



BOBCATS



Addville Elementary

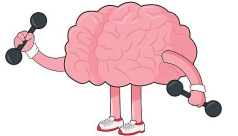
Site Coordinator: Mrs. Leanna Martin

December 2023

Reading Is Important for Children's Growth

Reading is good for kids. There are many benefits of reading. Reading strengthens brain activity by working your brain muscles across different areas such as comprehension, analytical abilities, stimulates memories, and broadens your imagination. Reading improves communication skills by building vocabulary by exposing children to new words that can help them to better express themselves. Children are exposed to different cultures, events, and people which will allow children to make more connections to the world around them and understand different cultures and difficult events in real life. Reading reduces stress and increases relaxation. Creativity is enhanced by reading and Reading entertains taking you to fictional and real worlds in the past and present. To help children to become readers, make reading books a part of the family routine. They can read alone, or read as a family, but most importantly encourage all reading. Become your child's role model for reading. Books can be downloaded onto a library app or eBooks. To encourage reading, get library cards for the family from the local library and visit often. Take a book on car rides or to visits for appointments for the waiting rooms. Carry books with you for unexpected downtime which can be used for reading. Start your new adventure today with a book.

Reading



**strengthens
my brain!**

Creepy Pair of Underwear by Aaron Reynolds

Students engage in literacy through out the program. On this particular day, students read and discussed the book Creepy Pair of Underwear. Then the students created their own pair of creepy underwear. The kids loved it.



Pottery Place



On Thursday, November 9, The Pottery Place from Huntington visited the After-school Program bringing with them paint, brushes and Fall items for the children to paint. After the children's pieces were painted the Pottery Place took them to fire them in the kiln. The children's pieces were returned to them to take home .



- * January 29—Advisory Meeting
- * February 17- Winterfest in the Park
- * February 26—Literacy Night @ 5:30
- * March 19— BOBCATS Program closed for elections

2023 BOBCATS Pumpkin Numeracy Night



Our Pumpkin Numeracy Night was held on the evening of Monday, October 23. Families came to our school for a fun evening of applying mathematic concepts as we explored our pumpkins. We had a total of four stations followed by a culminating activity for everyone. To start the evening, everyone came to the library to enjoy a story time of *The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin*. While this story set the stage for our pumpkin numeracy night and inspired the creation of our square pumpkins at Station 4, it also presented the lesson that even someone who is different can save the day! Station 1:

Each family member participated in a pumpkin tower challenge. Candy jelly pumpkins were set out along with toothpicks. Parti-



cipants were given 3-5 minutes to create the tallest standing pumpkin tower that they could make. They had to use project planning, creative problem-solving, geometry, and measurement to complete the activity, and many started new towers using what they had learned in the beginning to get a better tower. Each family chose a pumpkin for the next two stations: Station 2: Members estimated the circumference of their pumpkin by cutting a piece of string that each thought would be the correct measurement. They measured the string for data

collection and then actually used that string to get the correct measurement. Participants then estimated the height of their pumpkins followed by actually measuring the height by building a tower of one inch unifix cubes next to it. Finally everyone estimated

the number of ribs on each pumpkin before actually counting the number. We discussed the correlation between the number of ribs and the number of seeds. Station 3: With their pumpkins, families estimated the weight of the pumpkin with seeds and then actually weighed them. An adult then cut the top off the pumpkin, and they all scooped the guts and seeds out. Again they estimated the weight and weighed again. Finally each family made predictions of how many seeds in their pumpkins



and were given a baggie to take their seeds home to count. Members learned so much about the differences in guesses, estimations, and actual measurements, and data was collected and recorded at each station. Station 4: Since we had read *The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin*, everyone had the opportunity to use geometry to build their own square pumpkin. Everyone was given straws, pipe cleaners, eyes, and hands to build their Spookley from a square. Again, problem solving was a huge part of this along with trial and error. Culminating Activity: round sugar cookies with a pretzel stem, which made the cookie really look like a pumpkin, were set out for everyone to come decorate with orange icing, M&Ms, candy corn & pumpkins, sprinkles, chocolate



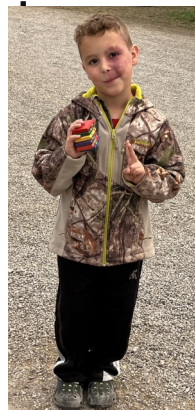
chips, and candy eyes. There were plenty so some made two. The cookies and decorations were purchased by our Gavin Plant – Lightstone Generation and the Ohio Valley Bank. We had over 50 participants for the evening and received many compliments from those attending.



Grandma Gatewood Book Walk



On October 19, 2024, the afterschool program sponsored a book walk on the grounds of Bob Evan's Farms in Rio Grande. As the families signed in for the book walk, each child received a trick-or-treat bag to gather prizes throughout the walk. Families read Hopefully the Scarecrow by Michelle Houts which lead the families



to the log cabins. Stations were set up in the log cabins for families to visit with our guests and get the experiences that the cabins had to offer from artifacts to visual displays. The sessions that families visited were the Easter Seals and Imagination Library, Bossard Library, Gallia County Literacy Grant, Grandma Gatewood's Granddaughter with memorabilia, Gallipolis City School's FFA, and the author, Michelle Houts, of Grandma Gatewood took a Walk for an autographed book. Mr. Larry Carter provided soup beans cooked over the fire for everyone. When the families turned in their exit surveys the children received a Jacob's Ladder and a STEM puzzle which they added to their bag of treasures that included at least 2 books. The event had a great turn out with over 100 families in attendance.



Holzer Senior Care Visit



On Monday, December 11, the Addaville BOBCATS went to Holzer Senior Care to visit the residents. Students made bird feeders to give the residents and individually delivered home-made Christmas cards. Before leaving, students sang several Christmas carols, including Joy to the World, Jingle Bells, Rudolph, and We Wish You a Merry Christmas.



BOBCATS COMMUNITY VISITORS

The BOBCATS Afterschool program invited many community workers to their program for them to share with the students how they help the community and help make it safe. On October 18, Mrs. Micha Holcomb OSU Extension Program explained how the leaves change colors and complete a few simple experiments. Kyle Mooney from Gavin Plant visited Wednesday November 1 and talked to the students about electricity. Wednesday, November 8th Gallia County Sheriff Deputy Shaffer and therapy K-9 Zaya visited the program and on December 6th students met Deputy Toriseva and his K-9 Torm. Both officers answered questions and let the children pet the dogs. Petland animal handlers brought an assortment of animals OSU Snap-Ed program, Tina Elkins worked with the students on January 9th about preparing healthy snacks to eat. Students helped to prepare a healthy snack and then CHOWED down. Nurse Rachel from Gallia County Healthy Department visited on Wednesday January 10, to teach the importance of handwashing. The children was amazed to see how much dirt remained on their hands after washing using the light machine. Students had a great time and learned a lot from their community visitors.

