

# Centre for Family Literacy

## Alberta Prairie C.O.W. Bus



Fall Newsletter 2015

### Crafts & Learning



Doing a craft together is a great family literacy activity. Any craft will do, as it's the *interaction* that builds the foundation for future learning. Crafts incorporate a variety of learning styles, build up self-esteem, and create a positive association with learning. They can also be used more deliberately as a way to learn about the alphabet, numbers, colours and science. Other skills learned: following directions, problem-solving, goal-setting, fine motor skills and self-expression. **Try a craft in conjunction with books to boost interest in reading!**

Try to keep it simple. Crafting should be a positive experience, so don't stress; have fun with it!

### Let's Get Crafty!

#### Autumn Placemat Instructions

At meal times, your little one will be excited to help set the table using placemats they made themselves. You can also connect this activity with a book like **"Awesome Autumn" by Bruce Colestone** (non-fiction).

1. The best part: scavenge for colourful fall leaves!
2. Give your little one some crayons and construction paper and let them draw away to decorate.
3. Optional: decorate your leaves using glitter and glue.
4. Use glue or tape and press leaves on to the paper.
5. Place paper between sheets of contact paper or laminate.



#### Placemat Materials

- Construction paper
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Leaves
- Laminator (or Contact Paper)
- Glue or double-sided tape
- Scissors (to trim if needed)
- Optional: glitter glue

#### Make an Outdoor Clock With Rocks and Sticks!

Outdoor literacy activities don't need to be complicated.

Find 12 flat rocks, write numbers on them together, and make a clock using little sticks for hands!



For an added challenge you can add smaller rocks for the minutes.

Paint them for added fun, or leave them as is!

Find out more about family literacy and upcoming C.O.W. visits at [www.familit.ca](http://www.familit.ca) or call the Centre for Family Literacy at 780-421-7323 (Toll Free 1-866-421-7323). Funded by the Government of Alberta.