



Match Activity

Handbook

Table of Contents

Welcome Letter.....	3
Introduction.....	4
Fun Places to Visit by Region.....	5
Western, MA.....	6
Central, MA.....	13
North Eastern, MA.....	18
South Eastern, MA & Cape Cod.....	24
Greater Boston.....	30
Site Based Activities.....	36
Recommended Reading	39
Year Round Activities.....	48
Seasonal Activities.....	53
Winter.....	53
Spring /Summer.....	56
Fall.....	59

Dear Reader,

In the fall of 2008, Mass Mentoring Partnership launched its AmeriCorps Ambassadors of Mentoring program as a way to grow and support mentoring programs across the state. While only 11 programs were able to host an Ambassador this year, we wanted our work to be felt at all of the programs in our network. To fulfill this mission, the 2008-2009 Ambassadors have completed three Field Wide Projects. For our first two projects, we hosted Youth Mentoring Day at the State House and June Jamboree, a field day for matches at Framingham State College.

In choosing a third project, we came up with the idea of a Match Activity Handbook. The goal of this book is to provide program staff and mentors with a starting point for planning fun activities, trips and events. While we know the handbook is not inclusive of every activity possible, we hope that it will be a useful tool for all the programs in our network as we continue our work to grow and support mentoring in Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

The 2008-2009 AmeriCorps Ambassadors of Mentoring

Alison Drew
Mass Mentoring Partnership, Boston

Jessica Watro
Boston Partners in Education

Allison Smith
Mass Mentoring Partnership, Boston

Jiselle Velazquez
YOU Inc.

Amanda Plaine
Railroad Street Youth Project

Kira Glassman
Boston Scholars

Amanda Zucker
Sociedad Latina

Lydia Emmons
Sociedad Latina

Christy Silver
Children's Friend and Family Services

Sharon Maylor
Mass Mentoring Partnership, Springfield

Haley Waugh
Lowell Association for the Blind & Girls
Inc.

Wilmary Melo
Family Services Inc., Big Friends Little
Friends

Jennifer McCafferty
Big Brother Big Sisters of Central Mass

Introduction

Welcome to the Match Activity Handbook created by the Americorps Ambassadors of Mentoring. This handbook was created for mentors, mentees and mentoring program staff. It includes activities around all the regions of Massachusetts that are free or low cost, activities for site based programs, and activities for matches to participate in year round and seasonally. It features sections for both community and site based programs throughout Massachusetts.

We hope that this will be a helpful tool for mentors and mentees to use throughout the year. The Ambassadors of Mentoring are driven to sustaining quality mentoring relationships and build the capacity of mentoring programs throughout the state.

How this book is organized:

The information provided in this handbook is intended to reflect the diversity of mentoring programs across the state and the activities matches enjoy together.

- The first section is organized by region of Massachusetts- Western, Central, North Eastern, South Eastern & the Cape, and Greater Boston. There are many free and low cost places for matches to visit.
- The second section focuses on site based programs. This section has conversation topics and links provided for different activities. Also included in this section is a recommended reading list organized by age. Many of these activities would also be great for community based matches to work on together.
- The third section is dedicated to activities that can be done year round. These include indoor and outdoor activities and can be as broad as a nature hike and as specific as helping your mentee obtain a library card.
- The fourth and final section is broken down into seasonal activities and crafts.

We've created the handbook as an electronic tool to make it easy for programs to distribute to mentors. Please feel free to email to mentors and post on your website.

We will be updating this handbook annually with new and exciting opportunities for matches. If you have suggestions for the handbook please contact Alexa Magdalenski at amagdalenski@massmentors.org.

Fun places to visit by region!



Western, MA

Arts & Culture

Berkshire Museum

Location: 39 South St., Pittsfield

Phone: 413-443-7171

Web: www.berkshitemuseum.org

Candlemaking Museum at Yankee Candle

Location: Routes 5 and 10, South Deerfield

Phone: 413-665-2929

Web: www.YankeeCandle.com

Chesterwood

Location: 4 Williamsville Road, Stockbridge

Phone: 413-298-3579

Web: www.chesterwood.org/

*Note: Open Daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 1 to October 31. Children are **FREE**.*

Children's Museum at Holyoke

Location: 444 Dwight St., # 2, Holyoke

Phone: 413-536-5437

Web: www.childrensmuseumholyoke.org

Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden

Location: 21 Edwards St., Springfield

Phone: 413-263 6800

Web: www.catinthehat.org

Dr. Spooky's Animal Museum

Location: 220 Greenfield Rd, South Deerfield

Phone: 413-665-5001

Web: www.drspookys.com

George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum

Location: Quadrangle, State & Chestnut Streets, Springfield

Phone: 413-263-6800

Web: www.springfieldmuseums.org/the_museums/gwv_smith_art/

Magic Wings

Location: 281 Greenfield Road, South Deerfield

Phone Number: 413-665-2805

Website: www.magicwings.com/

Mass MoCa**Location:** 1040 Mass MoCa Way, North Adams**Phone:** 413- MoCA-111**Email:** INFO@MASSMOCA.ORG**Web:** www.massmoca.org/**Springfield Armory National Historic Site****Location:** One Armory Square, Springfield**Phone:** 413-734-8551**Web:** www.nps.gov/spar**Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute****Location:** 225 South St., Williamstown**Phone:** 413-458-2303**Web:** www.clarkart.edu**Tanglewood****Location:** 297 West St., Lenox**Phone:** 413-637-1600**Web:** www.bso.org**The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art****Location:** 125 West Bay Road, Amherst**Phone:** 413-658-1100**Web:** www.carlemuseum.org*Note: FREE***The Norman Rockwell Museum****Location:** 9 Glendale Road, Stockbridge**Phone:** 413-298-4100, ext. 220**Web:** www.nrm.org*Note: FREE for anyone under 18.***The Springfield Quadrangle****Location:** State & Chestnut Streets, Springfield**Phone:** 413-263-6800**Web:** www.springfieldmuseums.org*Note: FREE for Springfield Residents! Combined admission for all 4 museums: \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, \$5 college students, \$3 children 6-17; \$3 extra each for the planetarium and dinosaur hall.***The Titanic Museum****Location:** 208 Main St., Indian Orchard**Phone:** 413-543-4770**Web:** www.titanic1.org*Note: Adults \$4.00, under 12 \$2.00, under 6 free.*

Wistariahurst Museum**Location:** 238 Cabot St., Holyoke**Phone:** 413-534-2216**Web:** www.wistariahurst.org*Note: Admission by donation. Children under 12 free with an adult.***Zeitgest Gallery****Location:** 648 North St., Pittsfield**Phone:** 413-385-0111**Email:** zeitgeistpittsfield@gmail.com**Web:** www.myspace.com/zeitgeistpittsfield**Entertainment****Kid Stuff Springfield****Location:** 1504 Allen St., Springfield**Phone:** 413-782-0057**Web:** www.kidstuffspringfield.com**Six Flags New England****Location:** 1623 Main St., Route 159, Agawam**Phone:** Park Information 413-786-9300 ext. 0; Guest Relations 413-786-9300 ext. 3000**Web:** www.sixflags.com/NewEngland/**Indoor Recreation****Cyr Arena****Location:** 200 Trafton Road, Springfield**Phone:** 413-787-6438**Web:** www.springfieldcityhall.com/Park/cyr.0.html*Note: Public Skating is offered September – April. Children \$4.00, adults \$4.00, skate rental \$4.00.***Fenway Golf****Location:** 112 Allen St., East Longmeadow**Phone:** 413-525-4444**Web:** fenwayfun.com/**Fitzpatrick Ice Skating Rink****Location:** 575 Maple St., Holyoke**Phone:** 413-532-2929**Web:**www.rinktime.com/skating_rinks/ma/henry_j_fitzpatrick_ice_skating_rink_skating_rink_arena_holyoke_ma.cfm

Interskate 91- North**Location:** Hampshire Mall, 367 Russell St., Hadley**Phone:** 413-586-2737**Web:** www.interskate91.com**Kilpatrick Athletic Center****Location:** Bard College at Simon's Rock, 84 Alford Rd., Great Barrington**Phone:** 413-644-4400**Email:** admin@simons-rock.edu**Website:** www.simons-rock.edu/campus-resources/facilities/kilpatrick-athletic-center/**Olympia Ice Skating Arena****Location:** 125 Capital Dr., West Springfield**Phone:** 413-736-8100**Web:** www.olympiaicecenter.com**Pittsfield Boys and Girls Club****Location:** 16 Melville St., Pittsfield**Phone:** 413-448-8258/413-448-8259**Web:** www.boysandgirlsclubofpittsfield.org**Smead Arena at Blunt Park****Location:** 1780 Roosevelt Ave., Springfield**Phone:** 413-781-2599**Outdoor Activities****Berkshire Botanical Gardens****Location:** Intersection Routes 102 & 183, Stockbridge**Phone:** 413-298-3926**Web:** www.berkshirebotanical.org**Forest Park & Zoo****Location:** 302 Sumner Ave., Springfield**Phone:** 413-733-2251**Web:** www.forestparkzoo.com**Frank Newhall Look Memorial Park****Location:** 300 North Main St., Florence**Phone:** 413-584-5457**Web:** www.lookpark.org**Hancock Shaker Village- Baby Animals & Tours****Location:** 1843 W. Housatonic St., Pittsfield**Phone:** 413-443-0188 or 800-817-1137

Web: www.hancockshakervillage.org/accounts/28/homepage

*Note: The Village is open year round with self-guided tours offered mid-April through mid-October and Guided Tours offered from mid-October to mid-April. Children under 12 are **FREE**.*

Hiking in the Berkshires

Location: Various Locations in Western, MA (see website)

