

SNOW DAY EDITION January 2016



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Letter From The Director

Happy New Year!

I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season and that you are as excited for 2016 as we are!

Enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year is officially underway, and I can't believe how fast the forms are coming in! If you are planning on registering, please make sure to get your form in BEFORE February 1.

Please remember that we will only go out if the playground is safe and it is 32 degrees and above. Please remember to pack your child **labeled snow clothes** so that we can get the children outside if the weather permits.

Progress reports will be sent home towards the end of January. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about the report.

As a reminder, please do not leave children unattended in cars while picking up and dropping off. Safety is a priority at the Co-Op and all children need to be with an adult while on school property. If you need help with a younger child, please speak to a Staff Member.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.
Suzanne Dionne
Director

BASKET RAFFLE

Please keep an eye out for upcoming information regarding the Basket Raffle Fundraiser! Teachers will be announcing the class basket themes and raffle tickets will be available to purchase and sell!

Fundraising and Dining Dates

January 17- Bertucci's Dining Event
February 6- Basket Raffle/Stacey Peasley Concert
29- March 15- Mixed Bag Sale
April 4- Papa Gino's Dining Event

Lunch Bunch and Extended Day

Please speak with Suzanne for availability.

Lunch Bunch is \$10 for a 1 pm pick up
or \$15 for a 1:30 pm pick up
Full day is \$40 for a 4 pm pick up

As the snowy weather approaches, please remember that drop off and pick up times may take a bit longer due to congestion in the parking lot. Please be extra cautious and patient as students are entering and exiting the school.

School Delay and School Closure Reminders



The Central Co-Op follows the Chelmsford Public School System for closures and delays. Therefore, if the Chelmsford Public Schools are closed, the Co-Op will be closed. If there is a delay, the Co-Op half-day program will be closed but the full day program will follow the delay. For example, if there is a two-hour delay, the half-day program will not take place, but full day students are welcome to come in at 11am until the allotted pick-up time. If you will not be sending your full day child in that day, please let Suzanne know so she can have appropriate staffing available!

Check that Snow Gear!

A friendly reminder to check your child's snow gear during the wet winter months. Often, their items can become pretty wet when playing outside and may need to be thrown in the dryer or put out to dry! Also, packing their snow items in a lined bag will help keep the

Co-Op hallway carpets dry!

Please make sure to label all items!

ATTENTION PARENTS OF GRADUATING PRESCHOOLERS

Please check out this link for Kindergarten registration information
Registration begins January 19th

<http://www.chelmsford.k12.ma.us/domain/100>

Along with the required documents, make sure to fill out the K-4 registration packet.

Valentines Day Celebrations

February 11 & 12

Students will have a Valentines Party and a chance to hand out Valentines to their classmates! Sign up list for party treats and supplies will be available closer to the celebration dates!



Upcoming Dates:

January 12-13 Cardio Kids

January 18 No School

February 2 Board Meeting

February 6 Basket Raffle and Concert

February 15-19 February Vacation

Please don't forget to use our Amazon link

www.centralcoopshop.com

when shopping on Amazon. A percentage of your purchases come back to the Co-Op at no charge to you! This is the easiest way to help raise money for the Co-Op by doing shopping you're already doing! Please remember to tell your family and friends to help us get even more!

A SNOWY DAY READ AND CRAFT

SUBMITTED BY: MRS. DULONG

One fun way to use books with young children is as a springboard for a follow-up creative activity. If you need a good indoor activity on a snowy day, check out the book "Windblown" by Edouard Manceau. It's terrific! Seven bits of colorful paper are blown all around by the wind, arranging and rearranging into different forms with each new gust. After reading the book, give kids the seven shapes, some glue, and some paper and encourage them to imagine the wind has blown their seven pieces around. Can they create their own pictures using their shapes in new and interesting ways?

