

Crossroads In Education

April 2005

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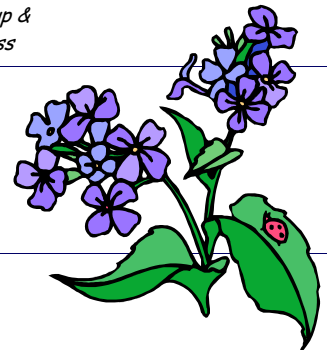
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		Bowling				



We need you!

- Help us with the April Birthday Party
- Help set up
- Help clean up
- Collect old art supplies
- Boxtops For Education



APRIL 2005 PROGRAM DAYS

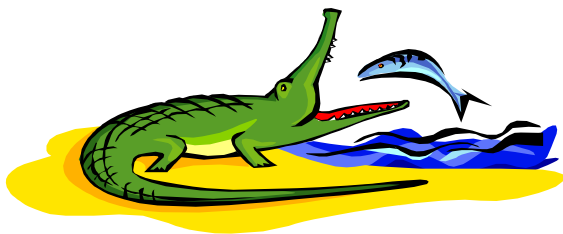


Wednesday, April 2, 2005

The program today will be presented by Jim Nesci. It is called *Cold Blooded Creatures*. Jim Nesci's *Cold Blooded Creatures* show is a unique program that entertains and educates the audience about reptiles. Jim employs a hands-on approach to deliver information about reptiles, their native habitat, their individual personalities, their eating habits and about conservation of the animals. The educational program will also dispel much of the myth and superstition surrounding these unique animals. In Jim Nesci's show you will see and touch several types of reptilians!

For more information about Jim Nesci, visit www.coldbloodedcreatures.com. This program will begin at 12:30pm.

Parents of Graduates: There will be a meeting with all parents of graduates at Noon.



Wednesday, April 16, 2005

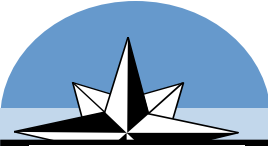
The program today will be a celebration of Earth and Science! Join us as our children share their science projects and/or Earth Day projects.

All children are encouraged to display a science project and an Earth Day project. Projects may be a display, a poster, diorama, etc. Children will be given an opportunity to do presentations on their projects.



Presentations will begin at 12:30pm.

Due on this day: reservations and fees for our May 7th program. On May 7th, *The Painted Penguin*, will be providing a full service, hands-on ceramic workshop for our group (children and parents are each welcome to do a piece). **The fee will be \$7 per person, payable by the April 16th Program Day.** We will be having a spring theme - animals and insects. This craft would be great for those members who are also in 4-H Clubs! The program will begin at 12:30pm (expect to stay until at least 2:00pm).



**St. Mark's Church
Fellowship Hall
1234 W. Main St.
Anytown
8:30am—2:00pm**

St. Mark's may be reached from either 111th Street or Southwest Highway.

Please allow for traffic!

We open each meeting with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a fifteen minute announcement session.

If you have announcements, please let one of the leaders know prior to 9:00am.

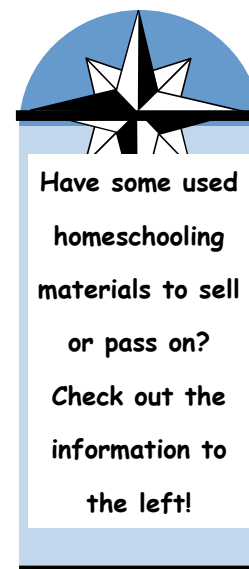
For more information, call one of our Welcome Committee members:
Susan 708/555-1234, Mary 708/555-2345 or Jane 708/555-5678

EDUCATIONAL ITEMS FOR SALE

Feel free to bring your old homeschool items to our group meetings. If you do not find a new home for your items, don't forget to take them back home with you!

If you would like to sell any of your used materials:

They MUST be labeled with your name and cost of each item. You will need to keep your own inventory of items. We will have one parent each week in charge of the items to be sold.



