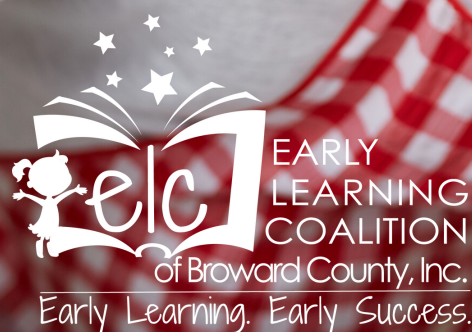


# FAMILY CONNECTION



NOVEMBER IS ALL  
ABOUT THE FAMILY

## INSIDE LOOK

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT  
MONTH

THE GIFT OF TIME

HOW TO HAVE GREAT  
CONVERSATIONS AT  
THE DINNER TABLE

**NEW** DELICIOUS  
RECIPE INCLUDED

LOCAL FAMILY-  
FRIENDLY  
ACTIVITIES

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT MONTH

November is Family Engagement Month! Join us as we celebrate families and their role as children's first teachers.

Why is family engagement important? It supports children's school readiness and promotes their school success by increasing motivation. It also reduces behavioral problems and improves the social-emotional development of children.

During the month of November we encourage you to take part in engaging family-oriented activities. This can include reading a book together, visiting the park or even dancing! Be sure to use [#EngagedFamiliesFL](#) when posting on social media. The Early Learning Coalition of Broward County and the Office of Early Learning will be sharing [#EngagedFamiliesFL](#) tagged posts on our social media throughout the month. You can follow along using [#EngagedFamiliesFL](#) on our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



# The Gift of Time

Written by Allison Metsch, M.S.Ed

**R**ichard L. Evans said, "Children will not remember you for the material things you provided, but for the feeling that you cherished them." With the holiday fast approaching many families feel the pressure to get the hottest gift for their children. The rush to wait in long lines, get the latest device or most sought after item is almost a competition. However, the gift of time is probably the best gift you can give a child.

The quick pace of our day to day can make it easy to forget that the gift of time is all children desire. According to Dr. Laura Markham, in one study, children were asked what they liked best about their vacations. It wasn't the fancy vacations or even the time off from school. It was the simple connection time with parents, when the parent was able to relax and enjoy the child without being stressed. Over and over again, children said things like, "Lying on the blanket with my Dad, looking at the stars together."

To make it fun, create coupons for activities to do together that are redeemable throughout the year. The popular gadget, newest present will be forgotten but time together is a gift that will last forever.

Source:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/peaceful-parents-happy-kids/201812/the-guaranteed-favorite-toy>





## FOOD FOR THOUGHT: HOW TO HAVE GREAT CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CHILD AT THE DINNER TABLE

Conversations at the dinner table are important for future success and can boost your child's self esteem, enhance their logical reasoning and improve their ability to analyze.

- **Be present:** give him/her your full attention. This gives the impression that you're interested and as a result, your child feels valued. This helps create confidence, and it's a precursor for developing appropriate social skills.
- **Act like a sports announcer:** state everything you or your child is doing while you're doing it! This creates opportunities for vocabulary development.
- **Have normal conversation with your child** (2-4 exchanges on topic). Talk about experiences you've had, experiences you're having together, things that you see in the world around you, favorite things, or favorite parts of stories...anything goes! Back and forth dialogue is critical for developing language, social skills and building confidence.



### YOUR LITTLE HELPER!

Thanksgiving is coming, so allow your child's help with the prep! Whether they help you set the table, wash vegetables, mash the potatoes or mix the dessert batter, it's important you talk with your child and enjoy this time together! Remember to give them compliments on the great job they are doing. Enjoy!

Sources:  
zerotothree.org  
talkwithmebaby.org  
inspireconversation.com

### Try this new recipe!

## APPLE PIZZA

This recipe is a fun snack to share with your child that's a twist on the idea of making a pizza. You'll need apple slices (pre-cut into small pieces), chocolate chips, yogurt dip, shredded coconut, and a rice cake.

To make the pizza, follow these steps: Have your child help you spread the yogurt dip or pizza sauce onto the rice cake. Next, sprinkle on the shredded coconut or cheese. Lastly, have your child add the pizza toppings (apples and chocolate chips).