Web: <http://www.new-england-vacations-guide.com/hiking-in-the-berkshires.html>

Housatonic River Walk

Location: Great Barrington

Phone: 413-528-3391

Email: river@gbriverwalk.org

Web: www.gbriverwalk.org

*Note: **FREE***

Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort

Location: 37 Corey Road, Route 43, Hancock

Phone: 413-738-5500

Web: www.jiminypeak.com

Pittsfield State Forest

Location: 1041 Cascade St., Pittsfield

Phone: 413-442-8992

Web: www.stateparks.com/pittsfield.html

Robinson State Park

Location: North St., Agawam

Phone: 413-786-2877

Web: www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/central/robn.htm

Rotary Park

Location: Springside Avenue and Brown Street, Pittsfield, MA

Web:

www.boundlessplaygrounds.org/playgrounds/find/playground.php?playground_id=102

The Botanic Garden of Smith College

Location: 15 College Lane, Northampton

Phone: 413-585-2740

Web: www.smith.edu/garden/home.html

Sports & Recreation

Berkshire Dukes

Location: Michaels Road, Hinsdale

Phone: 413-655-8653

Web: www.berkshiredukes.com

John H. Thomas Memorial Swimming Pool

Location: Blunt Park Road, Springfield

Phone: 413-736-7699

Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame

Location: 1150 West Columbus Ave., Springfield

Phone: 413-781-6500 or 877-4HOOPLA

Web: www.hoophall.com

Ray Smead Memorial Ice Skating Rink

Location: 1780 Roosevelt Ave., Springfield

Phone: 413-781-2599

Email: springfield@fmcarenas.com

Springfield Falcons

Location: Springfield Civic Center, 1277 Main St., Springfield

Phone: 413-739-3344

Web: www.falconsahl.com

Volleyball Hall of Fame

Location: Heritage State Park, 444 Dwight St., Holyoke

Phone: 413-563-0926

Web: www.volleyhall.org

Seasonal Events

3rd Thursdays

Location: 70 Allen St., Pittsfield

Phone: 413-499-9348

Web: <http://www.pittsfield-ma.org/subpage.asp?ID=507>

Bright Nights

Location: Summer Ave., Springfield

Phone: 413-733-3800

Web: www.brightnights.org

Note: Wednesday to Sunday- November 25th to December 6th

Nightly-- December 9th to January 2nd

Sunday to Thursday- 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday, Saturday and Holidays- 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Cider Days

Location: Franklin County

Web: www.ciderday.org

Note: Celebrate all things apples with orchard tours, cider making and tastings, workshops and more. Free self-guided orchard tours; admission for other activities varies. Please visit their website for dates and locations.

Pick Your Own Berries, Apples and Pumpkins

Location: Various locations

Web: www.pickyourown.org/massveg.htm

The Big E

Location: 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield

Phone: 413-737-2443

Web: www.thebige.com

Note: Open September 18th to October 4th.

Central, MA

Arts & Culture

Clay Time

Location: 124 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury

Phone Number: 50-798-9950

Website: www.claytimestudio.com

EcoTarium

Location: 222 Harrington Way, Worcester

Phone Number: 508-929-2700

Website: www.ecotarium.org

*Note: **FREE** from 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month. Check out the website to see various programs that they run each month. Additional features are: the planetarium (\$3.50), the explorer train (\$2.50), and the tree canopy walkway (\$7). Go to <http://www.massmuseums.org/coupons.html> for coupons.*

Higgins Armory Museum

Location: 100 Barber Ave., Worcester

Phone number: 508-853-6015

Website: www.higgins.org

Mechanics Hall

Location: 321 Main St., Worcester

Phone Number: 508-752- 5608

Email: info@mechanicshall.org

Old Sturbridge Village

Location: 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge

Phone number: 1- 800-SEE-1830

Website: www.osv.org

Note: Check <http://www.massmuseums.org/coupons.html> for coupon information.

Stage Loft Theatre

Location: 450A Main St., Sturbridge

Phone Number: 508-347-9005

Website: www.stageloft.com

Tower Hill Botanical Garden

Location: 11 French Drive, Boylston

Phone number: 508-869-6111

Website: www.towerhillbg.org

Note: Garden tours available on Sundays only at 2 p.m. There is also a café on the grounds for a light fare. Go to <http://www.massmuseums.org/coupons.html> for coupon information.

Worcester Art Museum**Location:** 55 Salisbury St., Worcester**Phone Number:** 508-799-4406**Website:** www.worcesterart.org*Note: Children under 17 **FREE**. On Saturdays, admission for everyone is **FREE** from 10 a.m. – noon. Check <http://www.massmuseums.org/coupons.html> for coupon information.***Worcester Historical Museum****Location:** 30 Elm St., Worcester**Phone Number:** 508-753-8278**Website:** www.worcesterhistory.org*Note: Check <http://www.massmuseums.org/coupons.html> for coupon information.***Entertainment****Black Stone Cinemas****Location:** Black Stone Mall, Millbury, MA**Phone Number:** 508-865-7186**Elm Draught House Cinema****Location:** 35 Elm St., Millbury**Phone Number:** 508-865-2850**Showcase Cinemas North****Location:** 135 Brooke St., Worcester**Phone Number:** 508-852-2944**West Boylston Cinemas****Location:** 101 West Boylston St., West Boylston**Phone Number:** 508-835-8888**Indoor Recreation****AMF Bowling Centers****Location:** 101 Southbridge St., Auburn**Phone Number:** 508-791-5700**Bay Path Fun Center****Location:** 199 North Brookfield Road, East Brookfield**Phone Number:** 508-867-6629*Note: Shoe rental \$1.25, \$3 weekdays/\$3.25 weekends per string.***Bayberry Bowling****Location:** 326 Main St., Spencer**Phone Number:** 508-885-4876

Note: Shoe rental \$ 1.50, \$1.25 kids/\$2.70 adults per game week days. Nights and weekends \$2.90 for all.

Buffone Arena

Location: 284 Lake Ave., Worcester

Phone Number: 508-799-0910

Website: www.fmcarenas.com

Note: For \$6.00 you can participate in a no check pick up game. Sessions are limited to 30 players. Locker and shower facilities are available. Full equipment is required.

Roller Kingdom

Location: 5 Highland Park Ave., Hudson

Phone: 978-562-3439

Web: www.rollerkingdom.com

The Habitat, Uxbridge Sports LP

Location: 374 West St., Uxbridge

Phone Number: 508-278-9888

Website: www.thehab.com

Note: This facility has drop-in soccer games, paintball, and climbing walls. Check website for hours and fees.

Outdoor Activities

Arrowhead Acres

Location: 19 Aldrich St., Uxbridge

Phone Number: 508-278-5017

Website: www.arrowheadacres.com

Note: Adults \$5; Children (ages 2-12) \$3. Cost includes both petting zoo and a hayride.

Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park

Location: 287 Oak St., Uxbridge

Phone Number: 508-278-7604

Website: www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/central/blst.htm

Note: FREE

Brookfield Orchards

Location: 12 Lincoln Road, North Brookfield

Phone Number: 508-867-6858

Web: www.brookfieldorchardsonline.com

Davis Farmland/ Mega Maze

Location: 145 Redstone Hill, Sterling, MA

Phone Number: 978-422-mooo (6666)

Website: www.davisfarmland.com

Note: Check website to find out what to wear. Adults can only enter Maze if they have a child with them, petting zoo available.

George Hill Orchards

Location: George Hill Road, South Lancaster

Phone Number: 978-365-4331

Web: www.yourfavoritefarm.com

Green Hill Park Zoo

Location: Green Hill Park Worcester

Phone number: 508-799- 1323

Website: http://www.ci.worcester.ma.us/dpw/parks_rec/zoo.htm

Note: FREE

Harvey's Farm & Country Store

Location: 120 South St., Westborough

Phone Number: 508-865-4905

Web: www.harveysfarm.com

Hyland Orchard Inc.

Location: 199 Arnold Road, Sturbridge

Phone Number: 508-347-7500

Web: www.hylandorchard.com

Lancaster Golf Center

Location: 438 Old Union Turnpike, Lancaster

Phone Number: 978-537-8922

Website: www.lancastergolfcenter.com

Meadowbrook Orchards

Location: Chase Hill Road, Sterling

Phone Number: 978-365-5677

Web: www.meadowbrookorchards.com

Purgatory Chasm

Location: Purgatory St., Sutton

Phone Number: 508-234-3733

Website: www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/central/purg.htm

Note: Popular with picnickers and rock-climbers alike, the Chasm is believed to have its origin in the sudden release of dammed-up glacial melt water near the end of the last Ice Age, approximately 14,000 years ago.

