

WHITESIDE COUNTY PARENTS AS TEACHERS

January Parent/Child Activities

These activities are designed for children under age four and their parents, but older children are always welcome.

JUMBLE, RUMBLE, TUMBLE

Date: Friday, January 7

Time: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: Wallace Education Center Gym
Sterling

Watch me move! Children and parents will enjoy gross motor and fine motor activities. This is a great opportunity for parents to visit with other parents and observe their child at play.

Hosted by Sue and Mary

SNOWY DAY FUN

Date: Tuesday, January 11

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Place: Washington School Gym
Sterling

Join us for snowman activities, crafts, music and snacks.

Hosted by Janie

FAMILY NIGHT IN THE GYM

Date: Thursday, January 13

Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Place: Dillon School Gym
Rock Falls

Bring the whole family for an evening of fun on the run in the gym. Children may bring a small riding toy or roller skates if they would like or they may play with the school's equipment.

Hosted by Sandy and Dawn

RIDE IN THE GYM

Date: Tuesday, January 18

Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Place: Prophetstown Elementary Gym
Prophetstown

Bring the whole family for an evening of fun. Children may bring a riding toy and we will have large motor activities available.

Hosted by Laura and Debbie

WINTER STORY HOUR

Date: Thursday, January 20

Time: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Place: Montmorency School
Rock Falls

Join us for a special book, parent-child activities and snack.

Hosted by Linda

RIDE IN THE GYM

Date: Thursday, January 20

Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Place: Northside School Gym
Morrison

Bring the whole family for an evening of fun. Children may bring a riding toy and we will have large motor activities available.

Hosted by Laura and Debbie

AT THE BEACH: A Shared Story Experience

Date: Friday, January 28

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

WHITESIDE COUNTY PARENTS AS TEACHERS

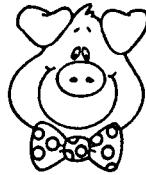
January Center-Based Group Activities For 4 and 5 Year Olds and Their Parents

Parents As Teachers is now offering free monthly group activities in schools throughout Whiteside County for all families with a child 4 or 5 years old who has not yet started kindergarten. You need not be enrolled in Parents As Teachers to participate in these activities.

Debbie Klein, P.A.T. Resource Center Coordinator, will lead parents and their children in activities designed to make learning fun.

P is for Pig

If You Give a Pig a Pancake
will be our featured story.



Parents and children will learn about pigs through a variety of hands-on activities. You and your child will have an opportunity to count pennies for a piggy bank, make a pig snout, identifying foods by their smell, make a mud ball and try a special piggy snack.

P is for Pig will be held in three locations. Please attend the activity that best fits your schedule.

Date: Friday, January 7
Time: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Place: Preschool Room
Tampico Elementary School

Date: Friday, January 7
Time: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Place: Preschool Room

Ride and Play in the Gym

Bring the family for an evening of fun on the run in the gym.

Children may bring a riding toy from home if they would like and we will have large motor activities available. Parents and children will have an opportunity to spend time together playing with a bean bag toss, parachute, basketball, hula hoop and more.

Ride and Play in the Gym will be held in three locations. Please attend the activity that best fits your schedule.

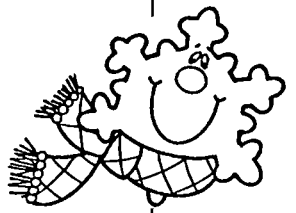

Date: Tuesday, January 18
Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Place: Prophetstown Elementary Gym
Prophetstown

Date: Thursday, January 20
Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Place: Northside School Gym



