

# November 2020 Newsletter



## YWCA of Alton Child Enrichment



# Director's Note

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As COVID-19 cases continue to rise and our times continue to change, I can only think that we are all feeling the same sense of exhaustion. Our fight is long from over and in many ways, it feels like we are losing. But when I walk through our spaces and see smiling, happy, and hard-working students, I see that we are fighting, and fighting hard.

We have been focusing on preserving the health and safety of our students and staff, while providing the quality care we have always given to our families. To date, we have not had an outbreak at any of our 3 site locations, and that is a big win. Please continue to practice the 3 W's – **wear a face covering, watch your distance, and wash your hands.**

We began the *Reading A-Z* program this month. This program came recommended by an Alton Title 1 teacher who has been using this program in the district with great success. *Reading A-Z* allows our staff to assess and improve our students' reading levels, which helps us to plan our Curriculum and Academic calendars. The program includes thousands of books your children will love reading, while they improve their reading and comprehension skills.

Bobbie Aden has volunteered to spend supplemental reading time with some of our 2nd grade students. We are thrilled to have her help some of our students improve their reading skills. Bobbie has a Master's degree as a Reading Specialist from Greenville College and loves to use her skills to volunteer teaching children to read.

Thank you for your patience as we all navigate through this. We will win this fight together. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,

*Kathy Holder*

Child Enrichment Director

# Looking Ahead

We have **tentative schedules** for the various districts listed for your information although, we encourage you to review your District's data directly.

**11/26- 12/27 YWCA Sites CLOSED- Thanksgiving Break**

**12/8** Early Dismissal-Roxana School District

**12/21-12/23** No School - Roxana School District \*Camp at Ivy Heights

**12/22-12/23** No School – Wood River-Hartford School District. \*Camp at Alton \*\*Attendance Permitting

**12/23** No School – Alton School District. \*Camp at Alton

**12/24 -12/28 YWCA Sites Closed for Christmas Break**

**1/1 YWCA Sites Closed for New Year's Day**

**1/4** No School (All) \*Camp at Alton and Ivy Heights

**1/5** Alton School District and Wood River-Hartford Resume School

**1/5** No School- Roxana School District\*Camp at Ivy Heights

**1/6 -1/9** Roxana School District Resume School

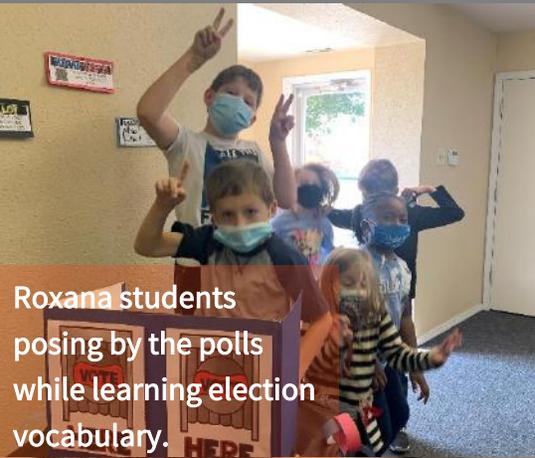
**1/18** Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday No School (All) Camp at Alton and Ivy Heights

**1/29** No School - Wood River Hartford School District\* Camp at Alton\*\* Attendance Permitting

**2/4** Roxana No School \*Camp at Ivy Heights

**2/15** Presidents Day No School (All) \*Camp at Alton and Ivy Heights

# November Curriculum



Roxana students posing by the polls while learning election vocabulary.



Jonah casting his Candy Election vote.



Dalton trying different fall squashes during All About Fall Week.

In observance of the 2020 Presidential Election, our Enrichment program began the month of November taking about elections and the history behind our right to vote. Students learned what an election is, voter suffrage, and why we vote in elections today. Students registered to vote, filled out voter I.D cards and lined up at their polls to cast their vote in the 2020 Candy Election.