Southwick Zoo

Location: 2 Southwick St., Mendon

Phone number: 508-883-9182

Website: www.southwickzoo.com

Tougas Family Farm**Location:** Ball St., Northborough**Phone number:** 508-393-6406**Website:** www.tougasfarm.com/**Seasonal Activities****Adventure Boating****Location:** 139 Grove St., Paxton**Phone Number:** 508-754-2393**Website:** www.adventureboat.com**Sholan Farm****Location:** 1125 Pleasant St., Leominster**Phone:** 978-840-3276**Website:** hwww.sholanfarms.com*Note: Birth place of Johnny Appleseed. Tours, hayrides.*

North Eastern, MA

10 Free Things to do in Salem, MA

Web: www.salem.org/free.shtml

Arts & Culture

40 Wacks Museum

Location: 203 Essex St., Salem

Phone: 1-866-Lizzie-B

Web: www.40whacksmuseum.com

American Textile History Museum

Location: 491 Dutton St., Lowell

Phone: 978-441-0400

Web: www.athm.org

"Cry Innocent" Witch Trial

Location: 32 Derby Square, Salem

Phone: 978-867-4767

Web: www.roadsideamerica.com/story/11764

Erie Evenings

Location: The Witch House, 310 Essex St., Salem

Phone: 978-744-8815

Web: www.eerieevenings.org

Essex Art Center

Location: 56 Island St., Lawrence

Phone: 978-685-2343

Email: info@essexartcenter.com

Web: www.essexartcenter.com

Hocus Pocus Tours

Location: 164 Essex St., Salem

Phone: 781-248-2031

Web: www.hocuspocustours.com

House of Seven Gables

Location: 115 Derby St., Salem

Phone: 978-744-0991

Web: www.7gables.org

Lynn Historical Society Museum**Location:** 590 Washington St., Lynn**Phone:** 781-581-6200**Web:** www.lynnmuseum.org*Note: FREE for children under 12.***Merrimack Repertory Theater****Location:** 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell**Phone:** 978-654-4678**Web:** www.merrimackrep.org**New England Pirate Museum****Location:** 274 Derby St., Salem**Phone:** 978-741-2800**Web:** www.piratemuseum.com**New England Quilt Museum****Location:** 18 Shattuck St., Lowell**Phone:** 978-452-4207**Web:** www.nequiltmuseum.org**North Shore Music Theater****Location:** 62 Dunham Road, Beverly**Phone:** 978-232-7200**Web:** www.nsmt.org**North Shore Children's Museum****Location:** 294 Essex St., YMCA building, Salem**Phone:** 978-741-1811**Web:** www.northshoreymca.org/pages/11446_north_shore_children_s_museum.cfm**Peabody Essex Museum****Location:** 161 Essex St., Salem**Phone:** 866-745-1876**Web:** <http://pem.org/homepage/index.php>**Phillips House****Location:** 34 Chestnut St., Salem**Phone:** 978-744-0440**Web:** www.historicnewengland.org/PhillipsMuseum/index.htm**Salem Wax Museum****Location:** 288 Derby St., Salem**Phone:** 978-740-2929**Web:** www.salemwaxmuseum.com

The Witch House**Location:** 310½ Essex St., Salem**Phone:** 978-744-8815**Web:** www.salemweb.com/witchhouse**UMass Lowell Center for the Arts****Location:** 35 Wilder St., Suite 1, Lowell**Phone:** 978-934-4444**Web:** www.uml.edu/centerforarts

Note: The Discovery Series is offered to families on Sunday afternoons throughout the year. All performances are selected for their high artistic quality, family appeal and age appropriateness. The series celebrates human creativity, imagination, interpersonal communication and the magical bond forged between performer and audience.

Witch Dungeon Museum**Location:** 16 Lynde St., Salem**Phone:** 978-741-3570**Web:** www.witchdungeon.com**Witch History Museum****Location:** 197-201 Essex St., Salem**Phone:** 978-741-7770**Web:** www.witchhistorymuseum.com**Entertainment****Activity Music and Puppet Concerts by Rick Goldin****Phone:** 978-453-2550**Web:** www.rickgoldin.com

Note: See website for schedule of upcoming shows.

Count Oarlock's Nightmare Gallery**Location:** 285 Derby St., Salem**Phone:** 978-740-0500**Web:** www.nightmaregallery.com**Dracula's Castle****Location:** 90 Lafayette St., Salem**Phone:** 603-458-5848**Web:** www.draculathecastle.com**Jay Gee's Ice Cream & Fun Center****Location:** 602 Lowell St., Methuen**Web:** jaygees.com

Outdoor Activities

Amesbury Sports Park Snow Tubing

Location: 12 South Hunt Road, Amesbury

Phone: 978-388-5788

Web: www.amesburysportspark.net

Amesbury Town Park

Location: Friend and Highland Streets, Amesbury

Note: FREE

Boston Hill Farm

Location: Route 114, North Andover

Phone: 978-681-8556

Web: www.bostonhillfarm.com

Derby Wharf Light

Location: 174 Derby St., Salem

Phone: 978-740-1660

Web: www.lighthouse.cc/derbywharf

Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

Location: 87 Perkins Row Topsfield

Phone: 978-887-9264

Web: www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/Ipswich_River/index.php

Joppa Flats Education Center & Wildlife Sanctuary

Location: 1 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport

Phone: 978-462-9998

Note: FREE (Suggested Donation: \$2 for non-members)

Lowell National Historical Park

Location: 160 Pawtucket Blvd., Lowell

Phone: 978-458-8750

Web: www.nps.gov/lowe

Lynn Woods

Location: Lynn, MA 01904

Phone: 781-477-7123

Web: www.flw.org

Salem Cycle

Location: 72 Washington St, Salem

Phone: 978-741-2222

Web: www.salemcycle.com

Salem Willows**Location:** 167 Fort Ave., Salem**Phone:** 978-744-9444**Web:** www.salemwillowspark.com*Note: FREE***The Butterfly Place****Location:** 120 Tyngsboro Road, Westford**Phone Number:** 978-392-0955**Website:** butterflyplace-ma.com**Wolf Hollow****Location:** 114 Essex Road, Ipswich**Phone Number:** 978-356-0216**Website:** www.wolfhollowipswich.org*Note: Adults \$6; Children \$4.50 (ages 3-17).***Sports and Recreation****Lowell Devils, American Hockey League****Location:** 300 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Lowell**Phone:** 978-458-7825**Web:** www.lowelldevilshockey.com**Lowell Spinners Professional Baseball****Location:** 450 Akin St., Lowell**Phone:** 978-640-0033**Web:** www.lowellspinners.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t558**North Shore Navigators Professional Baseball****Location:** Western Ave., Lynn**Phone:** 781-592-0007**Web:** www.nsnavs.com**Indoor Recreation****Lucky Strike Bowling Lanes****Location:** Buffum St., Lynn, MA 01902**Phone:** (781) 592-910073**Web:** www.luckystrikelanes.com**Perpetual Motion Indoor Playground****Location:** 345 Chelmsford St., Lowell**Phone:** 978-452-0777**Web:** perpetualmotioninc.com

Seasonal Events

African Festival

Location: Lowell

Web: www.africanfestivallowell.org

Note: An annual event featuring performing arts, as well as traditional and modern African arts and crafts.

Lowell Folk Festival

Location: Lowell National Historical Park, 67 Kirk St., Lowell

Web: www.lowellfolkfestival.org

Note: The largest free folk festival in the United States with ethnic food, dance, and music from around the globe.

Lowell Quilt Festival

Location: Multiple locations

Web: www.lowellquiltfestival.org

Contact: Info@LowellQuiltFestival.org

South Eastern, MA & Cape Cod

Websites:

www.visit-massachusetts.com/capecod

www.visit-massachusetts.com/southofbostonplymouth

www.visit-massachusetts.com/marthasvineyardandnantucket

Arts and Culture:

Attleboro Area Industrial Museum

Location: 42 Union St., Attleboro

Phone: 508-222-3918

Web: www.industrialmuseum.com

Attleboro Museum and Center for the Arts

Location: 86 Park St., Attleboro

Phone: 508-222-2644

Web: attleboromuseum.org

Blake Planetarium

Location: 117 Long Pond Road, Plymouth

Phone: 508-830-4470

Web: www.visit-plymouth.com/planetarium.htm

Brockton Fire Museum

Location: 216 North Pearl St., Brockton

Phone: 508-580-0039

Web: www.brocktonma.com/bhs/firemus.html

Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

Location: 869 Main St., Route. 6A, Brewster

Phone: 508-896-3867

Web: www.ccmnh.org

Note: Adults \$8, Youth (3-12) \$3.50

Colonial Lantern Tours

Location: Plymouth

Phone: 774-454-8126

Web: www.lantern tours.com/

Easton Children's Museum

Location: The Old Fire Station, 9 Sullivan Ave., North Easton

Phone: 508-230-3789

Web: www.childrensmuseumineaston.org/Home.asp

E-mail: info@childrensmuseumineaston.org

Fuller Craft Museum**Location:** 455 Oak St., Brockton**Phone:** 508-588-6000**Web:** www.fullercraft.org**Kitchen Kids Creative Cooking Classes****Location:** 42 Holly Hill Circle, Weymouth**Phone:** 781-974-2003**E-mail:** kitchenkidscook@yahoo.com**National Marine Life Center****Location:** 120 Main St., Buzzards Bay**Phone:** 508-743-9888**Web:** nmlc.org**New Bedford Whaling Museum****Location:** 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford**Phone:** 508-997-0046**Web:** www.whalingmuseum.org**Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole Science Aquarium****Location:** 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543**Phone:** 508-495-2235**Web:** www.nefsc.noaa.gov**Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum****Location:** One High Pole Hill Road, Provincetown**Phone Number:** 508-487-1310**Website:** www.pilgrim-monument.org/t3/index.php?id=59**Plimoth Plantation Museum/May Flower 2****Location:** 137 Warren St., Plymouth**Phone Number:** 508-746-1622**Website:** www.plimoth.org**South Shore Art Center****Location:** 119 Ripley Road, Cohasset**Phone:** 781-383-2787**Web:** www.ssac.org**Whydah Pirate Museum****Location:** 16 MacMillan Wharf, Provincetown**Phone:** 508-487-8899**Web:** www.whydah.com

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute**Location:** 15 School St., Woods Hole**Phone Number:** 508-289-2663**Website:** www.whoi.edu**Zeiterion Theater****Location:** 84 Purchase St., New Bedford**Phone:** 508-994-2900**Web:** www.zeiterion.org**ZooQuarium****Location:** 674 Rt. 28, West Yarmouth**Phone:** 508-775-8883**Web:** www.zooquariumcapecod.net**E-mail:** info@zooquariumcapecod.net**Entertainment:****Edaville USA****Location:** 5 Pine St., Carver**Phone:** 877-EDAVILLE**Web:** www.edaville.com**Highfield Theater****Location:** Off Depot Ave., Falmouth**Phone:** 508-495-1878**Web:** www.falmouththeatreguild.org**Narrows Center for the Arts****Location:** 16 Anawan St., Fall River**Phone:** 508-324-1926**E-mail:** www.ncfta.org

Note: Narrows Center for the Arts offers many free activities including Open Mic Night every Wednesday evening for performers of all genres. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., the sign-up is available at 6:30 p.m. Performance starts evening at 7:00 p.m. The cover is \$3, and children under 12 are free.