OPERATION: WRITE TO FREEDOM

Operation Write to Freedom will be meeting Wednesday, April 23, from 1-2:00pm at the Town Community Center. We will continue our work on the Pocket Flag project, as well as play some fun games. At this time, we have 600 flags, with another 300 on the way. For anyone wishing to donate, I will continue to accept donations for as long as you are willing. I will have available paper and writing/drawing utensils for those who wish to write a letter or draw a picture to send overseas with the flags.

A special note: Some families have received letters from military overseas in response to the letters they sent through Operation Write to Freedom. I'm sure there are more to follow. The letters received so far all talk about how "mail call" is the best time of the day for them. Let's keep sending them mail, especially now!

For further information, contact Susy Johnson at susy@kzhdesign.com or visit www.operationwritetofreedom.org.



Kids For Saving Earth Club

A reminder for those who have signed up: The KSE Club will be meeting again on Friday, April 4th, from 10am to Noon, at the Thorn Creek Nature Center. Please dress appropriately for the weather—we will be outside for part of the program. This event is now closed.

KSE will meet next month on Friday, May 16th, at the Thorn Creek Nature Center for a historic farm house tour. The program will run

from 10am to Noon.
Fee is \$3 per person,
payable by April 30th.

The entranceway to Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve is located at 247 Monee Road, approximately .25 mile north of Stunkel Road, in Park Forest. The preserve is open 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. daily; the Nature Center is open 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. Thursday - Sunday. For information call 708.747.6320.

For further information, contact Karen at Karen@kzhdesign.com.





BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

Our group saves "Box tops for Education" from General Mills products. Collect the Box Tops logos on participating General

Just a reminder! Mills products such as, Betty Crocker products, cereals, fruits snacks, Yoplait, and Green Giant. There are over 500 products in your grocery store that have these box tops. Each box top is worth 10 cents for Crossroads. If you want

more information on this program visit the website at www.boxtops4education.com and you'll find a complete list of products. Bring them to the church or get them to Karen. Thanks for helping!

Crossroads Drama Club

Check out the Crossroads Drama Club! Under the direction of Minnie Mouse, the Drama club meets on the first and third Fridays of the month at the Town Hall, 12345 S. State Street, in South Holland.

The Drama Club will meet from 10:00am to 11:30am.

For more information, contact Minnie at 708/555-1234 or drama@kzhdesign.com.



Spring Cleaning?

Pass on those old arts & crafts supplies and craft magazines to the Art Class!

Pass on Arts & Crafts Supplies!

If you have any craft supplies you no longer want or need, the Art Class group will take them off your hands! Since I do so many crafts with my students (and will continue to do so), I could certainly use them. Also, if any of you have been, or are currently, subscribers to Family Fun Magazine, or any other craft-type magazine that you no longer want, I would greatly appreciate having these magazines. If you are able to donate any of these items, please contact me, Debbie, at info@crossroadsineducation.org.

YEARBOOK MEETING!

SORRY TO ALL FOR CANCELING THE LAST YEARBOOK CLUB MEETING...

The yearbook club will be meeting at the meeting day on **April 16, from approximately 12:00 until 12:30**. This club is designed for "Teen Age" Students ONLY... NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

At the last meeting some important jobs were assigned and some ideas discussed. The members of the club that were present voted on a "LIFE" theme for the 2004-2005 yearbook. At this meeting we would like to develop a questionnaire, similar to the one in past years, where we ask the student members of Crossroads important questions about themselves, their

dreams, likes, dislikes, favorite pastimes, etc.

Come with your ideas and **REMEMBER ENTHUSIASM IS CONTAGIOUS!**

For more information, contact Karen at Karen@kzhdesign.com.



Gym Group

The Gym Group will meet on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays. Classes are held at the Lemont Park District (16028 w 127th St., in Lemont, IL).

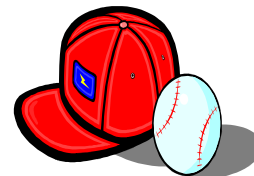
The April 2005 classes will be on April 10, 12:30—1:30,

and April 24th. 10am-Noon.

