

Celebrate Winter

Teen Activity: Star Wars Snowflake

Need: Printer, internet access, X-ACTO knife
If you don't have a printer or internet access, come to any library, and we will help you print out your snowflakes!

Steps:

1. Select a snowflake design from: www.anthonyherrera.com/starwarssnowflakes
2. Watch the video that explains how to cut and fold the snowflakes (you can do this at the library as well)
3. Fold the snowflake
4. Using the X-ACTO knife, very carefully cut out your snowflake
5. Unfold the paper, and enjoy your awesome snowflake



Popcorn and Cranberry Strands

- Waxed unscented dental floss
 - Sturdy, large-eyed needle
 - Lots of freshly popped plain popcorn
 - Dried unsweetened cranberries
1. Thread the needle with dental floss. Carefully push the needle through cranberry, folding or doubling the thread over the cranberry. Add more thickest section of popcorn.
 2. Alternate back and forth with cranberries and popcorn.
 3. When the strand is nearly full, tie it off with a big, tight knot. Your garland is ready to drape on your Christmas tree or banister!

Winter 2016 Database Highlights

Do you know which country celebrates Euskadi Eguna on October 25? Did you know that Bosnians celebrate Independence Day on March 1? Countries around the world have a variety of celebrations and holidays that you can learn about on the new **PPLD.ORG!** Select **PPLD Kids** from the green box on the right side of the **PPLD.ORG** home page. Then select **Kids Databases** from the dark blue area. Two particular databases of interest are:

1. **Culture Grams Online Kids Edition:** Use the box at the top to search holidays and browse numerous international holidays. OR Use the map to find your country of interest and select "holidays" in the red Lifestyle box on the left side of the page.
 2. **Explora for Primary Schools:** Use the box at the top to search holidays, world holidays, etc. **or** type the country of your choice, for example: African holidays. This will lead you to children's articles in leading magazines and reference books, that relate to your topic
- Can you find something to celebrate each month of the year?**

Holiday Books for Teens

Fiction

What Light by Jay Asher

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Dash & Lily's Book of Dares

by Rachel Cohn & David Levithan

My True Love Gave to Me: 12 Holiday Stories

Edited by Stephanie Perkins

The ToyMaker's Apprentice

by Sherri L. Smith

Nonfiction

641.59296 C781K

Kwanzaa: An African American celebration of culture and cooking

by Daniel Brown

296.435 A828H

Hanukkah in America: A History

by Dianne Ashton

394.26 B854N

National Geographic Angry Birds seasons: a festive flight into the world's happiest

holidays and celebrations

by Amy Briggs

745.59412 C5557

Christmas Traditions by Susan White Sullivan

394.2663 C55523 2009

The Christmas Almanac by Natasha Fried

Kids Books to Celebrate Winter

J-Easy (picture books)

BAUE *If Frogs Made the Weather* by Marion Dane Bauer

CLAR *Grandma Dove the Snowplow* by Katie Clark

FRAS *No Yeti Yet* by Mary Ann Fraser

KANE *Into the Snow* by Yuki Kaneko

TEST *Gift of the Night Fury* by Maggie Testa

J-Nonfiction

371.33 B835W

Winter Holidays by Karen M. Breitbart

394.2 L649

Let's Celebrate! Festival Poems from Around the World

394.26 G467C

A Calendar of Festivals by Cherry Gilchrist

394.26 J77KI

Kids Around the World Celebrate! by Lynda Jones

736.982 OWEN

Christmas and Hanukkah Origami by Ruth Owen

745.5941 C582F

Festival Decorations by Anne Civardi

745.5941 S897H

Holiday Crafting & Baking With Kids by Jessica Strand

Celebrations

around the world

All around the world families are preparing to celebrate different holidays rooted in culture, religion and/or traditions. As your family gets ready for your own special holiday celebrations, enjoy learning a little bit about winter holidays around the globe.

Hanukkah: Jewish people around the world celebrate Hanukkah for eight days between late November and late December by lighting a candle on the menorah each night. This is done to commemorate the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt in the 2nd century.

Saint Lucia's Day: Areas of Europe and the U.S. with a large population of Scandinavians celebrate this feast honoring the patron Saint Lucia on December 13. Traditions include lighting a crown of candles and offering sweets.