Indoor Recreation:**Hot Wheels Recreation Center, Roller Skating****Location:** 424 Nash Road, New Bedford**Phone:** 508-999-3330**Kids Club Fun Land****Location:** 500 Providence Highway, Walpole**Phone:** 781-762-7007

Lazer Gate**Location:** 288 Plymouth Ave., Fall River**Phone:** 508-730-1230**Web:** www.lazergate.com**Lazer Zone****Location:** 330 N Main St., Randolph**Phone:** 781-961-3300**Web:** www.lazerzone.net**Westgate Lanes****Location:** 65 Westgate Drive, Brockton**Phone:** 508-583-1297**Web:** www.westgatelanes.com**Wonder Bowl****Location:** 66 Hathaway Road, New Bedford**Phone:** 508-993-1746**Web:** www.wonderbowl.com**Outdoor Activities:****Balfour Riverwalk, Attleboro Playground/Park****Location:** Route 123 at intersection of 152 and 118, Attleboro*Note: FREE***Buttonwood Park Zoo****Location:** 425 Hawthorn Street, New Bedford**Phone:** 508-991-4556 ext. 10**Web:** bpzoo.org**Cape Cod Canal****Website:** www.nae.usace.army.mil/recreati/ccc/recreation/recreation.htm*Note: FREE admission to Canal Visitor Center***Cape Cod Lighthouse and Highland Museum****Location:** 27 Highland Road, North Truro**Phone Number:** 508-487-3397**Website:** www.trurohistorical.org/index.htm**Capron Park Zoo****Location:** 201 County St., Attleboro**Phone:** 774-203-1840**Web:** www.capronparkzoo.com*Note: Adults \$3.75, youth (age 3-12) \$2.75*

Coonamessett Farm**Location:** 277 Hatchville Road, East Falmouth**Phone:** 508-563-2560**Web:** www.coonamessettfarm.com**Freetown-Fall River State Forest****Location:** Slab Bridge Road, Assonet**Phone:** 508-644-5522**Web:** www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/southeast/free.htm**Horseneck Beach State Reservation****Location:** Route 88, Westport Point**Phone:** 508-636-8816**Web:** www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/southeast/hbch.htm**Ocean Emporium at New Bedford Seaport****Location:** 174 Union St., New Bedford**Phone:** 508-994-5400**Web:** www.oceanexplorium.org**Roger Williams Park Zoo****Location:** 1000 Elmwood Ave., Providence, RI**Phone number:** 401-785-3510**Website:** www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org**South Shore Natural Science Center****Location:** 48 Jacobs Lane, Norwell**Phone:** 781-659-2559**Web:** www.ssns.org**Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary****Location:** 175 Edward Foster Road, Scituate**Phone Number:** 781-545-8026**Website:** stellwagen.noaa.gov/welcome.html**Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary****Location:** 108 North St., Norfolk**Phone:** 508-528-3140**E-mail:** stonybrook@massaudubon.org**Web:** www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/Stony_Brook/index.php**Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary****Location:** 291 State Highway, Route 6, South Wellfleet**Phone Number:** 508-349-2615**Website:** www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/Wellfleet/index.php

World War I Memorial Park & Petting Zoo**Location:** 401 Elmwood St., North Attleboro**Phone Number:** 508-285-6451**Sports:****Borderland State Park****Location:** 257 Massapoag Ave., North Easton**Phone:** 508-238-6566**Web:** www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/borderland**Brockton Rox****Location:** Campanelli Stadium, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton**Web:** www.brocktonrox.com**Falmouth Ice Arena****Location:** 9 Skating Lane, Falmouth**Phone:** 508-548-7080**Web:** www.falmouthicearena.com**Seasonal Events****Factory of Terror****Location:** Fall River**Phone:** 508-324-7709**Web:** www.factoryofterror.com**King Richard's Faire****Location:** Route 58, Carver**Web:** www.kingrichardsfaire.net*Note: Open Labor Day weekend through Columbus Day.***National Cranberry Festival****Location:** Edaville USA, 5 Pine St., Carver*Note: Columbus Day weekend*

Greater Boston

Websites and Resources:

home.wickedlocal.com

www.bostonyouthzone.com/myc/htoh.asp

www.cityofboston.gov/visitors/thingstodo.asp

www.backyardnature.net/101/fall.htm

www.americantowns.com/ma

Arts & Cultures

Acorn Tours of Boston

Phone: 800-973-3370

Web: www.acorntoursboston.com

American Repertory Theatre

Location: 64 Brattle St., Cambridge

Phone: 617-495-2668

Web: www.amrep.org

Ahla Food Tour

Phone: (617) 821-7667

Web: www.brooklinetour.com

Berklee College of Music

Location: Massachusetts Ave., Boston

Phone: 617-747-2474

Web: www.berklee.edu

Boston Athenaeum

Location: 10½ Beacon St., Boston

Phone: 617-720-7654

Web: www.bostonathenaeum.org

Boston Children's Museum

Location: 300 Congress St., Boston

Phone: 617-426-6500

Web: www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Location: 26 Oxford St., Cambridge

Phone: 617-495-3045

Web: www.hmnh.harvard.edu

Institute of Contemporary Art**Location:** 100 Northern Ave., Boston**Phone:** 617-478-3100**Web:** www.icaboston.org*Note: FREE Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.***Museum of Afro-American History****Location:** 14 Beacon St., Suite 719, Boston**Phone:** 617-725-0022**Web:** www.afroammuseum.org**Museum of Fine Arts****Location:** 465 Huntington Ave., Boston**Phone:** 617-267-9300**Web:** www.mfa.org*Note: FREE for children under 7. Youths 7-17 free on weekdays after 3 p.m., weekends and school holidays. Adults free Wednesdays after 4 p.m.***Museum of Science****Location:** 1 Science Park, Boston**Phone:** 617-723-2500**Web:** www.mos.org**Puppet Showplace Theatre****Location:** 32 Station St., Brookline**Phone:** 617-731-6400**Website:** www.puppetshowplace.org**Roxbury Center for Arts****Location:** 182-184 Dudley St., Roxbury**Phone:** 617-849-6237**Web Site:** www.rcahh.org**The Mary Baker Eddy Library****Location:** 200 Massachusetts Ave., Boston**Phone:** 617-450-7000 or 888-222-3711**Web:** www.marybakereddylibrary.org*Note: General Admission \$5. Youth (6-17) \$3, Children under 6 free. Check out the Mapparium- the world-famous, three-story, stained glass globe.***USS Constitution Museum****Location:** Charleston Navy Yard, Charleston**Phone:** 617-426-1812**Website:** www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org*Note: FREE*

Entertainment

Brattle Theater

Location: 40 Brattle Square, Cambridge

Phone: 617-876-6837

Web: www.brattlefilm.org

Capitol Theater

Location: 204 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington

Phone: 781-648-4340

Coit Observatory, Boston University

Location: 725 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

Phone: 617-353-2630

Web: www.bu.edu/dbin/astronomy/?q=AS_open

Note: FREE

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Location: 290 Harvard St., Brookline

Phone: 617-734-2500

Web: www.coolidge.org

Lexington Flick

Location: 1794 Massachusetts Ave., Lexington

Phone: 781-861-0131

New England Aquarium

Location: 1 Central Wharf, Boston, MA

Phone: 617-389-7258

Web: www.neaq.org

Reading Comcast Imax Theatre

Location: 50 Walkers Brook Drive, Reading

Phone: 781-944-9090

Showcase Cinemas Revere

Location: 565 Squire Road, Revere

Phone: 781-286-1660

Showcase Cinemas Woburn

Location: 25 Middlesex Canal Park, Woburn

Phone: 781-933-5330

Somerville Theatre

Location: 55 Davis Square, Somerville

Phone: 617-625-5700

Web: www.somervilletheatreonline.com

Indoor Recreation:

Ball Sq Bowling Alley Inc

Location: 662 Boston Ave., Medford

Phone: 781-306-0716

Colonial Bowl

Location: 1055 Main St., South Weymouth

Phone: 781-335-2906

Lanes & Games

Location: 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambridge

Phone: 617-876-5533

Web: www.lanesgames.com

Olindy's Quincy Avenue Lanes

Location: 170 Quincy Ave., Quincy

Phone: 617-472-3597

Roller Kingdom

Location: 355 Middlesex Road, Tyngsboro

Phone: 978-649-3439

Web: www.rollerkingdom.com

Ryan Family Amusements

Location: 11 Charles St., Malden

Phone: 781-324-7828

Web: www.ryanamusements.com

Tommy's Arcade

Location: 49 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge

Phone: 617-492-9649

Wakefield Bowla Drome

Location: 92 Water St., Wakefield

Phone: 781-245-7062

Outdoor Activities

Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

Location: 125 Arborway, Boston

Phone: 617-524-1718

Web: www.arboretum.harvard.edu

Boston Common/Freedom Trail**Location:** Bound by Tremont, Beacon, Charles, Park and Boylston Streets, Boston**Phone:** 617-357-8300**Web:** www.boston.com/news/special/neighborhood_guides/freedom_trail/FT_draft.html*Note: Free***Boston Harbor Islands****Phone:** 617-223-8666**Web:** www.bostonislands.org**Boston National Historical Park****Location:** Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston**Phone:** 617-242-5642**Web:** www.nps.gov/bost**Charles River Walk****Location:** Boston, Cambridge**Web:** www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/charlesRiver/**Drumlin Farm****Location:** South Great Road, Lincoln**Phone number:** 781-259-9807**Website:**www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/Drumlin_Farm/index.php**Franklin Park Zoo****Location:** 1 Franklin Park, Boston**Phone:** 617-541-LION**Web:** www.zoonewengland.org*Note: Adults \$9.50, children (2-15) \$5.***Landscape Institute****Location:** 30 Chauncy St., Cambridge**Phone:** 617-495-8632**Web:** www.arboretum.harvard.edu/programs/ld/ld.html**Minuteman National Historic Park****Location:** 174 Liberty St., Concord**Phone:** 978-369-6993**Web:** www.nps.gov/mima**Walden Pond State Reserve****Location:** 915 Walden Street, Concord**Phone:** 978-369-3254**Web:** www.mass.info/concord.ma/parks/walden_pond_state_reservation.htm

