

Critical Literacy



Hastings and Prince Edward
District School Board



DECEMBER 2008

Literacy Connections

Critical Literacy is the practice of examining and discussing the *underlying messages* in print or media in order to better understand the world in which we live. It shows us ways of looking at written, visual, spoken, and multi-media materials to understand, question, and challenge the ideas and beliefs that lie beneath the surface.

Here are some questions that you could ask your child in order to encourage him or her to read and think critically:

What is this story about? Why are you interested in reading it?

What does this story make you think of?

How do you feel about the ideas of the writer?

What does the writer want you to know or think? Why?

Safe and Healthy School Connections

Healthy Holiday Snacks For Kids

The holiday season is a time for celebration. Parents and caregivers can help children to celebrate this festive time by preparing and serving fun, healthy holiday snacks. Children will enjoy the fun shapes, colours and holiday-themed snack choices. Parents and caregivers will feel good about serving nutritious and fun foods.

Holiday Sandwiches

Prepare a variety of sandwiches on whole grain bread and use holiday cookie cutters to make fun holiday sandwich shapes. Serve with a glass of milk.

Peppermint Hot Chocolate

2 cups milk
2 tbsp chocolate syrup or powdered hot chocolate
2 small candy canes

In a saucepan, heat milk until hot, but not boiling. Add the chocolate and stir. Pour hot cocoa into mugs and allow to cool for small children. Serve each with a candy cane stirring stick. Offer fruit or crackers for a balanced snack choice.

Elf Smoothie

1 cup honeydew melon cubes
1 kiwi
1 banana
1 cup milk or yogurt

In blender, combine melon, kiwi, banana and milk or yogurt. Blend until smooth. Serve with a colourful holiday drinking straw.



Community Connections

BELLEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Dec. 6—10:30 a.m.

Children's Christmas Open House
Christmas Music Performance by
Anthony Mann in Gallery 1

Dec. 13—5 to 8 years

Polar Express, Stories, Activities, Crafts

Dec. 20—8 & Up

Polar Express, Stories, Activities, Crafts

Christmas Reading Club—Each time children visit the library before Dec. 20 they will be encouraged to fill out a Christmas ring with their name and the title of a book read. Attached to the rings are ballots which will be entered into a draw box for a chance to win a prize.