Autumn leaves and pumpkins please! Our *All About Fall* week allowed students to learn why trees change colors during the autumn months. John Chapman or better known as “Johnny Appleseed” taught students the difference between Fact and Myth. Students all spent time learning how our food makes it from field to table.

In honor of Veterans Day, our students spent time learning about our military branches and why we honor those who have served. Students put together an Agamograph, which is a graphic that creates an illusion.

Our Child Enrichment students turned into Poets! Poetry helps in language development, writing, and creative skills. Students spent the week reading and writing different kinds of poetry including Acrostics, Limericks, and Free Verse. Students also learned tolerance through their words and the power their words hold.

In preparation for the Thanksgiving holiday, our Enrichment students will learn the history of Thanksgiving and discover new traditions from around the world. Our Enrichment students will also learn about volunteering. Being an active member in their community is important and can still be done safely, even from home! On the day before Thanksgiving, our students will learn about gratitude, reflecting on the things in their lives they are most grateful for.



Ralph coloring with chlorophyll after learning the process of Photosynthesis.



Adalynn reading her poem about herself to the rest of her class.



Roxana students saluting our Veterans for their service.

# Important Notes

Alton started Hybrid Learning schedule Oct. 19, 2020. With COVID-19 cases rising, they made the decision to return to Remote Learning on Nov. 23, 2020.

Wood River – Hartford started the school year with In-Person instruction and transitioned to Remote Learning on Aug. 31, 2020, they then resumed In-Person instruction on September 21, 2020 and is now transitioning back to Remote Learning Nov. 23, 2020.

Roxana started the school year with In-Person instruction and has decided to begin Remote Learning for RJHS and RHS on Nov. 18, 2020. Roxana Central and South School will begin Remote Instruction Nov. 23, 2020.

**\*With learning schedules changing, please see district information directly for the most current information regarding your child's schedule.**

Alton School District is Remote Learning Nov. 23-Dec. 4 ,2020.

Wood River- Hartford District is Remote Learning Nov. 23-Dec. 30, 2020

Roxana School District is Remote Learning and In-Person Learning:

- November 30- December 18 - JH/HS students REMOTE
- November 30- December 18 - Pre-K-fifth grade students IN-PERSON
- January 6-8 - ALL District students REMOTE
- January 11 - ALL District students IN-PERSON (Models TBD)

**The YWCA pricing for Remote schedule is:**

- **Full Time \$140 per week**
- **Part Time \$90 per week**

Our staff need your child's daily schedule for Remote Learning days and ask to make sure children's Chromebooks are fully charged for the next morning.

YWCA continues to take measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Staff and student temperatures are taken daily, and we have increased handwashing and sanitizing our classrooms. We have also required face masks and social distancing as much as possible. We insist that families wear face masks at drop off and pick up times. If your child has a fever of 100 degrees or higher and exhibits symptoms such as frequent coughing, sneezing, and runny nose, we will send them home.

**Please contact us if any family member has been exposed to a person with COVID-19. Your child will have to be tested and quarantined at home until negative test results are received.**

For questions about billing and invoicing, please contact Barb Paisley at [finance@altonywca.com](mailto:finance@altonywca.com).

YWCA of Alton accepts CHASI and DCFS payment collaborations. If you need assistance paying for childcare, visit the [CHASI](#) webpage to check eligibility.

Thank you to all who have donated items off our Amazon Wishlist. We are truly blessed by your generosity. We are still in need of supplies in order for us to support our students. If you would like to donate, please check out our Child Enrichment [Amazon Wishlist](#).

We are in the process of combing our Facebook page with the YWCA of Alton page. Please follow [YWCA of Alton](#) on Facebook to see updates and happenings for our Child Enrichment Program.

