

Winter Newsletter



Milton Early Childhood Alliance

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We're on on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#) at:

Milton Early Childhood Alliance

Our Winter Programming...always free!

StoryWalk® at the Trailside Museum

Take some time to enjoy the outdoors, visit with some animals and read a terrific children's story at the same time! We have posted a children's story on the outdoor fencing of the Trailside Museum's grounds for your family to enjoy. Please remember to follow the state's health and safety guidelines by wearing a mask and social distancing by remaining at one post until the next post is available to enjoy. During this time, the Trailside Museum is open Fridays and Saturdays, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, by *pre-registration only* at www.massaudubon.org/reservations.

Preschool Playgroup Series

Join us for some stories, songs, movement, and engaging activities created just for 3, 4, and 5 year old children, accompanied by an adult. This playgroup series will meet virtually on Zoom each Thursday for 6 weeks, from January 21st through February 25th at 10:30 AM. Activity bags, filled with supplies and materials, will be available for pick up and include everything needed to participate in this playgroup series! Completion of the Ages & Stages Questionnaire, to help better understand your child's growth and development, will be requested of you. *Registration is required* and can be completed here: <https://forms.gle/qQM3tmAQBbA8joi46>. Upon completion of this series, you will receive children's books for you and your child to enjoy together!

Nature Tales Series

Animal Habitats! Join us for a STEM and Early Literacy adventure virtually at the Trailside Museum. This event will be held on Zoom on Saturday, January 23rd at 11:00 AM. You'll enjoy a children's story, a guided movement activity, meet and hear about two live animals and have the opportunity to participate in a question and answer period! This will be an interactive event, with as many questions answered as possible. For ages 2.9 through 7 years old. We strongly encourage parent participation. *Registration is required* to obtain the Zoom link and password and can be completed here: <https://forms.gle/9ovJygaeXk3XyUWb8>. Additional programs and dates: March 27, 2021 Animal Movements; and May 22, 2021 Animal Five Senses. *Many thanks to our Kindergarten T-shirt sponsors for their generous support of this programming!*

Continued: Our Winter Programming...always free!

Help Your Child Learn at Home

Help your children learn at home with two additional at home learning workshops. On January 26, 2021, we will talk about Understanding your Child's Learning Styles and Development and on March 16, 2021, we will talk about Re-engaging and Motivating Your Child to Finish Strong. Both programs will begin at 7:30 PM via Zoom. For families with children 2.9 to 10 years old. Facilitated by Beth Greenawalt, Parent Coach and founder of www.Parent-Solutions.com. **Registration is required** to obtain the Zoom link and password and can be completed here: <https://forms.gle/GDBxtsNfMiAlaNBBe9>. *Many thanks to the Milton Junior Woman's Club for their generous support of this programming!*

Family Story Time with Children's Book Author

Enjoy a family story time with children's book author, Michelle Chalmers, while she reads her book, Vitamin D and Me How Humans Outsmarted the Sun. This virtual event is designed for children and families to listen together and enjoy a story of how and why human beings have different color skin tones. From dark brown to light, human beings and our evolution have an amazing story to tell and it's all here to learn and share. This engagement encourages open conversation and questions after the story that will give families jumping off points for later conversations. This special family story time event will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at 6:00 PM. This will be an informal story time, so feel free to join us while having dinner or in your pajamas. **Registration is required** to obtain the Zoom link and password and can be completed here: <https://forms.gle/NkQ5PjWvTLsLYou18>. *Many thanks to Learning Circle Preschool for their generous support of this program!*

Kindergarten Pre-Registration Is Open

It's time to pre-register for Kindergarten! Milton Public Schools Kindergarten Information Night will be held on January 28th, 2021, at 6:30 PM. Children must be age five on or before August 31, 2021 to be eligible. Incoming kindergarten parents and guardians will be able to learn about kindergarten and have an opportunity to ask any questions they might have. This information session will take place virtually through a link posted on Milton Public Schools website prior to the event. The pre-registration form, which should be completed prior to Kindergarten Information Night, can be found at: [2021/2022 Kindergarten Pre-registration Questionnaire \(google.com\)](#). Please contact Marti O'Keefe McKenna at preschool@miltonps.org or mckenna@miltonps.org, should you have any questions.

