

December 2009 ISRC Digital Update Illinois Service Resource Center Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing student behavioral needs A Technical Assistance Center of the Illinois State Board of Education

View our Winter Newsletter and Pin-up:

<http://www.isrc.us/NEWSLETT/fall2009.doc>

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1. Upcoming Events:

Sign Language Classes in the Elgin area with a Spanish speaking instructor!!!

Clases de Lenguaje Manual en Español! Estas clases son para padres y adultos que quieren aprender Lenguaje Manual y que hablan español. Diciembre 5, 12, y 19 (10 am – 12:00 pm) Donde: FITE Center for Independent Living 1230 Larkin Avenue Elgin, IL 60123 Costo: Gratis Para reservar su espacio, o para preguntar, por favor llame: Karen Aguilar al 866.733.8729 o por correo electrónico choicesforparents@yahoo.com

Signing Santa – at the Westfield Chicago Ridge Mall (95th and Ridgeland in Chicago Ridge, IL) Monday December 14, 2009 from 9:00-3:00. School programs are permitted to take free pictures with Santa until 11:00 am. Questions? Contact Lia Osburn at the mall 708.499.0840.

December 12, 2009 - Chicago Children's Museum will feature *Play For All* events, the second Saturday of every month. Visit www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org/accessibility.html for details.

NEW and FREE Saturday Program in Chicago Every other Saturday (Dec 5th & 19th) Learn-to-Swim & Nature Art for Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing Youth 6 - 12 years old. Learn-to-Swim @ Welles Park 2333 West Sunnyside Ave. 11am-12:30pm. Nature Art @ Horner Park 2741 West Montrose Ave. 1-3pm. We will walk over to Horner Park for Nature Art. Bring your own lunch, drink & snacks. In person registration begins now at Horner Park till program is filled. For information about the Saturday Program, contact Sarah B. Faber, Program specialist for Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing 866.442.7073 VP Direct Voice 773.478.3374 TTY sarah.faber@chicagoparkdistrict.com

Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing Youth & Teen Club for elementary school ages 9 & up. Horner Park 2741 W. Montrose Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60618 from September 18, 2009 – June 4, 2010. \$5 per youth, per session (fall, winter & spring). Friday evenings 6:30p.m. – 9:30p.m. Friday evenings fun-filled with recreational games, all season sports, movie nights, fieldtrips, cooking & baking, new friends & more! In person registration begins on Monday, August 24th. For further information about Youth & Teen Club, contact Sarah B. Faber, Program Specialist for Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing 866.442.7073 VP Direct Voice 773.478.3374 TTY sarah.faber@chicagoparkdistrict.com

September 21 – December 18, 2009 NEW After-School Program Park Kids for Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing Youth Ages 6-12 years old. Horner Park 2741 W. Montrose Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60618 \$50 per child Monday - Friday 2 – 6pm (open during school days only). Homework time & assistance, reading time table games, arts & crafts, variety of recreational sports activities & more! In-Person registration begins on Saturday, August 22, 2009 until program is filled. For further information about Park Kids Program, contact Sarah B. Faber, Program Specialist for Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing 866.442.7073 VP Direct Voice 773.478.3374 TTY sarah.faber@chicagoparkdistrict.com

Conferences for Parents of Children with Hearing Loss:

North of Eighty February 20, 2010 Sterling/Rock Falls South of Seventy March 20, 2010 Mt. Vernon For information call toll-free: 1-877-339-2686 (V/TTY) or on line, go to: http://morgan.k12.il.us/isd/outreach_events.html

Resources and Inspirations Family Conference May 1, 2010 Springfield. For more information contact Mary Smith at STARNET mk-smith@wiu.edu

2. Skype helps students communicate with deaf an article by MEGAN HUSSEY Tribune correspondent Published: November 1, 2009 Find out how at <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2009/nov/01/pa-skype-helps-students-communicate-with-deaf/> "Skyping is today's version of pen-pal correspondence," she [Melodie Oleson, a media specialist at the school] said. "It allows for immediate feedback with a visual element and the interchange of personalities and cultures."