Over the last few months, we have used both the gym and the volleyball courts. The cost for facility use ranges from \$12—\$25. The attending families have been splitting the fee. If the

weather is nice, we will have gym outside (for free!). Families may attend all of the gym days, or just some of them.

For more information, contact Debbie at Debbie@kzhdesign.com



Art Group

On the fourth Thursday of each month, we will have an arts and crafts day at the Lemont Park District (see location information in the Gym Program notice above). Art Class will meet on

4/24/05, from 12 Noon to 2pm, in the craft room. This will be open to anyone, small children may need some help from a parent. There will be a \$3.00 fee per child for each

class to cover supplies and room rental. For more information, contact Debbie at Debbie@kzhdesign.com.



If you are coming to Gym & Art Group on April 24th, don't forget to pack a lunch! We will have time for lunch in between the two classes!



YEARBOOK DESIGN CONTEST

This year the cover of the yearbook will be designed by a member of Crossroads.

You can even make this a family project. The cover of the yearbook will be a full 8 1/2 X 11-it must contain the Crossroads name and the yearbook date (2004/2005 school year). The theme for this yearbook is **LIFE**. All entries must be submitted no later than the May 7 meeting day.

Please do not sign your work or leave any identifying marks. Attach an index card to the back of your submission, with your name, parent's name (if applicable), and phone number. The winner will be chosen by an impartial panel and will receive a \$25.00 gift card from *Border's Books*.

Good luck!!!

GRADUATION MEETING

Thank you to all who responded and are interested in participating in the Crossroads sponsored graduation ceremony. If your child/student will be graduating, we are asking that you attend a planning meeting, which will be held at the meeting on April 2nd. There will be packets of information distributed to each family with details

of the graduation ceremony, also included will be forms for ordering a diploma, cap/gowns and class ring (optional).

If you have any questions about the graduation ceremony or if you would like to participate please contact us at info@crossroadsineducation.org.

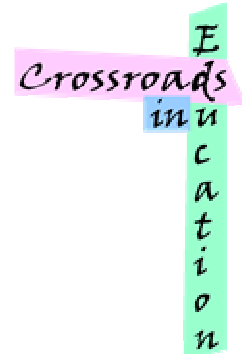
If you are unable to attend this planning meeting it is your responsibility to contact us for the graduation packet.



As members of the Crossroads in Education Study Cooperative, students and parents will be expected to fully participate. Please note the following:

Each week, we will open our study group day, promptly at 9:00am, with a Flag Ceremony, followed by any announcements. Class sessions will be broken down into the following time slots, including a lunch session:

- 9:00-9:15am - Flag Ceremony, announcements
- 9:15am-10:15am - First Session - Geography/History (Jr's); Language Arts (Teens)
- 10:15am-11:15am - Second Session - Art (Jr's); Science (Teens)
- 11:15am-Noon - Third Session - Sign Language (Both groups)
- Noon-12:30pm - Lunch Break - Everyone
- 12:30pm-1:30pm - Fourth Session - Science (Jr's); Art (Teens)
- 1:30pm - 2:00pm- Fellowship & Clean up
- Times will be adjusted as needed!