Milton Public Library Children's Programming

Join the Library staff for lots of fun children's programming with Night Owls Storytime on Mondays at 6:30 PM, Up to Five, Live! on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM, Smaller Wonders on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM, Yoga with Jill on Fridays at 11:00 AM and many other programs. Especially check out Take-and-Make Tots, a new program in the children's room! Additional programs being offered are: SPUB Live, C.A.L.M. Kids, Young Writers Club, Listening for Light, Lego Live, Uke-Crew Online, Winter Origami Craft, Cooks & Books, Virtual Reading Dogs, and STEM with Ms. Sara. For more details and registration information, visit their website at: miltonlibrary.org, click on Events, and use the drop down menu under All Programs to choose Children's Programs.

Are you looking for childcare? If so, we can help!

Just email cpmecasl@verizon.net, let us know the age of your child, and we'll send you comprehensive information on all licensed childcare programs and providers in town, surrounding cities and towns, or via your driving route.

Children Grow and Change Every Day

Through the Help Me Grow program, the Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) is a free, simple tool you can use to find out what your child's strengths are, and the areas where they may need more practice. The program is designed specifically for the age of your child anywhere between birth and 5 ½ years old, and can be done multiple times during your child's first five years of life. Simply complete a Questionnaire in the comfort of your home, then, submit it to us for scoring. We'll let you know the results, help you with next steps, if needed, and provide you with fun, simple activities to help with your child's continual growth and development - all for FREE! Our ASQ online link is: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/8fd7d7>.

Parents Helping Parents

Empowering parents to nurture children and build stronger families. Trained volunteer counselors offer ways to relieve stress in a sympathetic, non-judgmental way. Support is available 24/7 at 1-800-632-8188 or www.parentshelpingparents.org.

Five Great Sledding Hills on the South Shore (from The Patriot Ledger)

Coast Guard Hill, Marshfield - This popular sledding spot, at 900 Ferry St., is maintained by the town's recreation department. Hay bales are placed in front of trees to keep sledders from being injured. The long hike to the top of the hill is well worth making - for a couple of reasons. You can take in a beautiful view of the ocean, then ride down the 200-foot slope.

South Shore Country Club, Hingham - South Shore Country Club contains a variety of hills. The golf course is largely free of trees, so there are lots of wide-open expanses for sledding. Check out the hills near the club entrance on South Street, or park on Fort Hill Street for the biggest slopes.

First Parish Church, Norwell - This hill is well-suited for those who have young children or are looking for a slower, easier ride. The spacious field, at 24 River St., has plenty of fenced-in space for sledding, and you can park in the church lot.

Borderland State Park, Easton - The hill behind the Ames Mansion has been a popular sledding spot for years. If pulling your sled up the hill isn't enough exercise for you, you can also hike the park's many trails or have a snowball fight in the spacious fields. Parking is \$5 for Massachusetts residents.

Presidents Golf Course - This golf course, on the Quincy-Milton border, is another location that provides clear paths for adventurous sledders. Its multiple hills make it a popular local spot, sure to be busy after a snowfall.

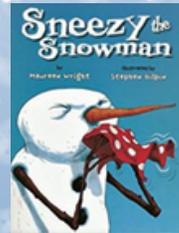
Resources

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance maintains a comprehensive Milton Parents Resource Manual, filled with a myriad of information for parents and families. Check out our website at www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org.

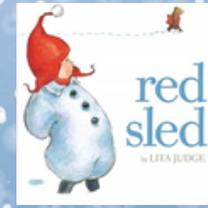
Food Assistance

Milton Public Schools:
call 617-898-1051
email jmorgan@miltonps.org
Milton Food Pantry:
call 617-696-0221
www.miltonfoodpantryma.org
Project Bread:
call hotline 1-800-645-8333
www.projectbread.org
WIC - Women, Infants & Children
call Quincy's office 617-376-8701
www.wic.bamsi.org/
Interfaith Social Services
call 617-773-6203 x19
www.interfaithsocialservices.org/food/

Great Winter Books for Children



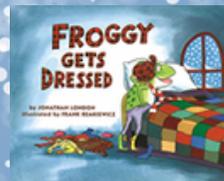
Sneezy the Snowman
by Maureen Wright



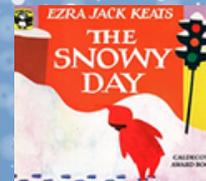
Red Sled by
Lita Judge



The Mitten by
Jan Brett



Froggy Gets Dressed by
Jonathan London



The Snowy Day by
Ezra Jack Keats



Owl Moon by
Jane Yolen

We are very grateful to the First
Congregational Church for their generous
support of our office space.

