



Creating Futures

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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South Slave Schools Celebrate Family Literacy Day - With a Twist

Fort Smith, NT – The students of the South Slave Divisional Education Council (SSDEC) are celebrating Family Literacy Day with a twist this upcoming Monday, January 27th in support of the Council's ongoing Literacy Project. Innovative reading and literacy related activities for students and their families are planned throughout the schools.

Grade one students at Joseph Burr Tyrrell School in Fort Smith will take the theme "food for thought" to a whole new level as they read *Chicken Soup with Rice* while they enjoy a hearty lunch of chicken soup inspired by this children's literary classic with friends and family. If the response from students is an indication, Family Literacy Day should be a huge success. According to grade one student Crystal Anderson, "It will be a really fun day. We get to wear our pajamas, read books and eat lots of soup."

The students of Princess Alexandra School in Hay River are adopting a unique approach to their school-wide Family Literacy Day activities. With interactive activities like "Count the Words on your Clothes", students are excited about the day. "We've tried this activity before, and it was a big success," says teacher and Literacy Committee Representative Kim Ivanko. "Students were excited, felt challenged by the task, and wore clothes with everything from newspaper articles to touring rock bands printed on them. It is a great way to promote school spirit."

According to Michelle Sabeau, Program Coordinator for the South Slave Divisional Education Council, all schools in the region deserve recognition for their efforts in promoting family literacy. "Promoting parent awareness and involvement in student literacy development is essential to the creation of life-long learners," says Sabeau. She adds, "Family literacy provides enhanced connections between home and school."

Please contact the South Slave schools in your community for a complete guide to Family Literacy Day activities.

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