3. December Holiday Celebration Resources:

Christmas at the North Pole

Countdown to Christmas and more at NorthPole.com <http://www.northpole.com/> This one stop shop will give you access to Santa letter writing with responses sent back, personalized stories, chat with elves, a good deeds calendar, games, puzzles, e-cards, a Santa

tracker, recipes, and more. For classrooms and teachers there are many other education specific activities as well. Work on Basic Motor Skills, Learning Letters, Sound Recognition, Recognizing Right & Left, Learning Numbers, Visual Skills, Working with Positions, Working with Sizing, Elf Pal Academy Diploma, Stories to Read and Color, and Flashcards right here in one place. Take a look. There's something for everyone this holiday season.

Christmas Around the World

Do your students know that Christmas in Australia is in the middle of Summer? Or that firecrackers are popular for a Nigerian Christmas celebration? How about that in India banana and mango trees are decorated for Christmas? I bet not, but they could soon.

<http://www.whychristmas.com/cultures/> or <http://www.the-north-pole.com/around/> Learn about how different cultures celebrate Christmas all over the world. Click on a flag to see the details of each of the (over 50) countries featured.

December Holidays Resources for Teachers

Use our printables, lessons, and activities to show students how the December holidays of Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and the New Year are celebrated. You can find resources for subjects across the curriculum, such as reading & language arts activities, science worksheets, social studies projects, art ideas, slideshows of festive activities, and more. No matter which grade you teach, you will find an activity that your students will enjoy – and learn from! <http://www.teachervision.fen.com/december-holiday-s/teacher-resources/6609.html>

The Best Children's Books related to the December Holidays

Hannukah - Sundown December 21 through December 29,

Christmas - December 25,

Kwanzaa - December 26 through January 1

http://childrensbooks.about.com/od/holidays/u/Christmas_books.htm

4. 14 Fun Activities for Winter Break - This winter, don't despair when snow days and holidays leave you with a house full of bored and bickering kids. These fun winter-break activities will keep your children occupied and happy both indoors and out – throughout the frosty season! For simple

and inexpensive ideas with comprehensive directions for family fun to pass the time over break visit <http://fun.familyeducation.com/slideshow/outdoor-activities/49016.html?page=1> Some of the fun you will find includes building rain sticks, enjoying winter books/movies, a backyard weather station, ice candles and more.

5. Dear Deafness Professional,

I'm writing to let you know about this book which was featured as book of the month in the December/January 2009 issue of RNID's *One in Seven* magazine. Now available on CD for large print or use with screen reading software, as well as in regular print. With my degree in Therapeutic Recreation, I am also a certified sign language interpreter, and the author of ***Words in My Hands, A Teacher, A Deaf-Blind Man, An Unforgettable Journey***. This is a true story about an elderly deaf-blind man who played classical piano. Before he lost his sight and hearing to Usher Syndrome Bert Riedel was a dentist in Lombard, Illinois. I met him when he was eighty-six-years old when I was hired to be his teacher. I taught him to read tactile sign language. While the story illustrates psychosocial factors that complicate the disabilities of deafness and deaf-blindness, it carries an inspirational message as well. This book is a resource for educators, rehabilitation counselors, and other professionals who work or interact with the deaf, blind, elderly, or disabled. It is for families who deal with a member's hearing loss, vision loss, or other disability. This book shows how miracles can happen where there are dedicated professionals and caregivers. For more information or to order books, please contact me or go to www.ellexapress.citymax.com. Books are also available through Barnes & Noble on-line, and at Harris Communications.

Sincerely,

Diane Chambers, Author

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6. In our Library - Once Upon a Time-- Storytelling to Teach Character and Prevent Bullying by Elisa Davy Pearmain (book)

Summary: Features 99 multi-national and multi-cultural folk tales with familiar character and bullying prevention themes but encapsulated in wonderfully diverse stories. The author, a professional storyteller, provides actual stories plus chapters on how to tell a story, not just read it; activities for students; and bulletin board ideas.

Link to catalog: http://opac.libraryworld.com/cgi-bin/opac.pl?command=catalog_edit_record&cat_id=2390&view=R&modified=0&search_type=search&library_type=home¤trecord=1&totalrecords=1&pagenumber=1

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