

Reading Plan

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children.

One reader from Connellsville, Rhoda Evans, is enthusiastic about reading. She checks the books out of the Carnegie Free Public Library and takes them to others who may not be able to get to the library. Some of those who read the books with her are her friends. Others are relatives. She loves to read anything, but the gift certificates that are given to those reading 10 books are like icing on the cake.

Reviews published

A unique part of the program is that community volunteers are recruited by the church to write reviews of the books. Local newspapers may publish the book reviews and reviewer photos.

The reviews give visibility to both the books and the overall purpose of the education strategy.

Melissa Schofield, lifestyle editor for the Daily Courier, Connellsville, says that she is glad to use the reviews in her paper, especially since they are written by local people and "it's a good cause."

Scottdale dentist, Ed Thornblade, wrote his first review when the book list included a biography of John Wesley. In college, Thornblade had studied John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist church. He felt the book was good for people in his congregation. Since then, Thornblade's church, Trinity United Methodist, has bought the books each year for their education program.

A mother from Scottdale, Ruth Scott, whose family has participated in the readings for several years said, "Parents and teachers should check out From Anna with a child, and read it yourself. Good intentions, meaning well, and even loving, are not always enough to help a child grow." She feels that this book can help adults recommit themselves to using the power of love unceasingly.

Other groups show interest

Beyond the local community, other congregations have tried variations on the program in their own areas. First Deaf Mennonite, on Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, has created a peace elf doll that young readers can check out and take home when they are reading the peace books.

The Kaufman Mennonite



Peggie McDonald demonstrates the importance of reading as she regularly reads aloud to selected groups of students in the Scottdale Elementary School. About the book, Mrs. McDonald said, "Hanukkah: Eight Lights around the world is a beautifully written book that shares with its readers many customs and traditions of the Jewish religion." Mrs. McDonald, now principle at SES, has been an educator at the school for about 16 years. Photo by David Hiebert.

Church near Johnstow, has a summer reading program based on the peace book lists. This congregation pairs the younger readers with adults to talk about the stories.

In 1991, the Church and Society Committee of the West Penn United Church of Christ recommended that congregations in their conference use the readings. The congregations have responded and several used the plan last year.

A more distant adaptation has come from a group of churches in Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Montana. Because of the distances between churches, this group mails the books to participants. At the end of the year-long reading, a free book is given to those who complete the requirements.

Elaine Martin, secretary for the sponsoring congregation, is keep busy responding to queries for information. Her list of people who requested information now includes more than 200 names.



The Christian Peace Elf symbol is used on stickers which help identify the peace books in public libraries, churches and schools. It was drawn by the now retired Mennonite Publishing House illustrator, Ivan Moon.

Church schools, public schools and home schoolers

The tight budget at a church school in Champion, was preventing them from purchasing the books. When this was made known, two concerned women in Scottdale and Mt. Pleasant donated the money to purchase the books. In gratitude, about a dozen students wrote thank-you notes to the sponsors.

The Scottdale Elementary School, which is part of the Southmoreland school district, participated this year. Cathy Firestone, a teacher at the school, encourages her students to read. Looking ahead to next year, she said, "I recently attended a Whole Language workshop. I kept the Christian Peace Elf Program in mind and brought back a list of possibilities."

Home schoolers have also found the books and questions useful. One family suggested that

the completed reader interaction booklets could be part of the portfolio they would take to their school superintendent at the end of the year.

For further information If you would like a free bookmark, the current year's 20-page

reader interaction booklet (\$1), or suggestions on how to start the program in your community, write to The Christian Peace Elf, c/o Kingview Mennonite Church, 1007 Kingview Road, Scottdale, PA 15683.

Flavor Your Own Honey

Did you know that there are more than 300 unique types of honey available? It all depends where the hard working honey bees buzzed when they were collecting nectar and pollen for their own food.

Billions of bees spend their lives making natural honey varieties from floral sources such as alfalfa, buckwheat, clover, fireweed, orange blossom, sage, tupelo and wildflower — just to name a few.

If you're a honey lover, celebrate the bees' lifework by tasting all the natural honey varieties available in your local specialty stores. Or, create your own "flavored" honey in honor of the hard-working little critters—it's as simple and natural as the honey bees' production of honey itself.

FLAVORED HONEYS

First, begin with a mild honey variety. In general, milder varieties (such as alfalfa or clover) have a lighter color. Use 1 (1-lb.) jar honey and add one of the following ingredients. All you need is a saucepan, a strainer and something to do while the flavors settle!

CITRUS

*Add 1 tablespoon grated grapefruit, lemon, lime or orange peel. Heat mixture on low 10 minutes. Let stand at least 2 hours. Strain and pour honey into jar.

