

# 'Tis the season for family learning

The holiday season is upon us, which means that kids and parents get a much-needed break from school and work. While it's a busy time of year and there's always lots to do, families can keep learning in fun ways, which promotes family bonding while ensuring everyone's mind is sharp come January.

With Family Literacy Day around the corner on January 27, 2012, the Adult Learning Centre offers these ideas from ABC Canada to encourage family literacy over the holidays and throughout the winter months:

- **Make a list, check it twice:** As a family, write out your gift wish lists or come up with New Year's resolutions.



- **Read a classic:** There are so many classic holiday stories to choose from! Each

night before bed, curl up together as a family and read *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*, *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* or *The Night Before Christmas*.

- **Holiday scavenger hunt:** Create a list of holiday and winter-related items around your home. Give the list to your family and have them find all the items on the list.

- **Bake holiday favourites:** Following a recipe is a great way to practice reading, comprehension and math skills. Bake holiday cookies, cakes or a gingerbread house as a family!



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- **Sing holiday carols:** Get together with your neighbours and go door-to-door singing carols. Singing encourages learning patterns of words, rhymes and rhythms, and is strongly connected to language skills.

Canadians can also get into the holiday spirit by giving the gift of literacy. Donations made to Literacy North Halton will directly help your local adults and families access the tools, resources and programs they need to improve their literacy and basic skills. Nine million Canadian adults struggle with low literacy.

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Interested in becoming a volunteer tutor? The Adult Learning Centre (Literacy North Halton) is recruiting for volunteer tutors part-time for both daytime and evenings. We are looking for adults who can assist another adult with reading, writing, math or basic computer skills.

If you would like to give something back to your community and can volunteer for three hours per week for a minimum of six months, please call 905-873-2200 to make an appointment. Info: [www.literacynh.org](http://www.literacynh.org)

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