Sports

Boston Bruins- Ice Hockey

Location: TD Banknorth Garden, Boston

Phone: 617-624-1900

Web: bruins.nhl.com

Boston Cannons- Lacrosse

Location: Harvard Stadium, Allston

Phone: 617-746-9933

Web: www.bostoncannons.com

Boston Celtics- Basketball

Location: TD Banknorth Garden, Boston

Phone: 1-800-4CELTIX

Web: www.nba.com/celtics

Boston Red Sox- Baseball

Location: Fenway Park, Boston

Phone: 877-REDSOX9

Web: boston.redsox.mlb.com

New England Patriots- Football

Location: Gillette Stadium, Foxboro

Phone: 800-543-1776

Web: www.patriots.com

New England Revolution- Soccer

Location: Gillette Stadium, Foxboro

Phone: 508-543-8200

Web: www.revolutionsoccer.net

Seasonal Events

Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival

Location: Boston

Web: www.beantownjazz.org

Note: Check their website for the full line-up of events each September.

Boston Marathon

Web: www.bostonmarathon.org

Note: Check out their website for the best places to watch this annual Patriot's Day event.

Head of the Charles Regatta

Location: Memorial Drive, between Western Ave. and JFK, Cambridge

Web: www.hocr.org

*Note: **FREE**. Please visit their website for dates and times.*

Site Based Activities



Site Based Activities

Ages 5-7

- Make an arts and crafts project together: www.crafts-for-all-seasons.com
- Read together: check out our suggested reading list on page 39 or <http://www.kidsreads.com/lists/beg-classic.asp>
- Color together: familyfun.go.com/printables
- Make music: jas.familyfun.go.com/arts-and-crafts?page=CraftDisplay&craftid=10602
- Play with clay: <http://familyfun.go.com/arts-and-crafts/season/feature/famf107project/famf107project17.html>
- Talk about making friends: <http://www.parents.com/preschoolers/socializing/social-growth/why-friends-are-important>
- Talk about healthy habits: <http://www.parents.com/preschoolers/health/other-safety-issues/instilling-healthy-habits/>
- Use everyday items to make a fun game: www.creativekidsathome.com/games
- Do a science experiment: http://www.sciencekidsathome.com/science_experiments
- Get creative: <http://www.thesimpledollar.com/2008/09/11/fifteen-ways-to-have-cheap-fun-with-your-kids-using-a-1-end-roll-of-paper/>

Ages 8-10

- Make a jump rope: <http://jas.familyfun.go.com/crafts?page=CraftDisplay&craftid=11961>
- Play a card game: <http://boardgames.about.com/od/cardgames>
- Make a paper airplane: http://www.pbjmag.com/activities/paper_airplane_bomber
- Plant an egg carton garden: http://kidsactivities.suite101.com/article.cfm/plant_an_egg_carton_garden
- Play a word game together: <http://www.funburst.com/games/detail.cfm?go=80>
- Make your own wrapping paper: http://www.funburst.com/arts_crafts/detail.cfm?go=187
- Write letters to an international pen pal: www.pen-pal.com
- Read together: check out our reading list on page 39 or <http://www.allstaractivities.com/reading/Reading-suggested-list.htm>
- Talk about safety: www.safetykids.org
- Talk about what's going on: http://www.pbs.org/parents/talkingwithkids/news/questions_1.html

Ages 11-13

- Make a toy car http://www-tc.pbskids.org/designsquad/pdf/parentseducators/DS_NASA_05Roving_CS.pdf

- Make an album or scrapbook together:
http://www.acmoore.com/forum/yaf_postst1134_My-School-Year-Album.aspx
- Make a flip book together:
<http://parenting.ivillage.com/gs/gsactivities/0,,9wmc,00.html>
- Keep the communication open: <http://ca.lifestyle.yahoo.com/family-relationships/articles/parenting/tvo/3999>
- Talk about opening a savings account:
parentingtweens.suite101.com/article.cfm/open_a_savings_account_for_your_tween
- Play a card game: http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/card_games_for_kids.htm
- Knit or crochet something together: www.learntoknit.com/instructions_cr.php3
- Talk about the media and make a collage:
www.kinderart.com/sculpture/media.shtml
- Read together: check out our reading list on page 39 or
chickenspaghetti.typepad.com/chicken_spaghetti/2006/09/tween_book_idea.html
- Talk about stress:
<http://www.pamf.org/preteen/parents/talking.html#Activity%20A%20--%20What%20stresses%20your%20children>

Ages 14 and up

- Study for the drivers exam together:
<http://www.examppractice.com/other/drivers/general/index.html>
- Discuss the importance of voting and politics: <http://www.rockthevote.com>
- Suggest a movie to watch and then talk about it during your next meeting
http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/22437/great_movies_for_teens_about_teens.html?cat=40
- Discuss music/art or creative things that you're both interested in.
- Suggest a book to read that you enjoyed as a young person, or read something they enjoyed: check out our reading list on page 39 or
http://www.teenspoint.org/reading_matters/book_list.asp?sort=5&list=274
- Talk about positive self esteem and body image:
http://kidshealth.org/teen/food_fitness/wellbeing/body_image.html
- Don't be afraid to talk about tough topics: <http://www.talkingwithkids.org/>
- Research different options for post secondary education:
<http://www.princetonreview.com>
- Discuss the importance of getting involved in community service, and find a project that you can possibly do on site: <http://www.idealists.org/>
- Talk about careers he/she may be interested in and do research them together:
<http://www.princetonreview.com>
- Help your mentee write their first resume:
http://www.quintcareers.com/teen_resume-writing_worksheet.html

RECOMMENDED READING:

Each year a committee of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) identifies the best of the best in children's books. This is a wonderful list divided into categories by age range/reading level. Let your mentee choose a book that you can read together that is on this list or suggest one that you enjoyed when you were their age.

Younger Readers

Becker, Bonny. *A Visitor for Bear*. Illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton. The simple backdrop of bear's forest home sets the stage for a visit from the persistent and irritating mouse who insists the two will become friends.

Bee, William. *Beware of the Frog*. Living alone in the forest, Old Mrs. Collywobbles needs protection from the Greedy Goblin, the Smelly Troll, and the Giant Hungry Ogre. Her pet frog jumps out of folklore to come to her rescue and give Mrs. Collywobbles more than she anticipated.

Campbell, Sarah C. *Wolfsnail: A Backyard Predator*. Photos by Sarah C. and Richard P. Campbell. Magnified photographs and informative text provide a nonfiction look at the carnivorous wolfsnail trapping and devouring its victim. This science book will amaze and attract readers. (2009 Geisel Honor Book)

Davis, Eleanor. *Stinky*. Stinky, the swamp monster, is at first determined to rid his beloved "muddy, slimy, smelly swamp" for Nick, only to realize that this dreaded "kid" is not the appallingly clean intruder he supposes him to be. (2009 Geisel Honor Book)

Dorros, Arthur. *Papá and Me*. Illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez. Lively artwork tells the story of a father and son who spend a special day together in the city—singing, cooking, going to the park and the beach, riding the bus, and telling stories, culminated by a visit with Papá's parents. (2009 Belpré Illustrator Honor Book)

Fleming, Denise. *Buster Goes to Cowboy Camp*. After a week at Cowboy Camp for Dogs, Buster's homesickness evaporates as he joyfully joins the controlled canine chaos of camp activities. Fleming's richly colored multimedia art details the camp's layout and the animals' constant motion.

Fraze, Marla. *A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever*. With lively, detailed, subtly retro cartoons, Fraze gently pokes fun at adult expectations and captures the unbounded joy of two friends experiencing a parent-free summer adventure. (2009 Caldecott Honor Book)

George, Jean Craighead. *Goose and Duck*. Illustrated by Priscilla Lamont.

Goose imprints on the boy who finds his egg, Duck imprints on goose, and both follow the boy around until fall when they figure out who they are and join their fellows flying south.

Graham, Bob. *How to Heal a Broken Wing*.

On a busy city street, young Will stops for an injured pigeon. Soft watercolor panels depict the family's care of the bird and its subsequent release into the sky over the city.

Grant, Judyann Ackerman. *Chicken Said, "Cluck!"* Illustrated by Sue Truesdell.

Earl and Pearl shoo Chicken away as they work on their pumpkin patch, but as the story comes full circle, it's Chicken who does the shooing and saves the day. (2009 Geisel Honor Book)

Harris, Robie H. *Maybe a Bear Ate It!* Illus by Michael Emberley.

When a favorite book goes missing, our frantic narrator conducts a frenzied search, imagining the worst. Cartoonish art illustrates the emotions of losing and finding a cherished object.

Henkes, Kevin. *Old Bear*.

During his annual hibernation, Old Bear dreams of the seasons of his youth. Seasonal changes and Old Bear's sense of wonder are gently evoked in Henkes' ink and watercolor pictures.

Hills, Tad. *What's Up, Duck? A Book of Opposites*.