MINT

*Add 1/4 cup chopped fresh mint. Heat mixture on low 10 minutes. Let stand at least 2 hours. Strain and pour honey into jar with lid.

GINGER

*Add 1 tablespoon julienne fresh ginger root. Heat mixture on low 10 minutes. Let stand at least 2 hours. Strain and pour honey jar with lid.

ALLSPICE

*Add 1 tablespoon whole allspice. Heat mixture on low 10 minutes. Let stand at least 2 hours. Heat mixture on low 10 minutes, a second time. Let stand overnight. Strain and pour honey into jar with lid.

HOT HONEY

*Add 1-1/2 teaspoons dried hot crushed red pepper. Heat mixture on low 10 minutes. Let stand 1 to 2 hours. Strain and pour honey into jar with lid.

Be careful not to boil or scorch the honey when heating.

Send away for two fun, funny and fact-filled editions of "The Honey Times," filled with recipes, honey lore and lots of laughs. Write to: "The Honey Times," c/o Evans Food Group, Dept. MAT, 190 Queen Anne Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98109. Please include \$1 to help cover postage and handling.

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Dear Golden Pride/Rawleigh:

In September of 1985, I had back surgery to correct a lower back problem from an injury that happened in 1970. Six months after the operation, I woke up one morning with extreme lower back pain. I went to the doctor and was sent to a specialist who told me I had rheumatoid arthritis and it would gradually get worse. In September of 1990, I started taking Combination 23. I took six in the morning and six at night for five days, then cut back to four in the morning and four at night. After five days, the pain was gone. Now I take three in the morning and three in the evening, and I am still getting great results.

Steve Spicer

Dear Golden Pride/Rawleigh:

On June 25 at Shipshewana Flea Market we met Ben and he explained Golden Pride/Rawleigh to us. He told us to try Formulas #1, #2 and Combination #23 for arthritis. We decided to give it a try since I had allergic reactions to all the medicines doctors gave me and they would no longer prescribe any more medicine. We are very pleased now as I can walk a mile or more without the cane or crutches when before I could only go a short distance. I would advise anyone with arthritis to give it a try. It has done a lot of good for me.

Paul Wortinger

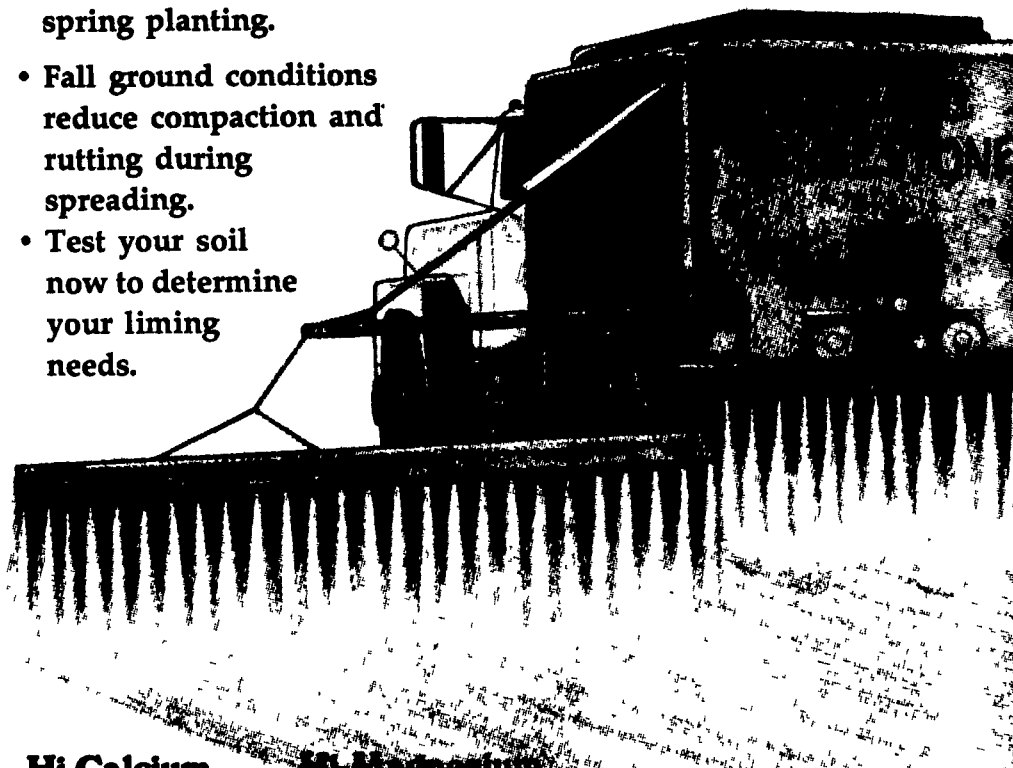
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Propolis #4.....	\$15.75	Combination 23.....	\$27.95

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