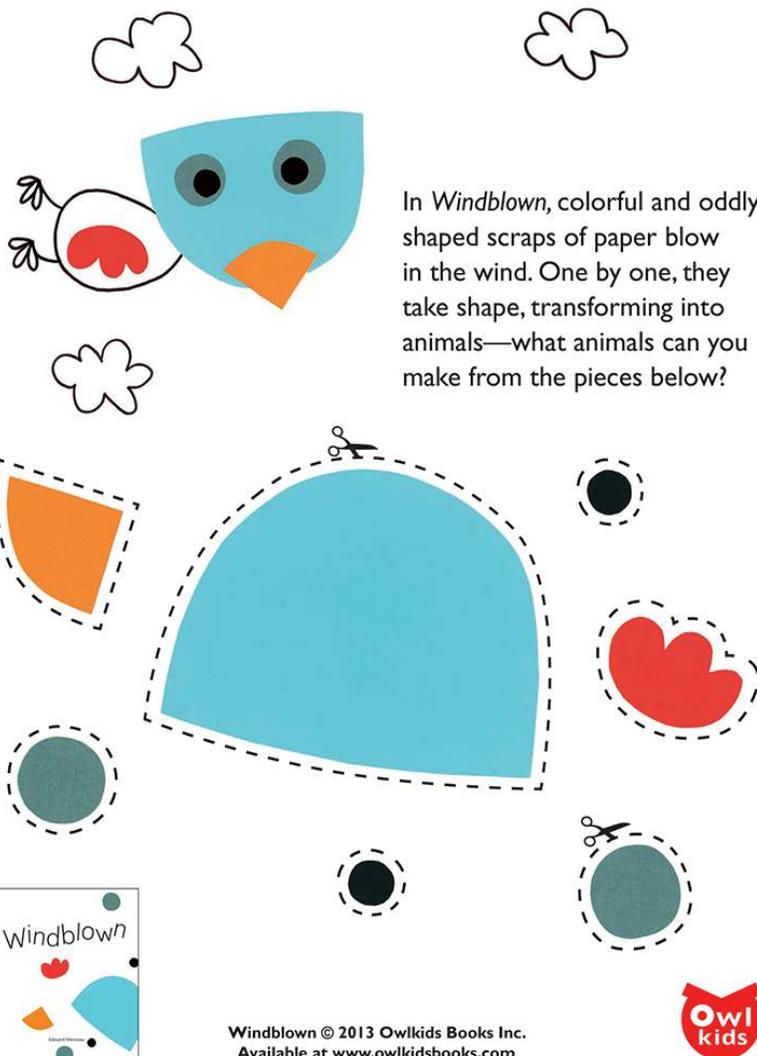
FIND THE "WINDBLOWN" PRINT OUT HERE (OR CREATE YOUR OWN!):

[HTTP://WWW.STURDYFORCOMMONTHINGS.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2013/03/WINDBLOWN-ACTIVITY.PDF](http://www.sturdyforcommonthings.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/windblown-activity.pdf)

PURCHASE WINDBLOWN HERE:

[HTTP://AMZN.TO/10B69WE](http://amzn.to/10B69WE)

TRY THIS ACTIVITY AT HOME? SEND A PICTURE OF YOUR CHILD'S SHAPE TRANSFORMATION TO LILJEN930@YAHOO.COM FOR A FEATURE IN NEXT MONTHS NEWSLETTER!



GETTING MESSY WITH SCIENCE...

TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE YOUR CHILD MAKE HYPOTHESES AND PREDICTIONS ALL WHILE HAVING A TON OF FUN!

Glitter Slime

2 tsp Borax
1 1/2 cup water
1 bottle of white glue

5 drops of food coloring
Glitter

- In a small mixing bowl, mix 1 cup of water and 2 tsp of borax together: Stir until well blended and set aside.
- In a medium sized mixing bowl, pour the entire bottle of glue and add the remaining 1/2 cup of water: Stir until well blended. Once blended, add food coloring and stir:
- Pour the glitter (a lot of it!) into the glue mixture and stir!
- Now, pour the contents of your small bowl right into the middle and wait for the products to become solid.
- AS the products begin to solidify, use your hands to help mix! Have fun playing!
- Store slime in a mason jar or plastic container/baggie to reuse! Add googly eyes and other materials for added fun!