# December Curriculum

**STEAM** = Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p><b>All About Eyes</b>  <b>Diagram of the eye</b>            Students will take a closer look at how our eyes work.  <b>Yellow Super Foods</b>            Students will discuss the importance of keeping your eyes healthy and what they can do to protect their eyes.  <b>Perspective</b>            We will discuss different perspectives and how taking new perspectives is helpful.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>S</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p><b>Sound</b>            Students will learn about how their ears work from the inside out.  <b>Silly Ears</b>  <b>Whole Body Listening</b>            Students will learn that active listening is not just done through their ears, but with their whole bodies.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>S</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p><b>Smell</b>            Students will learn about their noses and sense of smell through information videos and worksheets.             Students will test their sniffers with a “Guess the Scent Game”            Students will also be introduced to how the nose plays a role in how we taste our food.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>S</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p><b>Taste</b>            Students will learn about their taste buds and the areas on our tongues that we taste different foods, like sweet, salty, and sour.   <b>Bean Boozeled</b>            Students will test their luck and taste buds to see which flavor Jelly Bean they receive.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>S</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p><b>Touch</b>            Students will learn how we are able to feel and touch things through informative videos.  <b>No Touch Greetings</b>            Due to our current environment, students will learn more ways to greet one another that does not involve physical touch.  <b>“What’s in the Box”</b>            Students will take turns feeling an object in a box without seeing it to try to guess what they are feeling.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>S</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p><b>Introduction to Coding</b>             Students will learn what coding is and how It is used in our day today lives and technology.   <b>Code Names</b>            Students will create their own code name bracelet based on coding instructions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>T</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p><b>Unplugged Coding</b>             Coding is primarily used with technology. To help build their foundations of coding, the students will unplug and learn to code on paper.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>T</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p><b>Sequencing</b>             Continuing their knowledge of coding, students will learn about sequencing, and have to complete sequence obstacle courses and puzzles, without breaking the code.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>T</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p><b>So you think you can Code?</b>             A new spin on the hit dance show, students will have to create their own dance routines and use symbols to teach the rest of the class their routines.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>T</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p><b>Lego Club Coding</b>             Students will be put to the test to construct Lego structures based on coding instructions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>T; E</b></p>

<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p><b>All about Winter</b></p> <p>Students will learn all about the winter season and how Winter weather is predicted each year.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">S</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p><b>Snow</b></p> <p>Students will learn the life cycle of a snowflake and do a fun Snow Storm in a jar science experiment.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">S</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p><b>Winter Animals</b></p> <p>Many animals hibernate during the colder months. The students will learn about these animals and others who live in much colder places than Illinois.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">S</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p><b>Solstices and Equinoxes</b></p> <p>Students will learn about what a solstice is and what an equinox is and when they happen each year.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">S</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p><b>Winter STEM</b></p> <p>Students will spend the day doing STEM based activities about winter, including building snowmen, igloos, and hot chocolate cup towers.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>S;T;E</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p><b>Christmas Around the World</b></p> <p>Students will spend the next several days learning about how Christmas celebrations differ around the world.</p> <p><b>Christmas in Russia</b> <b>Christmas in Australia</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p><b>Christmas in Brazil</b></p> <p>Students will learn about Christmas traditions from Brazil.</p> <p><b>Christmas in the Netherlands</b> : Students will learn about Christmas celebrations in the Netherlands</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p><b>Christmas in Mexico</b></p> <p>Students will learn about Christmas traditions in the Hispanic culture.</p> <p><b>Christmas in Italy</b></p> <p>Students will learn about Christmas celebrations in Italy.</p>	<p style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid black;"><b>Christmas Break YWCA Closed</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;"><b>Christmas Break YWCA Closed</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p><b>Chanukah</b></p> <p>Students will spend time learning about the Chanukah. They will learn what it is, who celebrates it.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>A</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p><b>Diwali</b></p> <p>Students will learn all about the Diwali holiday. They will learn what it is, who celebrates it and where.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>A</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p><b>Chinese New Year</b></p> <p>Students will learn all about the Chinese New Year, along with some of the cultural traditions surrounding the celebration.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>A</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>1</b></p> <p style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;"><b>New Year's Day YWCA Closed</b></p>