough time to adjust to the new hours and then we will decide if this will continue in September.

Reminder- The OEYC is a peanut aware zone!

Please do not bring peanuts or peanut products to the centre.



Wilberforce Play and Learn

Our Christmas Party will be held on Dec. 15th. Our literacy specialist Bev Jackson will be joining us and we will be creating special Christmas books to take home. There will also be a Christmas themed scavenger hunt and circle time.

We will return on January 19th. Happy New Year!!



The Reading Rocket lands in Wilberforce! This take home reading program starts in January. Choose a different book (or two) to take home each visit, along with an activity card of ideas to expand your reading experience. The goal is to make reading aloud interesting, interactive, and more enjoyable with your children. Complete eight books and receive a gift for your child.

Programs for Parents and Children

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Looking for a program to enjoy with your child or gain new information to assist with parenting? Take a look below at all the great programs taking place winter 2012.

Visit our OEYC centres for more information displayed through our community news boards or borrow a parenting book from our lending library to gain great tips and ideas around parenting.



Programs Happening



Programs to Look for in the New Year...

Visit the Haliburton/Minden OEYC for more information

Family Math

Easy to Love...Hard to Discipline

Fit Kids

Baby Mornings

Parent-Child Mother Goose

Infant Massage

Family Swim

Community Partners

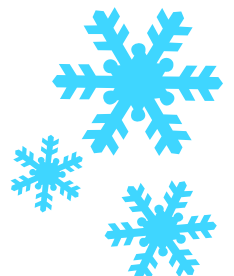
OEYC will continue to host several other programs/workshops through community partnerships such as:

- Parent Talk Times based on parents requests within our OEYC centre
Point in Time Centre for Children Youth and Parents
- Pre-natal classes
HKPR District Public Health Unit
- Meet the Nurse
HKPR District Public Health Unit
- Special Delivery Club (CPNP)
SIRCH Community Services

We always appreciate your feedback and suggestions...
If you have something you would like to share or request for programs in Haliburton County please contact:

(705) 286-4625 or oeycparented@bellnet.ca

Winter



Everyday Ways to Support Your Baby's and Toddler's Early Learning

Your baby is learning—about you, himself, and the world around him—from the moment he enters the world. The chart below gives you some ideas of the many ways you can support your child's early learning through your everyday activities.

What's Going On With Your Baby or Toddler	What You Can Do
<p>Language and Communication Babies express their needs and feelings through sounds and cries, body movements, and facial expressions. Your baby will begin using words sometime around 1 year. By the time she is 3, she will be speaking in short (3-5 word) sentences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch and listen to see how your baby communicates what she is thinking and feeling. • Repeat the sounds and words your child uses and have back-and-forth conversations. • Read, sing, and tell stories. These are fun ways to help your child understand the meaning of new words and ideas. • Talk about what you do together—as you play, do errands, or visit friends and family.
<p>Thinking Skills Your child is learning how the world works by playing and exploring. Through play, babies and toddlers learn about how things work and how to be good problem-solvers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to explore toys in different ways—by touching, banging, stacking, shaking. • Turn everyday routines into playful learning moments. For example bath time is a chance to learn about ideas like <i>sinking/floating</i> and <i>wet/dry</i>. • Follow your child's interests. Children learn best through activities that excite them. • Ask your child questions that get him thinking as he nears age 3. For example, when reading a book together, ask <i>Why do you think the girl is laughing?</i>



If you would like more information on how to support your child's development in early literacy, please contact the Early Literacy Specialist, Ontario Early Years - Haliburton Victoria Brock, at 705-286-4625 or 705-324-7900 or email oeycjackson@bellnet.ca