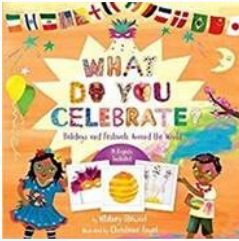
Making recipes together is a wonderful experience that involves all of your child's senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch.



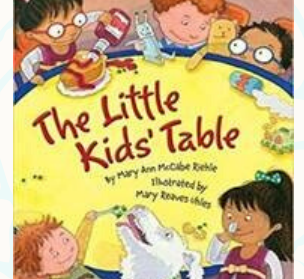


# ELC BOOK CLUB

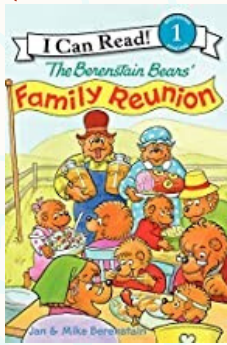
Check out some of our favorite children's books for the holiday season!



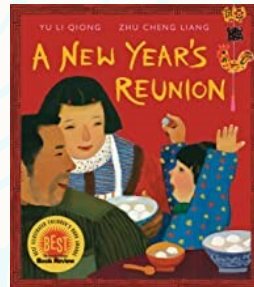
**What Do You Celebrate?: Holidays and Festivals Around the World**  
by Whitney Stewart and Christiane Engel



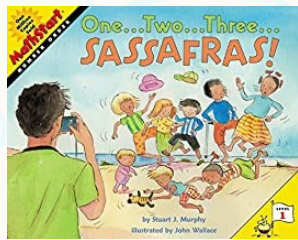
**The Little Kids' Table**  
by Mary Ann McCabe Riehle and  
Mary Reaves Uhles



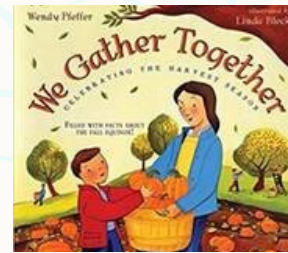
**The Berenstain Bears' Family Reunion (I Can Read Level 1)**  
by Stan Berenstain, Jan Berenstain, et al.



**A New Year's Reunion**  
by Yu Li-Qiong and Zhu Cheng-Liang

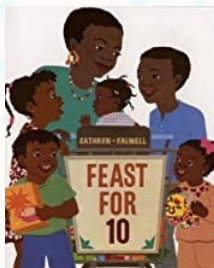


**One...Two...Three...Sassafras!**  
by Stuart J. Murphy and  
John Wallace



**We Gather Together: Celebrating the Harvest Season**  
by Wendy Pfeffer and Linda Bleck

**Feast for 10**  
by Cathryn Falwell



Have any suggestions for the [ELC Book Club](#)?  
Send it to [info@elcbroward.org](mailto:info@elcbroward.org)

## LOCAL FAMILY ACTIVITIES

**NOVEMBER 22, 2019**

**Funtastic Friday Holiday**  
Young Circle Hollywood  
1 North Young Circle  
Hollywood, FL 33020  
[www.hollywoodfl.org](http://www.hollywoodfl.org)

**DECEMBER 04, 2019**

**Tree Lighting & Holiday Party**  
Lauderhill City Hall  
5581 W. Oakland Park Blvd.  
Lauderhill, FL 33313  
[www.lauderhill.org](http://www.lauderhill.org)

**DECEMBER 06, 2019**

**Oakland Park Holiday Village**  
Jaco Pastorius Park  
4000 N. Dixie Hwy  
Oakland Park, FL 33334  
[www.oaklandparkfl.gov](http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov)

**NOVEMBER 23, 2019**

**Light up MLK**  
Annie Adderly Gills Park  
601 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd.  
Pompano Beach, FL 33069  
[www.pompanobeachcra.org](http://www.pompanobeachcra.org)

**DECEMBER 05, 2019**

**Holiday in the Pines**  
Charles F. Dodge City Center  
601 City Center Way  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33025  
[www.ppines.com](http://www.ppines.com)

**DECEMBER 07, 2019**

**Sunrise Winter Wonderland**  
Arts & Crafts Festival  
Sunrise Athletic Complex  
11501 NW 44th Street  
Sunrise, FL 33323  
[www.sunrise.org](http://www.sunrise.org)



OFFICE OF  
**Early Learning**  
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.



**Our mission:**

Lead and support the early learning community to deliver high quality early learning experiences to young children and their families.

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