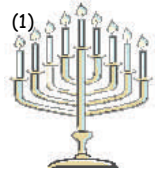


Season's Greetings

How many of these can you identify?



(1)



(3)



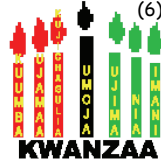
(4)



(2)



(5)



(6)

(1) Hanukkah (2) Hispanic (3) Czech (4) Makahiki Hawaiian (5) English (6) Kwanzaa

Christmas Word Search for You and Your Child

T R E E Y I J W B O P V X Z Q
 V T L G H T I S F R E L F W Q
 C S F J B N K W Q Z X T Y H U
 Q A C V G B C H J U W I B B L
 O N P L M K H T Y U E C E V A
 S T Q E D F R W R V B G L H J
 W A Q W Q G I F T S H V L B N
 C D X E X W S B C H R Y S Y K
 J J C D F G T E S Z Q W E R T
 H L J K L B M N C A N D Y M L
 P I Y U I O A P G F S W E R T
 Y G U H F S S E L G V D E E R
 S H R T V B S E F X Z B H J L
 I T I O P S F G W S N O W V G
 H S L E D Q W E R T B J J K S

Words to Find:

- BELLS
- SANTA
- ELF
- SNOW
- GIFTS
- TREE
- CHRISTMAS
- CANDY
- DEER
- SLED
- LIGHTS



MECC AmeriCorps



December 2004



A Parent's Perspective

As a single mother of two school-aged children, I know first-hand how difficult it can be keeping up with your child's progress at school. Our children are learning at a much more accelerated pace than we were at their age. Unfortunately, many children do fall behind and need extra attention in order to succeed. The goal of MECC AmeriCorps is to target these struggling students and offer our services to help them achieve their academic goals.

As a second year AmeriCorps tutor, I have been blessed with the opportunity to work with many wonderful children. I have found that these students are eager to learn and usually just need a little individual attention to help them "get over the hump." I have also witnessed the abundance of genuine concern and dedication our educators devote to our children.

My experiences have taught me how easy it can be to help children succeed. Talk to your children about their day. Ask them open-ended questions about what they learned. Find out what they liked and what they didn't like. Spend time each day listening to them read. Check their backpack to see that they have their homework completed. And finally, do not hesitate to meet with the teacher if you have questions or concerns. When your child knows that you are interested in their school life, they realize the importance of education. This support provides the self-confidence they need to succeed in school and in life.

Kimberly Marcum, Parent and MECC AmeriCorps Tutor

Handy Dandy Reading Tips for Parents

Parents can have a strong positive influence on children's reading. Research has shown that enjoying books with a child for even a few minutes a day can make a measurable difference in a child's reading ability. If your child is a pre-reader, then read a story to him or her everyday. If your child does read, then invite him or her to read with you every day. The following tips can also aid you in encouraging the development of the skills needed by children to become good readers:

☞ Read from a variety of books

- ☞ When reading a book with large print, point word by word as you read, this will help the child link sounds and visual symbols of the words.
- ☞ Read a child's favorite book over and over again.
- ☞ Read stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat.
- ☞ Discuss new words with your child.
- ☞ Stop and ask about the pictures in the book.
- ☞ Make reading FUN
- ☞ Read, Read, and Read!

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Mountain Empire Community College



Contact Info.

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AmeriCorps is a national network of service programs that work to address critical needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment. This is the tenth anniversary of the founding of AmeriCorps on the national level.

The MECC AmeriCorps Program focuses on Education. Our primary goal is to increase reading ability among students K-3.

In addition to our work in the schools, we participate in various community service projects, including a book drive and a food drive.

Below is a list of our current members and where they are tutoring.



Area Placement Site Teams

Appalachia Elementary

- ◆ Mary Absher
- ◆ Staci Craft
- ◆ Kim Marcum
- ◆ Shameeka Shepard

Clinchco Elementary

- ◆ Dana Meade

Dryden Primary

- ◆ Becky Egan
- ◆ Helen Hobbs
- ◆ Jamie Jerrell
- ◆ Greg Ridings II

Duffield Primary

- ◆ Ashley Hood
- ◆ Jennifer Main
- ◆ Brandon Sturgill

Elk Knob Elementary

- ◆ Jill Roberts

Ervinton Elementary

- ◆ Joshua Mullins

Ft. Blackmore Elementary

- ◆ Lori Brickey
- ◆ April McNew
- ◆ Mary Rhoton

MECC Team Leaders

- ◆ Tisha Dorton
- ◆ Jason Ingles
- ◆ Tona Mullins

Norton Elementary

- ◆ Justin Campbell
- ◆ Elizabeth Chute
- ◆ Jeremy Coleman
- ◆ Miranda Kiser

Powell Valley Primary

- ◆ Walter Lawson
- ◆ Ruth Mullins
- ◆ Natasha Phillips
- ◆ Jennifer Sturgill



Shoemaker Elementary

- ◆ Krystal Duncan
- ◆ Molly Jones
- ◆ Sherry Rhoton

St. Charles Elementary

- ◆ Cheryl Rohr

Stickleyville Elementary

- ◆ Mary Kirby
- ◆ Lisa Harless
- ◆ Cassie Robinette

Wise Primary

- ◆ Paige Gilbert
- ◆ Amy Goff
- ◆ Amy Kilgore
- ◆ Lisa Manners
- ◆ Devin Petro

* Did You Know...
* Snow is formed when water
* crystals freeze around a tiny
* piece of dust, dirt, or other
* matter in high in the atmosphere?
* *****

Goals of Tutoring

- 1) To improve the educational achievement of the student.
- 2) To enhance student self-esteem and confidence in his/her ability to learn.
- 3) To introduce the student to the world outside the classroom through interaction with an experienced and concerned adult.
- 4) To create new opportunities for reading.
- 5) To provide immediate and constructive feedback.
- 6) To improve student motivation and performance.



Winter Wonderland - Color the scene and make a story about it. Bring back your picture and story to share.