Christmas: December 25 is celebrated around the world as either a sacred holiday honoring the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, or as a secular holiday celebrating the giving of gifts, spending time with family and general good will, or as a combination of both. Celebrations, especially those in the United States, include having a tree, putting up lights, gathering for parties, and giving and receiving presents.

Boxing Day: Countries with a heavy British influence, such as Canada and Great Britain, give gifts to the less fortunate, and more recently, service workers on December 26.

Kwanzaa: An African-American holiday started in 1966 by Maulana Karenga. Kwanzaa is celebrated between December 26 and January 1 as a year-end feast and is based on a compilation of several harvest festivals and celebrations from around the African continent. Each day is dedicated to one of the seven principles of building self-awareness and the week is celebrated through feasting, fasting and self-examination.

Chinese New Year: Celebrated between January 21 and February 20 by Chinese living in China, the United States and Canada, this holiday began as a month long celebration of the New Year but is now much shorter. Traditions include cleaning and decorating the home, lavish parades, and family reunions. Participants celebrate family, good fortune and the renewal of life.

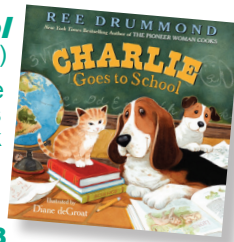
These holidays are by no means an exhaustive list. For more information, or to discover other celebrations around the world, use the resources highlighted in this issue or the databases available at **ppld.org**. Who knows? You might find a new holiday to celebrate or a family tradition to implement.

The new BookShelf
great new books for homeschoolers

Have you stumbled across images of a family in the midst of homeschooling in a picture book? Here are two that are very positive in their representation of homeschooling families.

Charlie Goes to School
by Ree Drummond (2013)

Charlie the Ranch Dog is a great picture book series by Ree Drummond, and in this book, it is easy to see the family in the book are homeschooling. Charlie sees his family homeschooling, and decides he will teach all the animals on the ranch. Do read *Charlie the Ranch Dog* first. **Ages 3 - 8**



This is My Home, This is My School
by Jonathan Bean (2015)

This is a companion book to *Building Our House* (2013), but this time, the narrator pulls us right into the middle of a busy, bustling homeschool family. The illustrations are a delight, and are truthful about what it looks like to live in a homeschooling house. **Ages 3 - 8**



And here are some other new books, all treasures:

Waiting for High Tide
by Nikki McClure (2016)

A family builds a raft and we learn about many different kinds of ocean wildlife. We have no ocean here, but read the story, and imagine a similar homeschooling adventure here in Colorado Springs. Marine biology, imagination, raft building, adventure **Ages 3 - 10**



The Artist and Me by Shane Peacock (2016)

Based on the life and times of Vincent van Gogh, as seen through the eyes of a child – and this child was not very nice and acknowledged this fact. Art history, kindness, being different **Ages 5 - 10**



Can I Eat That?
by Joshua David Stein (2016)

Delightful book talks briefly about things you can eat, where some foods come from, and then a dash of word play is included. Food study **Ages 3 - 7**



Cricket Song by Anne Hunter (2016)

A bedtime story, and a see-how-big the world is story, all rolled into one, this beautiful book allows the reader to see how children in different lands, as seen by the illustration across the bottom of the pages, are not so different from themselves. Very beginning 'geography' – here and there **Ages 3 - 7**



Pikes Peak Library District

Little-Known Secrets

to reserve meeting rooms go to ppld.org/meeting-rooms

Have you checked out



If not, you should schedule some time to visit! It is located upstairs (yes, you can really go up there!) in East Library. The **ERC** is a welcoming, family-directed, hands-on area where families and their children can practice, learn, and explore together. Math, science, social studies and language arts kits, as well as art & music resources and computer software are available for families with students of all ages (preschool – 12th grade) to use. We also have safe early literacy toys for younger siblings. Color-coded kit bins are self-serve and will mainly interest families with preschool through elementary aged students. Bin colors are: blue—math, red—language arts and reading, green—science, yellow—social studies, purple—art, and orange—music. More kits and educational games can be found on open shelving. Three large cabinets hold even more math and science kits (many for older students), as well as microscopes and science lab equipment. Each cabinet has a sign on the door showing what is inside. Three computers are loaded with preschool & grade school educational software, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, etc.), Adobe Creative software, Froguts (virtual dissection software), and Driver-Zed (driver's education software). There are also a number of reference books available, some unique, some with additional copies in our circulating collection. Most kits and equipment can be checked out for 2 hours to use in another part of the library (a study room, for instance). Nothing goes home. We'll ask you to sign a loan agreement before checking anything out.

