



# OP TIMES

The Onionpatch  
Academy

December 2012  
Volume 3, Issue 4

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## Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells



Gingerbread men. Popcorn strings. Twinkling lights. Christmas carols. The Holiday season is here. This month the curriculum explores holiday celebrations from around the world and then moves to specific weeks that focus on sights, sounds, tastes, smell, and feelings of the holidays.

### Week One

Unit theme- Holidays around the world  
Bible Focus -Happy Birthday, Jesus

### Week Two

Unit Theme - Sights of the Holidays  
Bible Focus - The Angels Speak

### Week three

Unit Theme - The sounds of the Holidays  
Bible Focus - Away In a Manger

## ONIONPATCH REMINDERS

1. A friendly reminder that ALL Fees are due by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Because we will be closed for 2 weeks, payment for December and all outstanding fees are due by **15<sup>th</sup> December 2013.**

Fees can be paid online, debit or credit or by cash. If you like to pay online our account number is HSBC # 010 836617 001

2. If your child is out sick or not coming in for the day please contact the school to let their teacher know.

3. Visit the OPA HOTLINE on 291 6466 for the latest news and information on the Onionpatch Academy.

## Upcoming Birthdays

11 December - Chase DaPonte  
13 December - Hope Robinson  
15 December - Cali Butterfield  
19 December - Carter Caines

## Upcoming Events

December 2 - singing at KEMH

December 12 - International Night

December 18 and 19 - Kidz Zone

Closing December 23<sup>th</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>

## Friday Hot Lunches

December 6 - Chicken and fries

December 13 - Fun shaped pasta in tomato sauce

December 20 - Pizza

## Friday Night Babysitting

November 29 - Movie "Turbo", \$40

December 6 - Christmas Crafts, \$40

December 13 - Cookie decorating, \$40

## International Family Fun Night



On **December 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm** at St Paul's Hall. Our evening will consist of crafts, songs sung by the children, and Santa. We will have a food signup sheet in each classroom for foods from around the world.

We are still looking for a special volunteer to be our Santa. If you're interested please see Ms Nakia or Ms Veronica for more information. Santa will be giving out gifts to the children.

If you would like for your child to receive a gift please hand in a wrapped gift no later than **December 10<sup>th</sup>.**

## Goals teach perseverance

All parents share that sense of frustration when their child doesn't try hard enough to accomplish something they know he's perfectly capable of. What can you do? One way to foster a can-do attitude is to help your child learn to set goals and meet them, one small step at a time.

Don't get too excited: You probably won't be able to get your child to start aiming for straight A's right away. But experts say this is an ideal time to introduce your child to the concept of establishing targets and working toward them.

### Get the Idea Across

Start the process by looking for ways that your child already uses goal-setting techniques. Talk to your child about how good it feels to accomplish something that they have worked toward. Reward charts are great visuals for accomplishing goals.

### Start Small

Help your child think of a fun goal she could achieve within a short time. "Little goals are the best way to get kids moving toward big goals," says Jim Wilkens, a leadership-training instructor in the San Francisco-area schools. "Meeting a goal gives kids an incredible surge of energy."

### Let Them Choose

As much as you might want your child to make the next Einstein, it's best to let your kid decide what they want to achieve. Then you can help make a plan. Obviously, some goals require more input from you.

### Be Alert to Possibilities

If your child says, "I wish I could win a prize in the Ag Show fair this year," use it as an opportunity to assist him in creating a plan. "Help him write down specific action steps and a timetable for accomplishing each of them."

### Show Them How

"Adults have a much greater sense of what it takes to accomplish goals," So include your child in your own goal-setting to show her how the process works. Say you want to create a garden. Get your child involved in everything from researching plants to turning the dirt.

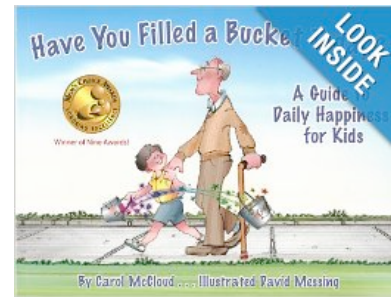
### Provide a Reality Check

Children often underestimate how hard it can be to meet a goal, and then they get frustrated and discouraged when they fall short. Be encouraging but realistic.

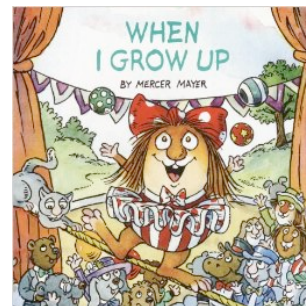
### Applaud Effort

As your child begins to set goals and work toward them, don't forget the compliments. Say something like, "I'm really impressed. When you care about something you really go after it!" High 5-s or thumbs up are great ways to show little ones they can achieve their goals and you are proud of them.

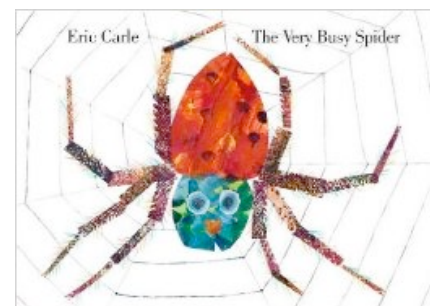
## LITERACY



By: Carol McCloud



By: Mercer Mayer



By: Eric Carle

The  
**Leader in Me™**  
great happens here

## Habit 2 – Begin with the end in mind I plan ahead and set goals

"If you don't know where you are going, than you probably won't end up there." ~Forrest Gump

Covey Connection:

- Help your child create a checklist for school to make sure they have everything they need
- Checklists are also great for step by step instructions on how to get dressed, tie shoe laces, brush teeth, etc.