- ⇒ **The Crossroads in Education Study Cooperative does not and will not promote a particular religion.** However, after extensive review and research of educational materials, the facilitators have decided to use curriculum with a Christian emphasis.
- ⇒ **Fees are to be paid on time.** All fees for outside facilitators will be due in full on the first day of each 9 week session. Facility use fee is \$50 per week; this fee will be shared by member families. Facility use fee must be paid whether your family attends or not.
- ⇒ **Students are expected to bring their books and supplies each week.** Parents may need to help direct their "forgetful" students. We encourage using a designated backpack or bag just for this group.
- ⇒ **Students must do all assignments.** We are only with the kids for one hour per week, per class. There will be reading and other assignments that must be completed at home.
- ⇒ **If your family is late, please wait until the next class session begins before entering the classrooms.** It is too disruptive to have latecomers straggling in once class has begun.
- ⇒ **If you know your family will be absent, please contact one of the group facilitators.** We will provide contact phone numbers for members to call.
- ⇒ **Parents must help with the group.** Facilitators will provide information on assistance needed. This group is not a "drop off." Parents are required to stay at the facility during classes. We would like parents to plan field trips and outings (see calendar page for available Thursday dates or plan outings on a separate day of the week).
- ⇒ **Class facilitators will provide evaluations/assessments at the end of each 9 week session.** It is up to the parents to issue "grades" for the classes, if they choose.
- ⇒ **Preschool Age Siblings** - Preschool age siblings are not to be in the classrooms while sessions are going on. Parents of the preschoolers are asked to coordinate supervision of the youngsters while sessions are happening. There is usually an empty room available for the preschoolers, with adult(s) to use.
- ⇒ **Discipline Matters** - Parents are responsible for their own child(ren)'s behavior. If the facilitator feels a student is disruptive, the parent will be asked to remove the student from the class. Further discipline problems will be addressed as needed.
- ⇒ **Playing Outside** - We are welcome to use the grounds around the church area. We are also welcome in the ball field behind our building. Please remind students that they must stay off of the church sign and buildings! Teen members may be outside unaccompanied by an adult. No Jr. Crossroads members may play outside unless an adult is present.
- ⇒ **Hold Harmless Agreement** - Every parent will need to sign this agreement, which will be kept by the facility.
- ⇒ **Communication** - Every parent must check the email list on a regular basis. This email list is our main mode of communication. If you are unable to access your email it is your responsibility to contact another member for current information.
- ⇒ **Updating Expectations will be done as needed.** Last updated 11/6/04.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



In honor of all the children and parents having a birthday in the month of April, we will be hosting a special party.

As with previous months, this will be held on the third Thursday of the month. For April, this will be on the 23rd.

Don't forget to bring whatever food item your family signed up to bring!

MEETING DAY REMINDERS

Please remember that our meetings start promptly at 9:00am. The doors will be opened at 8:40am.

For those facilitating first session classes: feel free to set up your rooms before our 9:00am start time.

At 9:00am, we will begin by having a group recitation of the *Pledge of Allegiance*. Miss Susy will ask two of the youth members to hold the flag and lead the group in the Pledge. Immediately following the recitation of the Pledge, we will provide ten minutes for any announcements. This will include items related

to the group, the facility and any other information deemed important by the parents in our group.

If your family is going to need to purchase lunch for the day, please arrange to do so during the language class. We do need to make sure there are at least two parents left in the class to provide any necessary aid to the language instructor.

Plan to pay your facility use fee to Karen during the lunch break or during the fourth session.

Kudos to the teens for doing a terrific job in vac-

uuming, sweeping and taking out the trash. The adults in the group HAVE noticed your efforts!

Thanks to all the moms who continue to provide such terrific support to those parents who are facilitating classes. This group is a wonderful inspiration to all of us!

Please help us continue to stay in the good graces of St. Mark's by being sure your children follow the rules for use of St. Mark's. Thank you all for your cooperation.



I discovered I always have choices and sometimes it's only a choice of attitudes.

~Judith Knowlton

writer

Crossroads In Education

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Deadline for the May 2005 Newsletter is Wednesday, April 16. Send your submissions to Karen Hoogland at karen@kzhdesign.com, or via snail mail.

If you turn in a submission at a meeting Day, PLEASE put it in writing...it is really hard for us to enjoy the meeting day activities with our own children when we have to take notes for newsletter submissions! Be sure to include

Newsletter Deadline: May 2005

details: date, time, location, contact person & phone number/ email address.

FACILITATORS: Please send updated information to Karen Hoogland each month. If we do not hear from you, we will assume your information does not need to be repeated in the newsletter. Don't forget to put your activity on the group calendar, too (these are the items that make it onto the Newsletter Calendar page).

Any changes in your email address or postal address need to go to Karen at

Karen@kzhdesign.com.

Remember, everyone is receiving the newsletter as a pdf file via email. You will need to have Adobe Acrobat Reader, version 4.0 or higher, on your computer to view the file. It is available for FREE at www.adobe.com.

For further information regarding the newsletter, you may contact the Newsletter Team: Josie Johnson josie@kzhdesign.com
Karen Hoogland
Karen@kzhdesign.com.