Wednesday and Friday mornings, 10 – 11 or 11 – 12, can be reserved just for your family or small group in the ERC by calling the East Children's Dept. at 531-6333, x1403.

The normal ERC open hours are:

- Monday 3 - 6 pm
- Tuesday noon - 4 pm
- Wednesday noon - 6 pm
- Thursday 3 - 6 pm
- Friday noon - 5 pm
- Saturday noon - 4 pm
- Sunday Closed

Come visit the ERC and explore the possibilities!

Homeschool

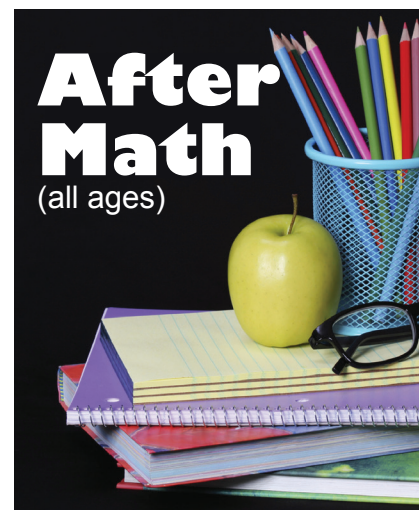


Teens (12 - 18)
Career Conversations

Professionals from different career fields break it down for teens in a panel discussion that explores the ups and downs of occupations. Each month will feature a different career path group.

1st Thu. ♦ Sep. - May
6:30 - 8 p.m.

Library 21c ♦ Ent Conference Center
1175 Chapel Hills Dr.



Free math tutoring for All Ages and All Levels!

East Library
Thursdays ♦ 4 - 6 p.m.

High Prairie Library
Mondays ♦ 5 - 7 p.m.

Library 21c
Wednesday ♦ 3:30 - 6 p.m.

Manitou Springs Library
Mondays ♦ 3:15 - 6:15 p.m.
Registration is required.

Monument Library
Mondays ♦ 3:30 - 7 p.m.

Sand Creek Library
Saturdays ♦ 10 a.m. – noon

Teen Dungeons & Dragons Club (12 - 18)
Learn and play D&D with teens!

Tuesdays ♦ 6 - 8:30 p.m. ♦ East Library
Wednesdays ♦ 6 - 8:30 p.m. ♦ Library 21c

Teen Writing (12 - 18)

Can't wait to put your hands on a keyboard and write your story? Now the next step is sharing it with some other teens. Come join us for some exceptional writing, sharing, and discussions.

Thursdays ♦ 4 - 6 p.m. ♦ Library 21c ♦ B6

Wired Wednesdays

Learn more about circuitry and robotics at Wired Wednesdays!
2nd Wed. of each month ♦ 4:30 - 6 p.m. ♦ MAKE at EA
Ages 9 - 18 only, registration required

Coding Club

Learn to code Javascript at the East Library!
2nd and 4th Fri. ♦ 4 p.m - 5:30 p.m. ♦ East Learning Lab
Ages 9 - 18, registration required

Highlights

Homeschool Science @ East
A special program is planned each month. Contact Tina at tlewis@ppld.org for more information or visit ppld.org/homeschool-hub.
3rd Friday of each month ♦ 1 - 3 p.m.
East Library ♦ Community Room

Homeschool Programs at
High Prairie Library, Library 21c, Monument Library, and Rockrimmon Library

Participate in a different family learning experience every time. Access the Homeschool Hub, "Events," for details, dates, and times (ppld.org/homeschool-hub) or ask at one of the above libraries.

Science Fair

The Homeschool Science Fair will allow your student(s) to demonstrate a science project for other homeschool families! This event is noncompetitive, and there are no strict rules or guidelines. Registration is required for each student wishing to present a project. You can register online at <http://tinyurl.com/PPLScienceFair2016> or call Kristin at (719) 531-6333, x2402.



Fri., March 17 ♦ 10 a.m. - noon
Venue @ Library 21c

10th Annual Homeschool Art Show @ East!

It's time to get your creative juices flowing! Homeschooled students of all ages can submit one drawing, painting, photo, sculpture, etc. during the last week of March 2017. All artwork will be on display during the entire month of April and we'll end with a reception for friends and family. Watch for more information about location as we get closer to March. The art show will not be juried.