Dish Soap Silly Putty

2 tbsp cornstarch
1 1/2 tbsp dish soap

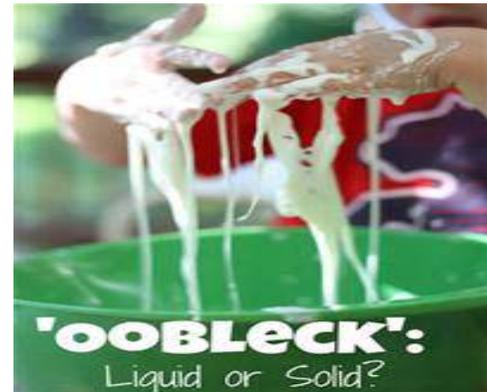
mix the two ingredients together with a spoon and then your hands for a fool proof silly putty! If the putty is too dry, add more dish soap, if its too wet, add more cornstarch! Store in a sealed container!

OUBLECK

Cornstarch
Water

Food Coloring
Large Bowl

Mix 1 cup of cornstarch and 1/2 cup of water. To make a syrup like consistency. Add food coloring if you would like! Now get your hands in and get messy! Discuss with your child if Oobleck is a liquid or a solid! For added fun, check out Dr. Seuss' book Bartholomew and the Oobleck!



FAKE SNOW... Like we need more

Pour 1lb of baking soda into a bowl and add shaving cream (start off with a good bit and add more as needed). Knead the ingredients together until the "snow" starts to form! Have some messy snowy fun!

BEYOND THE SNOWMAN AND SNOW FORTS...

FUN ACTIVITIES TO DO USING SNOW INSIDE!



PAINT THE SNOW

Snow
Bucket
Paints
Paintbrushes

Fill a bucket with snow and let your kids paint away! For added fun, water down the paint (or use liquid watercolors and use medicine droppers instead of paintbrushes!)

Make Your Own Snow Watercolors!

What you need:

Snow
Food Coloring
Kool-Aid (optional- for scented paints)
Individual Containers
Paintbrushes
Paper

Place snow in small containers, add food coloring and mix. If you would like to add a scent, mix in a little kool-aid! Paint away!



Fizzy Snow

Snow
Baking Soda
Vinegar
Food Coloring
Squirt Bottles or Droppers

Fill your sink with snow and the squirt bottles with vinegar and food coloring. Sprinkle the snow with baking soda. Let your child squirt the snow with the vinegar and watch it fizz! I suggest buying a gallon of vinegar and a large box of baking soda!



Snow Cream

8 c. clean snow
1, 14 oz can condensed milk
1 tsp vanilla extract

Combine all ingredients and top with your favorite toppings! Even try mixing in chocolate chips! Perfect treat to have on a snow day!



NO MORE "I'M BORED"...

TRY OUT THESE FUN GAME IDEAS TO BEAT THOSE "BOREDOM BLUES"! YOU CAN GIVE YOUR CHILD THESE SIMPLE SUPPLIES TO CREATE THEIR OWN FUN!

Pom-Pom Races!

Using masking tape or painters tape, create a course on your floor for each child. Using only a straw or pom pom, see who can finish first!

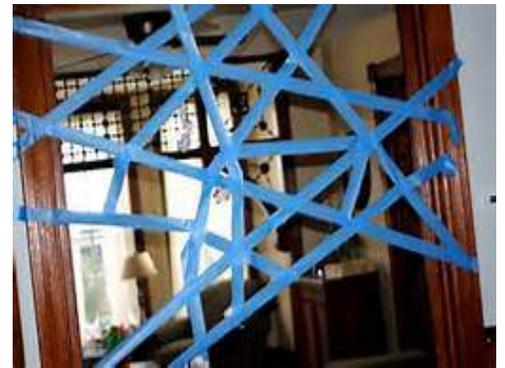


Paper Plate Tennis

Attach a tongue depressor to a paper plate and blow up a balloon! Create a fun indoor tennis match!

Sticky Spider Web

Using painters tape, create a spiderweb in your doorway. Take balled up pieces of newspaper and throw at the sticky side!



Ping Pong Ball Catch

Take out those red solo cups and ping pong balls and see who can catch the most balls!

For added fun, have ping pong balls spoon races! Who can make it to the finish line first?



LETS GET CRAFTY...

A GREAT CRAFT PROJECT CAN FILL IN THOSE EXTRA MINUTES IN BETWEEN LUNCH AND DINNER WHEN YOU'RE READY FOR A BREAK! CHECK OUT SOME OF THESE KID APPROVED CRAFTS!



SNOW DAY COOKING...