Adapting Duck and Goose for the board book crowd, Hills whimsically presents concepts such as loud and quiet, far and near, and heavy and light in clear, child-appealing watercolors.

Hole, Stian. *Garmann's Summer*.

Humorous and poetic text, combined with surreal and multi-layered artwork, creates a truly unique and complex look at the universality of fear and uncertainty in this tale of a six-year-old's last summer before starting school. (2009 Batchelder Honor Book)

Kohara, Kazuno. *Ghosts in the House!*

Faced with a houseful of ghosts, a little girl and her cat come up with a creative solution for repurposing them. Orange and black linocuts, collaged with rice paper "ghosts," complete this appealing package for very young children.

McDonald, Megan. *The Hinky Pink*. Illustrated by Brian Floca.

Until the young seamstress Anabel finds the perfect bed for the Hobbledy-gob Hinky-Pink, she will get no sleep and the Princess's dress will never be ready in time for the ball.

Morales, Yuyi. *Just in Case: A Trickster Tale and Spanish Alphabet Book*.

Vibrant jewel-tone colors masterfully capture the story of Señor Calavera's quest to find the perfect birthday gift for Grandma Beetle. Part ghost story, part trickster tale, the book

features motifs from Mexican culture that represent each letter of the Spanish alphabet. (2009 Belpré Illustrator Award Book and Author Honor Book)

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. *One Boy*.

Seeger's eye-catching picture book leads readers to discover words within words through a distinctive die-cut design and clean, bold illustrations. (2009 Geisel Honor Book)

Swanson, Susan Marie. *The House in the Night*.

This timeless bedtime verse offers reassurance to young children that there is always light in the darkness. Elegant lines, with touches of golden watercolor, evoke the warmth and comfort of home, as well as the joys of exploring the wider world. (2009 Caldecott Medal Book)

Tafolla, Carmen. *What Can You Do with a Rebozo?* Illustrated by Amy Cordova.

Rich, vibrant colors swirl and swoosh across full-page spreads, depicting the family home of an imaginative, young Mexican American girl who playfully invents modern-day uses for the traditional Mexican rebozo, or long scarf. (2009 Belpré Honor Book)

Weatherford, Carole Boston. *Before John Was a Jazz Giant: A Song of John Coltrane*. Illustrated by Sean Qualls.

John Coltrane's childhood echoed with sounds. The formative experiences of the legendary musician and composer are portrayed in rhythmic language and stylized, mixed media illustrations in blues, browns and white. (2009 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Book)

Willems, Mo. *Are You Ready to Play Outside?*

Easily approachable text and expressive drawings tell the story of Piggie and Gerald who experience the ups and downs of a rainy day. (2009 Geisel Award Book)

Middle Readers

Appelt, Kathi. *The Underneath*. Illustrated by David Small.

Intertwining stories of an embittered man, a loyal hound, an abandoned cat and a vengeful lamia sing of love, loss, loneliness and hope. (2009 Newbery Honor Book)

Bishop, Nic. *Frogs*.

Bishop presents salient facts about frogs through clear text, augmented with fascinating photographs of species around the world. Even the frog-phobic will be fascinated.

Broach, Elise. *Masterpiece*. Illustrated by Kelly Murphy.

An artistic beetle with a yen for adventure and a lonely 11-year-old boy team up to catch the thief who has stolen a priceless Albrecht Durer from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Brown, Don. *All Stations! Distress!: April 15, 1912, the Day the Titanic Sank*.

Selecting just the right amount of essential information, Brown artfully captures the drama of what happened to the unsinkable Titanic on that fateful night.

Bryant, Jen. *A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams*. Illustrated by Melissa Sweet.

Sweet's mixed-media collage and primitive watercolors flow seamlessly with Bryant's prose to reveal the important bits and pieces of Williams' ordinary, yet extraordinary, life as a doctor and poet. (2009 Caldecott Honor Book)

Dowd, Siobhan. *The London Eye Mystery*.

In a race against time, twelve-year-old Ted, with his sister Kat, uses his special skills and perceptions to discover how their cousin Salim disappeared while riding the London Eye, the world's tallest observation wheel.

Elliott, Zetta. *Bird*. Illustrated by Shadra Strickland.

A young boy, Mehkai, nicknamed Bird because he loves to draw birds, finds solace in his art work as his beloved grandfather dies and his admired older brother Marcus succumbs to drug addiction. (2009 Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award)

Erdrich, Louise. *The Porcupine Year*.

In this third in the Birchbark House series set in 1852, Omakayas, a young Ojibwa girl now 12, and her family face serious challenges as they move westward from land the U.S. government has claimed.

Fern, Tracey E. *Buffalo Music*. Illustrated by Lauren Castillo.

Pioneer Mary Ann Goodnight saves her beloved Texas buffalo from extinction by shipping those that escape slaughter to Yellowstone to become part of a new national herd. Spare scenes of primitive abstract art create a stunning visual landscape.

Gaiman, Neil. *The Graveyard Book*. Illustrated by Dave McKean.

A child marked for death by an ancient league of assassins escapes into an abandoned graveyard, where he is reared and protected by its spirit denizens. A delicious mix of murder, fantasy, humor and human longing, Gaiman's tale is told in magical, haunting prose. (2009 Newbery Medal Book)

González, Lucía. *The Storyteller's Candle/La velita de los cuentos*. Illustrated by Lulu Delacre.

Text and sepia tone illustrations present the biographical story of Pura Belpré, the first Puerto Rican librarian hired by the New York Public Library, who introduces the public library to immigrants living in El Barrio and hosts the neighborhood's first Three Kings' Day fiesta. (2009 Belpré Author Honor Book and Illustrator Honor Book)

Greenberg, Jan and Sandra Jordan. *Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Through the Gates and Beyond*.

Beginning with a description of the dramatic “Gates” project installed for two weeks in Central Park in 2005, readers are introduced to the extraordinary pair whose art, in its immense scope, has amazed and astounded the world.

Hale, Shannon and Dean Hale. *Rapunzel’s Revenge*. Illustrated by Nathan Hale. In a vibrantly illustrated graphic novel set in a make-believe frontier land, an untraditional Rapunzel escapes the tower, uses her long braids as weapons, and takes revenge on the wicked Mother Gothel.

Hopkinson, Deborah. *Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek: A Tall, Thin Tale (Introducing His Forgotten Frontier Friend)*. Illustrated by John Hendrix.

Taking a boyhood story about Lincoln as inspiration, Hopkinson provides a lively, tongue-in-cheek telling with as many bends as Knob Creek. Hendrix’s broad, cartoony illustrations visually suggest several possible outcomes to the boys’ predicament.

Kerley, Barbara. *What To Do About Alice? How Alice Roosevelt Broke the Rules, Charmed the World, and Drove Her Father Teddy Crazy!* Illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham.

Growing up as the daughter of the President was not easy, but being the President and father of Alice Roosevelt was not easy either. Kerley’s playful use of language and Fotheringham’s rollicking illustrations converge to introduce energy and outrageousness. (2009 Sibert Honor Book)

Law, Ingrid. *Savvy*.

This rich first-person narrative draws readers into a wild bus ride, winding through the countryside on a journey of self-discovery for Mibs Beaumont and her companions. (2009 Newbery Honor Book)

Lewin, Ted and Betsy. *Horse Song: The Naadam of Mongolia*.

Alternating lavish watercolors and lively cartoon sketches, the artists document their travel to Mongolia, capturing the excitement and beauty of Naadam, the Summer Festival, where young boys and girls compete in horse racing.

McGill, Alice. *Way Up and Over Everything*. Illustrated by Jude Daly.

Stylized watercolors illustrate a storyteller’s account of the five newly purchased Africans who escaped the horrors of slavery by flying away from the Georgia plantation where her great-grandmama’s mama lived and worked.

Nicholls, Sally. *Ways to Live Forever*.

Using clever lists, insightful questions, thoughtful journal entries and drawings, eleven-year-old Sam shares his perspective on his leukemia and his upbeat attitude as he faces the end of his life.

Nivola, Claire A. *Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai*.

Naïf, charming pictures, and well-chosen details illuminate the life and work of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Wangari Maathai, who responded to the impending desertification of her native Kenya by instigating the planting of 30 million trees.

Nobleman, Marc Tyler. *Boys of Steel: The Creators of Superman*. Illustrated by Ross MacDonald.

Part picture book, part graphic novel, this is the fascinating story of how two high school friends created a superhero that endures to this day.

Parker, Robert Andrew. *Piano Starts Here: The Young Art Tatum*.

Parker imagines renowned jazz pianist Tatum's early years, employing a first person narrative that takes readers from his Toledo youth to big city clubs and concert halls. Luminous watercolors compellingly extend the text. (2009 Schneider Family Book Award)

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. *When the Wolves Returned: Restoring Nature's Balance in Yellowstone*. Photographs by Dan Hartman and Cassie Hartman.

Lively photographs, capturing images of wildlife, and an easy text make it clear to young readers the beneficial impact to the ecosystem when wolves were reintroduced.

Preller, James. *Six Innings: A Game in the Life*.

The heart stopping action of a little league baseball game frames a personal introduction to the players, the strategies, and twelve-year-old Sam, sidelined by cancer.

Ray, Deborah Kogan. *Wanda Gág: The Girl Who Lived to Draw*.

This intimate portrait of the creator of *Millions of Cats* combines Gág's own words with more detailed text to describe a girl who never let go of her dream. Lush illustrations suggest Gág's style and versatility.

Rumford, James. *Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad*.

Ali, a young boy in contemporary Baghdad, loves calligraphy and practices his art to shut out the sights and sounds of war. Mixed media illustrations contrast rich color, lush texture, bold silhouettes and flowing calligraphy.

Scieszka, Jon. *Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories about Growing Up Scieszka*.

