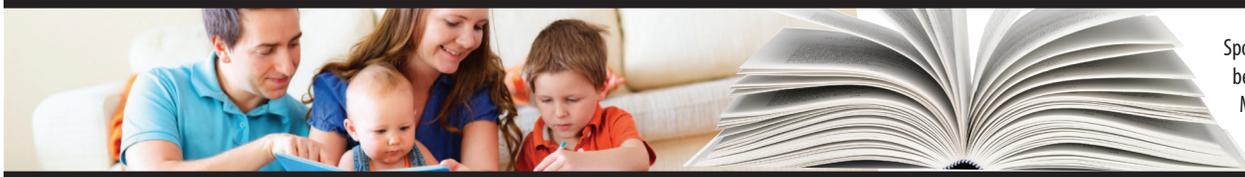


massachusetts reads and succeeds!

In November, families throughout the Commonwealth celebrate **Family Literacy Month**, making Massachusetts a great place to live and learn.



Sponsored by a partnership between Verizon and the Massachusetts Literacy Foundation.



All parents want the very best education for their children, as success in learning is the key to success in life. We know that students do better in school when they are reading and writing and participating in literacy activities with their families. With that in mind, the Boston Herald In Education has created this page to encourage families to do just that - spend time together and foster a love of learning. From great books by local authors, to creating a family tree or learning together in Thinkfinity's new online world of Wonderopolis, we invite you to have fun! **Download this page - with live links to all activities - at bostonheraldineducation.com**

November is Family Literacy Month



We love these **MASSBOOKS OF THE YEAR**, and we celebrate the authors whose creativity inspires us to share a good read. Check out more at massbook.org. For a list of local libraries hosting Family Literacy Month celebrations visit: libraries.state.ma.us/pages/familit2010.



Pennies for Elephants

by Lita Judge (Disney-Hyperion)

In 1914, thousands of Boston children raised money to buy three circus elephants for the Franklin Park Zoo. It's an outstanding piece of historical fiction and a powerful lesson in collective efforts! Visit litajudge.com/pennies.html

for great classroom or home learning activities



Newgirl

by Liza Ketchum (Viking Children's Books)

Twelve-year-old Amelia Forrester, a Bostonian transplanted to San Francisco in 1851, takes to the streets to sell newspapers in a story told with rich history and lots of adventure. Ketchum, author of fifteen children's books, writes on her website lizaketchum.com that her love of newspapers inspired her as she wrote this most recent novel.



Under the Snow

by Melissa Stewart (Peachtree)

This book describes how animals "spend their days" during the winter months. Fascinating facts - a wood frog can freeze solid on the forest floor and survive- make it intriguing and fun. Stewart has traveled the world to write more than 100 science books for young readers. Follow her journey - begun as a child in the woods of western Massachusetts - at melissa-stewart.com or track her at twitter.com/mstewartscience.



Sticky Burr and the Prickly Peril

by John Lechner (Candlewick Press)

This is the second in a series about the plucky little Sticky Burr and his friends in Burrwood Forest. It is part picture book, part comic book, and a unique story aimed at readers of all ages.



Elfbook: The Curious Journey

Also by John Lechner is **Elfbook: The Curious Journey**, an interactive online story that combines the elements of a book, a film and a game. Find this magical adventure and more at johnlechner.com/elfbook/.

Books aside, get your game on with **Bananagrams** - peel open this bright yellow banana over and over again for a delicious treat! Like Scrabble, but faster and more portable, it is fun for all ages and you don't need to know BIG words to play and win. Available in both Spanish and English at local book and toy stores.



Children are always bursting with questions:

- Why are flamingos pink?
- What is a shooting star?
- Why did grandma's hair turn gray?

Now families can discover the answers

together at Verizon Thinkfinity's new resource Wonderopolis.org and turn everyday moments into learning opportunities. Each day the website posts a new "Wonder of the Day" that your children have probably pondered, everything from learning how to train their pet goldfish to what makes Jell-O so jiggly. The answers will capture children's imagination because every post begins with a kid-friendly YouTube video and is followed by clever explanations to help parents start discussions and engage in learning activities.

▶ If you have five free minutes or an hour, wonderopolis.org offers a great starting place to foster family interaction, imagination, and literacy.

my family tree

What better way for children to learn about their roots than by creating a family tree?

Family interaction will blossom, and your children's knowledge about their history and heritage will grow.



Visit kids.familytreemagazine.com/kids/default.asp for activities and to download a colorful free family tree form.



CREATE A FAMILY NEWSPAPER

Extra! Extra! Read all about your family!

Have fun and help children practice writing skills when you create a family newspaper. Use simple paper and pencils or the computer, but don't forget to include drawings! It's a great way to share good news during the holiday season and throughout the year. To get started, go to: crayola.com/crafts/detail/headlines--deadlines-craft/

**COME & CELEBRATE
FAMILY LITERACY MONTH AT
BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM!**

Date: Friday, November 5, 2010

Time: 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Boston Children's Museum,
308 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02108

Cost: Target \$1 Friday Nights are offered
every Friday from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.



Hosted by



\$1 Friday Nights
Sponsored by:



★ Fun Family Activities ★ Take Home Resources
★ Meet Clifford the Big Red Dog ★ And Much More!