GET IN THAT KITCHEN AND GET COOKING! TRY OUT SOME OF THESE SNOW DAY TREATS TO MAKE THE DAY SPECIAL OR TO WARM UP AFTER PLAYING OUTSIDE!

Crock Pot Hot Chocolate

- Combine 2 cups of water
- 8 tbs of unsweetened cocoa (or syrup)
- 8 tbs of sugar
- 6 cups of milk
- 1 tbs of vanilla

Into your crock pot. Turn on low for one hour and serve. If you plan to leave it in the crock pot longer, set it on warm! Serve with whipped topping or marshmallows!



Sno Ball Brownies

- 1 box of brownie mix
- 1 16 oz can of vanilla frosting
- 1 7 oz jar of fluff

- 3 cups sweetened coconut
- 4-6 drops of food coloring

Following instructions on box, bake brownies and cool completely.. Combine frosting and fluff in a bowl, Mix well and spread over brownies.. Add coconut to a bowl and squeeze food coloring over it. Mix with a fork until the food coloring is evenly distributed. Sprinkle coconut over frosting, cut and serve!

Snowman Oreo Pops

- Double Stuff Oreos
- Black and Orange Frosting in a tube
- Fruit Rope (optional scarf)

- White Melting Chocolate
- Lollipop Sticks

Gently twist apart Oreos. In a microwave bowl, slowly melt chocolate until fully melted and smooth. Dip the end of the lollipop stick in the chocolate and place in the middle of the Oreo filling. Press cookie back together. Freeze for 30 minutes. Dip entire Oreo back into the chocolate and cover completely. Gently tap off excess and place on parchment paper to harden. Using the frosting, create eyes, mouth and a nose. Tie a piece of fruit rope around the base of the Oreo.



The BEST Play Dough

- .2 tbsp oil
- 1 cup water
- food coloring
- 1/2 cup salt
- 1 cup flour
- 2 tsp cream of tartar

Mix together oil, water and food coloring. Stir in rest of ingredients. Cook on medium or low heat, stirring constantly, until mixture pulls away from sides of saucepan and forms a ball. This only takes a few minutes. Remove from pan, cool slightly and then gently knead. Will keep soft for a few weeks if stored in a ziploc bag.

PLACES TO GO...

HAD ENOUGH OF THOSE INDOOR PLAY PLACES? HERE ARE A FEW OTHER PLACES TO CONSIDER TO BEAT THOSE WINTER BLUES!

* DON'T FORGET TO REFER TO THE WEBSITES OR CALL FOR HOURS AND TO FIND OUT IF THEY ARE OPEN DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER!*

Bowling:

Brunswick Zone in Lowell

<http://www.bowlbrunswick.com/about-us/226/1>

Collins Bowladrome in Billerica

<http://www.collinsbowladrome.com>

Wamesit Lanes in Tewksbury (also has virtual golf and an arcade! Something for everyone)

<http://wamesitlanes.com>

STEM

Einsteins Workshop in Burlington

<https://www.einsteinsworkshop.com>

Brickapalooza in Tyngsboro

<http://brickapalooza.com>

Creation Station, Westford (limit hours during the week)

<http://creationstationma.com/offerings/exploration-arcade/>

Games

Funtagious Fun Center in Tyngsboro

<http://www.funtagious4fun.com>

Glow Golf at the Pheasant Lane Mall

<http://www.simon.com/mall/pheasant-lane-mall/stores/glow-golf>

Movies

Chunky's Cinema in Nashua (Kids 4 and under see the movie for free!)

<http://www.chunkys.com/about/locations/nashua/>

Museums

Acton Discovery Museum in Acton

<http://www.discoverymuseums.org>

Art and Crafts

The Maker Farm in Westford

<https://www.themakerfarm.com>

Color*Full Explorations in Acton

<http://colorfullexplorations.com>

Time to Clay, Nashua

<http://www.timetoclay.com>

Other

K-1 Speed, Electric Cart Racing in Boston (height requirements)

<https://www.k1speed.com/boston-location.html>

Beanstalk Adventure Ropes Course in Reading at Jordan's Furniture

<http://www.jordans.com/attractions/beanstalk>

Altitude Trampoline Park in Billerica

http://altitude_trampoline_park.com/page.cfm

Taste Buds Kitchen in North Andover (classes for ages 2-Adult)

<http://tastebudskitchen.com>