A hilarious saga of growing up in a household with five brothers during the 1950's and 1960's by the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, illustrated with candid pictures from the period.

Schulman, Janet. *Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City*. Illustrated by Meilo So.

Lush watercolors and personable narrative bring to life the story of Pale Male, a male hawk, who nests atop a swanky Fifth Avenue apartment building and sparks a battle for his habitat among residents and conservationists.

Shulevitz, Uri. *How I Learned Geography*.

Recounting memories of his family's flight from the Warsaw Blitz and his years as a refugee during World War II, Shulevitz employs watercolor and ink to depict a boy

liberated from his dreary existence through flights of fancy inspired by the map his father buys in the village market. (2009 Caldecott Honor Book)

Stone, Tanya Lee. *Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote*. Illustrated by Rebecca Gibbon.

This introductory biography outlines Elizabeth Cady Stanton's childhood realization of the secondary status of women and continues with her adult activism that led to the right to vote for women. Folk art expands the text.

Thomas, Joyce Carol. *The Blacker the Berry*. Illustrated by Floyd Cooper.

A collection of twelve poems celebrating and affirming the variations in skin color and individuality of African American children, illustrated with richly colored paintings of children complementing the imagery of the free verse. (2009 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award and Author Honor Book)

Uehashi, Nahoko. *Moribito: Guardian of the Spirit*. Illustrated by Yuko Shimizu. Translated by Cathy Hirano.

Balsa, a female warrior, accepts the task of protecting a young prince from demons and his father's assassins. Prince Chagum is the Moribito, the guardian of the sacred spirit. Together they must find in each other the source of strength they need to prevail. (2009 Batchelder Award Book)

Older Readers

Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Chains*.

Sold as a slave to an influential New York Tory family, 13-year-old Isabel spies for the patriot side during the American Revolution in a desperate hope to gain freedom for herself and her 5-year-old sister.

Collins, Suzanne. *The Hunger Games*.

In a science-fiction cliffhanger, Katniss takes her younger sister's place as one of twenty-four youths who are turned over to the Capitol in a deadly annual reality game in which only one can survive.

Connor, Leslie. *Waiting for Normal*.

Longing for the loving family life her younger half-sisters have with her former stepfather, resilient sixth-grader Addie copes with living in a trailer in Schenectady, New York with her neglectful mother. (2009 Schneider Family Book Award)

Deem, James M. *Bodies from the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Recovery of the Past*.

In this exploration of the archaeology of glacier science, Deem's visual presentation engages readers through period newspaper illustrations, paintings, maps and photographs of ice mummies and artifacts from four continents. (2009 Sibert Honor Book)

Engle, Margarita. *The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom*.

Hauntingly beautiful free verse prose breathes life into this finely crafted story that illuminates Cuba's fight for independence from Spain in the 1800's. (2009 Newbery Honor Book and Belpré Author Award Book)

Fleischman, Sid. *The Trouble Begins at 8: A Life of Mark Twain in the Wild, Wild West*. This rip-roaring biography of America's quintessential humorist is as outrageous as its subject. Twain's early life is conveyed through memorable quotes and period photographs. Fleischman disentangles facts from fiction, provides ample documentation, and a version of *The Jumping Frog*.

Fleming, Candace. *The Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary*. Short articles, vignettes, excerpts from letters, historical photographs and documents form the scrapbook demonstrating the intertwined lives of the Civil War president and his devoted but unbalanced wife and giving equal attention to both parties.

Freedman, Russell. *Washington at Valley Forge*. *****
Freedman's customary graceful prose, eye for the telling detail, and clear narrative arc describe the winter Washington's troops spent at Valley Forge.

Jiménez, Francisco. *Reaching Out*. In this poignantly written autobiography, Jimenez recounts his days as a young Mexican American student who is the first in his family to attend college. Against great odds, he is determined to complete his education. (2009 Belpré Author Honor Book)

Macaulay, David with Richard Walker. *The Way We Work: Getting to Know the Amazing Human Body*. The amazing human body gets an equally amazing treatment for all its systems and functions. Thorough explanations, visual and verbal, offer an inside look of the body's marvels.

Michaelis, Antonia. *Tiger Moon*. Translated by Anthea Bell. A betrayed woman facing death, a most unlikely hero, and a sarcastic talking white tiger in colonial-era India come together in a magical story within a story. This masterfully crafted tale moves seamlessly from reality to fantasy as it reveals the profound power of story. (2009 Batchelder Honor Book)

Nelson, Kadir. *We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*. This fascinating and well-documented history of Negro League Baseball is told in the voice of an "everyman" narrator. Dignified, riveting full-page illustrations capture the spirit of these larger-than-life men who loved the game, despite the prejudice they faced. (2009 Sibert Medal Book, Coretta Scott King Author Award, and CSK Illustrator Honor Book)

Nelson, Scott Reynolds with Marc Aronson. *Ain't Nothing But a Man: My Quest to Find the Real John Henry*.

A historian explains how he connected bits of information acquired in a larger research project to identify the actual story and person behind the John Henry folksong.

O'Brien, Tony and Mike Sullivan. *Afghan Dreams: Young Voices of Afghanistan*. Photos by Tony O'Brien.

Young people from various backgrounds around Kabul share their hopes and dreams in this amazing and heart-rending collection of full color photo portraits.

Pratchett, Terry. *Nation*.

After a tsunami, island native, Mau, and shipwreck survivor, Daphne, construct a nation that blends each other's customs, science, and faith in a multi-leveled novel of survival and politics. (2009 Printz Honor Book)

Reeve, Philip. *Here Lies Arthur*.

Reeve places his Arthur in the Dark Ages of the sixth century where Myrddin embellishes his story by creating a modern spin on this ancient tale that combines wishes, lies, and dreams into the now familiar legend.

Smith, Hope Anita. *Keeping the Night Watch*. Illustrated by E.B. Lewis.

While the rest of the family welcomes his father's return, thirteen-year-old C.J. cannot hide his hurt and anger over his father's abandonment. Smith's graceful poetry delves deeply into C.J.'s emotional life. (2009 Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book)

Woodson, Jacqueline. *After Tupac & D Foster*.

Bonded by Tupac's music, three girls explore the lure of freedom and build a friendship that redefines their own identities. (2009 Newbery Honor Book)

All Ages

Arnosky, Jim. *Wild Tracks!: A Guide to Nature's Footprints*.

Life-sized footprints depicting more than 60 North American wild animals make this an enticing field guide for young explorers

Johnson, Stephen T. *A Is for Art: An Abstract Alphabet*.

In this amazing tour de force, Johnson creates an original piece of abstract art for each letter of the alphabet. Playful touches include hidden letters, alliterative text, and details on the construction of each piece.

Year Round Activities



All Year Round Mentor Activities

- Start a collection of: stamps, rocks, shells, baseballs cards, butterflies, stickers, buttons, coins, etc.
- Teach each other any special skills you might have: sewing, photography, carpentry, knitting, playing a musical instrument
- Offer to help your mentee make something special for his or her room, e.g., a wall hanging, framed picture, wood project, model, arts and crafts
- Keep a journal of your relationship- share entries you both have made on an occasional basis.
- Instruct your mentee on telephone etiquette and the use of emergency phone numbers
- Go grocery shopping together
- Plant a vegetable or flower garden together
- Teach yard maintenance e.g., cutting grass, raking, seeding, fertilizing
- Help your mentee check for jobs in the newspaper or online
- Research career choices or colleges together
- Find a local concert, recital, school play or parade to attend
- Teach your mentee to read a recipe, use measuring utensils, read a thermometer- then enjoy what you've made
- Introduce your mentee to new foods and tastes- make a special meal, favorite recipe, try different ethnic foods or eat at a nice restaurant
- Help your mentee obtain a library card- visit the local library and check out books to share
- Teach your mentee how to use a computer
- Work on school projects, help with homework and discuss study habits
- Teach simple first aid skills
- Teach bicycle safety then enjoy a new trail together
- Take a walk together with a memento bag and collect interesting leaves, rocks, etc.
- Together, make a collage of your mentee's life using pictures cut out from magazines
- Paint an original T-shirt for a special occasion
- Visit a hardware store and explain the function of various tools, pick a project to complete together
- On your mentee's birthday, ask your mentee to lie on butcher paper and trace around him or her- repeat the process each year to show how much he or she has grown
- Take your mentee to a sporting event at the high school he or she will attend
- Write a letter to your mentee on your anniversary saying what you've noticed about him or her in the past year
- Help your mentee make homemade potpourri with dried flower petals
- Wash the car together or go get a car wash
- Get a book of animal tracks and explore a pond or trail together to see what animals live in the area

- Go on a camera scavenger hunt together- make a list of the things you want to photograph before the hunt, let your mentee take the pictures, then make a collage or scrapbook of what you found
- Go on a newspaper scavenger hunt- make a list of 10-20 items to find in the newspaper
- Read biographies of people who did great things and let your mentee know they were no different from him or her
- Check out a tree identification book from the library and discover which ones are in your neighborhood
- Using the letters from a long word, see how many smaller words you can create
- Role-play meeting new people so your mentee will have more confidence in unfamiliar situations- also works great for job or college interviews
- Build a log cabin together with popsicle sticks and glue
- Teach your mentee to use a fire extinguisher
- Show your mentee photographs or movies of you as a child or make a video diary of your own
- Volunteer to visit your mentee's class to tell students about your profession
- Build and paint a birdhouse
- Buy a yo-yo and learn how to do tricks with it
- Using play money, show your mentee how you budget the money you earn
- Visit a music store and learn about different types of instruments
- Learn to identify three constellations
- Paint an old piece of furniture together
- Learn 10 new words in a foreign language
- Do something together for an elderly friend
- Visit a nursing home and read or sign to the residents, or ask them to describe what life was when they were your mentee's age
- Whack golf balls at the driving range
- Assemble a model or bookcase
- Work on home improvement projects together- painting, wallpapering or remodeling a spare room
- Make foods from around the world and learn how people live in those countries
- Have a picnic on the living floor and watch a movie- for more fun, make dinner go with the movie theme
- Maintain a scrapbook of all the things you do together- include ticket stubs, menus, pictures, brochures, programs and other mementos
- Research an important event or issue at the library, tour big universities libraries
- Make a homemade pizza
- Tell each other stories- start by giving the other a starting sentence, such as "I was walking to school the other day when I saw...."
- Visit all types of museums: art, science, nature, geology
- Take an art class together
- Play basketball, football, volleyball, badminton, croquet or some other sport you enjoy
- Go hear a storyteller
- Visit a rock-climbing wall