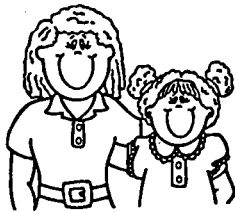
Whiteside County Parents As Teachers

January Lending Library Hours

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Erie The toy lending library in the Erie Elementary School Learning Center will be closed during the month of January.</p>	<p>Morrison A toy lending library is available in Morrison. Please ask Laura about its location and when you may use it.</p>	<p>Prophetstown The toy lending libraries are located in the Pre-school Rooms. You may use them any school day before or after classes or when you attend an activity.</p>	<p>Tampico The toy lending libraries are located in the Pre-school Rooms. You may use them any school day before or after classes or when you attend an activity.</p>		
2	3	4	5	6	
	<p>Wallace library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Debbie</p>	<p>Merrill library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Linda</p>	<p>Merrill library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Debbie</p> <p>Wallace library/center 4 - 6 p.m./Janie</p>	<p>Wallace library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Mary</p>	
9	10	11	12	13	
	<p>Wallace library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Debbie</p>	<p>Merrill library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Linda</p>	<p>Merrill library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Debbie</p>	<p>Wallace library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Sue</p>	
16	17	18	19	20	
	<p>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY LIBRARY CLOSED</p>	<p>Merrill library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Dawn</p>	<p>Merrill library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Debbie</p>	<p>Wallace library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Mary</p>	
23	24	25	26	27	
	<p>Wallace library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Debbie</p>	<p>Merrill library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Sandy</p>	<p>Merrill library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Debbie</p>	<p>Wallace library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Sue</p>	
30	31				
	<p>Wallace library/center 10 a.m.-noon/Debbie</p>				

Bravery

"In all my years of working with parents and children I have never seen one case in which sympathy and understanding increased a child's fears...The bravest child in the doctor's office is the one who has been told, "You will probably be scared and it is all right to cry. I'll hold your hand very tight and it will be over in a minute." With that kind of moral support, there is hardly anything a child can't do!"



When Your Child Drives You Crazy

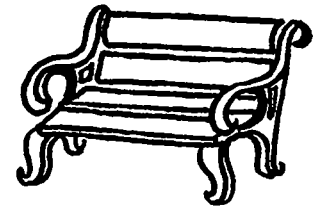
by Eda LeShan

Gary J. Steinert
Regional Supt. of Schools
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Nonprofit Organization
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The Park Bench School of Parenting

Years ago parents got most of their child-rearing information from each other. Articles in the Park Bench School of Parenting are written to revive that custom. If you belong to a parents' group, use these articles as discussion starters. Or ask a friend what he or she would do in a similar situation. Listen to different viewpoints and decide for yourself what's best for your family.



SCARY TV

Oops! You wish he hadn't seen that image flash onto your TV screen. Even a carefully selected show for kids can be interrupted with "late-breaking news. "Planes crash, earthquakes crush homes, sirens wail, people are shot--all before your child's horrified eyes. You're startled, too. There wasn't even time to hit the remote. Now what do you do?

Whether your child sees an unsettling news report, a scary commercial, or catches glimpses of a violent movie, he'll need your help in dealing with it. Here are some suggestions that have worked for other parents.

1. Watch, and listen, for reactions.

Sometimes the expression on your child's face is enough. Other times, your child has questions and will be relieved to talk about them: "Will there be a flood here? If we ride on a train will it crash? What happened to that baby?"

Young children are often uncertain about what's real and what isn't. Can playdough people really

know is that if there's trouble, there will always be someone to take care of her.

2. Point out the helpers.

Mister Rogers once wrote, "When I was a child and would see scary things on the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping'." (*You Are Special*, Penguin Books, 1995). It's true. And it's comforting to see that there are usually a great many people helping.

3. Talk about how it's news because it's unusual.

Even as adults we need to remind ourselves that if something would happen all the time, everywhere, to everyone, it just wouldn't be news.

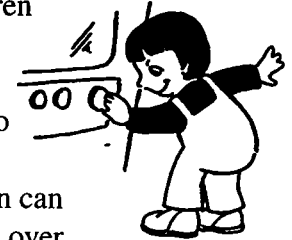
Knowing that "It's on TV because it hardly ever happens," can be a reassuring thought to a child who sees something alarming on the news.

4. Recall what scared you on TV when you were a child.

mentioning that when you were little you sometimes worried about things on TV lets your child know that he's not the only one who feels that way.

5. Let your child play what he's seen.

Play is a young child's way of thinking about what's on her mind. Acting out frightening situations helps children feel more confident. A child who plays out a TV situation can go over and over what she saw in an attempt to understand it. The same is true for pretending about scary commercials or movie previews.



Of course, if playing out a TV event involves knocking down one's little brother, you can step in. Providing small figures or dolls sometimes works as an alternative. Writing down your child's story or having him draw a picture helps, too.

There's often another benefit. Playing gives children the chance to make an alarming event end the way they want it to: The fire truck comes and puts out the fire.