- Roller blade at a skate park
- Give your pet a bath
- Play a board game
- Run errands together
- Play billiards
- Play cards
- Exercise together
- Write and illustrate your own book
- Research a famous person who shares your birthdays

Back Drawing

“This game is played in pairs. One (youth) is the “artist” and sits behind their partner. The artist is given a short list of simple items and shapes (i.e. heart, star, face, etc.) that she will then use her finger to trace one at a time onto her partners back. The object is for the partner to identify as many of the shapes as possible. Each drawing can be repeated only one time. This activity forces kids to pay careful attention and use visualization skills.”

http://youth-activities.suite101.com/article.cfm/team_building_activities_for_teens

Building Blind

“Students work in pairs or triads. One student is designated as the “leader”, the other students are the “builders”. The leader has visual access to a simple structure (made of Legos, tinker toys, or similar items), but the builders do not. Each group also has a box of building materials identical to those used to make the hidden structure.”

http://youth-activities.suite101.com/article.cfm/team_building_activities_for_teens

Create a Time Capsule

“Choose duration for your time capsule? One way to do this is to consider who you would like your audience to be. Would you like to open the time capsule yourself? Would you like to share it with your own children or grandchildren? Would you like your message to last long into the future? This time capsule is intended to be opened every 100 years (top) and every 5000 years (bottom).

Decide where you will store your time capsule? Burial may not be the best choice, for several reasons. It is very likely to be forgotten or lost, and it is much more susceptible to damage from moisture.”

<http://www.wikihow.com/Create-a-Time-Capsule>

Make Your Own Edible Play Dough

“Sensory experiences are the way your child interacts with the world, developing her fine motor skills... it's a great way to get your child involved in the kitchen to practice important measuring skills for future cake batters and cookie doughs to come.”

http://www.education.com/activity/article/Edible_Play_Dough/

The Value of Money: Create Your Own Currency

Help teens understand how budgeting money has its rewards. Create containers for short term spending (20%) and long term spending (10%). Make your own currency

using uncooked pasta. Paint pasta and determine what value each color has. Help youth determine what percentage goes into containers, set goals, and plan a shopping trip.

Make a Fairy Tale Felt Board

“Felt may be one of the greatest inventions of our time. Kids can always find ways to entertain themselves with it, which is why these fairy tale felt boards are positively perfect. They encourage the growth of your child's reading and story telling skills. And because felt has a natural knack of grabbing onto things, making these felt boards couldn't be easier. So the next time you and your child find yourselves with a particularly dull Wednesday evening or weekend afternoon, and you're looking for a project to pass the time, try this Fairytale Felt Board activity.”

http://www.education.com/activity/article/Fairy_Tale_Felt_Boards/

Winter Activities



Winter

Play Outside

- Build a snowman
- Make a snow angel
- Build a snow fort
- Go sledding
- Go ice skating
- Go snow boarding
- Go skiing
- Stamp out words in the snow
- Take a walk and look for animal tracks
- Shovel snow together
- Shovel a path in the yard like a maze
- Wrap in a big stadium blanket and sit on the porch swing
- Have a winter picnic- take along a warm sandwich and cookies in an insulated bag, hot cocoa in a thermos or even hot soup, don't forget to take a blanket to sit on or under
- Play with toy cars and trucks in the dirt or snow.
- Watch for animal tracks--squirrels, deer, cats, dogs, horses

Holiday Cheer

- Make holiday decorations
- Write out holiday cards
- Watch the Nutcracker
- Pick out a Christmas tree
- Learn about the different holiday traditions
- Collect pinecones and make ornaments or a wreath
- Go for a drive or walk to see holiday decorations
- Make homemade gifts and wrap them for family and friends

More Fun

- Indoor Snow Fights: How about having a snow fight inside using white socks?
- Play expedition. Pretend you are an explorer going to the North Pole.
- Outside a window shovel out a square spot then plant sticks with bright colored streamers to look like flowers or "plant" a row of plastic flowers
- See Disney on Ice

Winter Crafts

Toilet Paper Penguins

This is a cute little penguin that will come in handy if you're working on a winter theme, winter animal theme, or penguins themselves

<http://www.freekidcrafts.com/toilet-paper-tube-penguin.html>

Snow Stars

With paper folded the right way and a little 'cutting edge' imagination, you can create something better than your typical paper snowflake -- you can make Snow Stars!

<http://www.freekidcrafts.com/snow-stars.html>

Fleece Hats

One seam is all it takes to make a cozy winter hat from fleece

http://www.makingfriends.com/winter/fleece_hat.htm

Winter Sun Catcher

Hang your sun catcher outside from a tree or windowsill for friends and neighbors to admire

<http://fun.familyeducation.com/winter/childrens-art-activities/35295.html?detoured=1>

Spring & Summer Activities



Summer & Spring

Outdoor Adventures

- Go fishing
- Fly a kite
- Go camping
- Go on a picnic in a local park or at the beach
- Blow bubbles
- Build a sand castle
- Plant a vegetable or flower garden together
- Make a bug cage and catch bugs together
- Walk on the beach, don't forget to check out the different shells and rocks
- Go swimming at a local pool
- Go whale watching
- Go on a boat ride
- Wash the car together
- Lay out in the sun, look for shapes in the clouds
- Go to an amusement park
- Roller blade or skate at a park
- Help your mentee with summer reading
- Visit the zoo
- Play outdoor sports together

Spring & Summer Crafts

Make your own Kite

Celebrate winter's end by planning a trip to the park and creating a your own kite to fly upon your arrival

<http://www.skratch-pad.com/kites/make.html>

Tin Can Totem Pole

Creating a tin can totem pole is a great way to welcome summer and help out your environment by recycling those left over cans

http://campingclub.typepad.com/my_weblog/2008/05/tin-can-totem-p.html

Tie Dye

Tie ding is a great project to do while the weather is warm- for space to anticipate spills and plenty of fresh air, make this fun project an outdoor activity

<http://www.kid-at-art.com/htdoc/lesson29.html>

Homemade Water Bottle Holder

Using patterned felt and old t-shirts you can make your own water bottle holder

<http://crafts.kaboose.com/water-bottle-holder.html>

Found-Object Picture Frame

Take a nature walk together and collect objects to glue to a picture store-bought picture frame- take it a step further and carry a camera on your walk to place inside the frame

Make Your Own Potpourri

“Potpourris smell good and are easy to make. Many of the ingredients can be found in your yard or kitchen. There are many things you can put in potpourri. Use what you have available.” <http://lancaster.unl.edu/hort/youth/potpourri.shtml>

Fall Activities



Fall Mentor Activities

Leaf the House

- Go apple picking...then make apple cider, an apple pie or candy apples
- Go for a walk or hike and check out the
- Go on a hayride
- Go to a pumpkin patch
- Go to a local “Oktoberfest” in your area
 - Try the *Harvard Square Oktoberfest*:
<http://www.harvardsquare.com/Home/Articles/Oktoberfest-2009.aspx>
- Rake the leaves (then jump in them!)
- Take a drive to look at the Fall foliage
- Visit Salem to check out the witches
- Visit a farm and go for a horse-drawn wagon ride
- Play some football in your backyard or at the park
- Attend a football game- high school, college or professional
- Find a local corn maze in your area (but try not to get too lost)
- Have a campfire- with the weather cooling down nothing is nicer than a warm fire to sit around

Stay Warm Inside

- Make a “back-to-school” shopping list
- Go to a museum
- Start experimenting with new Thanksgiving recipes
- Make popcorn and watch a scary movie (check with your little’s parent first on the movie)
- Decorate for Halloween or Thanksgiving
- Catch the baseball playoffs on TV
- Buy candy for trick-or-treaters (and probably yourself)

Fall Crafts

Gravestones Rubbing

Using the broad, flat area of your chalk or wax, lightly stroke the paper and watch the design appear

http://www.ehow.com/how_18628_make-gravestone-rubbing.html

Fall Bird Feeder

This birdseed and peanut butter bird feeder is a treat for kids as well as the birds. Introduce your kids to nature with this simple craft

<http://crafts.kaboose.com/kids-bird-feeder.html>

Pumpkin Decorating

<http://www.thecutekid.com/parenting/pumpkin-decorating-ideas.php>

Home-Made Halloween Costumes

<http://www.robinsfyi.com/holidays/halloween/costumes.htm>

Pressing Leaves

http://www.ehow.com/how_2002693_press-autumn-leaves.html

Wearable Fall Necklace

Using thread, needle, popcorn, cranberry, fall leaves, or nuts, create a festive wearable creation

http://www.essortment.com/hobbies/fallautumnneck_saso.htm

Make a Scare Crow

<http://www.bestgardening.com/bgc/hub/kidssc scarecrow01.htm>

Create an Apple Stamp Bag

Create your own festive tote using apples as stamps!

<http://family.go.com/entertainment/craft-ff-24295-apple-stamp-bag-t/>

Assemble a Cornucopia

<http://www.decorate-redecorate.com/thanksgiving-cornucopia.html>