

Family Living Focus

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Perry Co. Extension



Encouraging Creativity

It won't be long before school will be out! For some parents this is great news, for others it is a time for panic. What to do with the kids can be a challenge.

Recently, many Americans celebrated "No TV Day." This was a day when children, with their families, turned off the television and were to find things to do together. One young child mentioned he was going to play outside with his dad and another indicated she and her family were going to do board games.

Television can be entertaining and educational, but is not a medium that is interactive. Children need interaction with each other and with adults. Children of all ages learn through play. By playing children learn social skills, they grow intellectually, develop physically by using both small and large muscles, and expand themselves emotionally.

When we think about playing various visions can come to mind like: board games, running, swinging, mud pies, dress-up, balls, parks just to name a few.

But how about art: is it playing? It can be.

Art is an activity that requires physical, intellectual, emotional, and even social skills. Art is an area where children can be encouraged to express themselves while using an array of materials.

This summer both parents and grandparents can use this time to explore just how art can be used as a form of playing. Children should have easy access to basic art materials like paints, markers, colored paper, string, soap, magazines, cornstarch, glue, clay, play-dough and water. Older children may need to expand the list. Children learn best by repeating experiences with basic materials. You can even use recycled terms like meat trays, paper bags, coffee cans, and left over yarn, to provide an educational opportunity while being creative. Here are some tips to encourage creativity:

- Provide a variety of materials
- Plan enough time so children are not rushed
- Don't tell children what to make, give suggestions if they draw a blank

Doctor Writes Book On Practicing Medicine In Lancaster County

STRASBURG (Lancaster Co.) — Dr. Henry S. Wentz began to practice medicine in the days when house calls were common. On call night and day, Wentz was unable to attend special events or even enjoy family dinners without interruption.

Few medicines were available to treat complex illnesses. Diagnosis needed to be made without the help of ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging, and other specialized tests. Medical costs were low and office visits cost \$1.50 to \$2.

Recently Wentz released a book on his 40 years of doctoring in Strasburg. "Patients Are A Virtue: Practicing Medicine in the Pennsylvania Amish Country," colorfully demonstrates the response of a rural physician to the sad and happy times of his patients and their loved ones. Each chapter deals with a different story about

- Make positive comments
 - If you're not sure what the finished project may be, ask the child to tell you about it.
 - Listen attentively when they explain their project.
 - Display the completed art work (Isn't that why we have smooth refrigerator fronts?)
 - Have the child show the art to family members and friends
 - Have an open mind and join in the fun with them
- Now is the time to collect the materials and ideas so you and your family have wonderful and creative summer.

Wentz's county doctoring from 1943-1988. Some title include: "Dying is Part of Live," "My Wife's Prophecy," "A Train Wreck in Paradise," "Poliomyelitis in the 1950s," "Saved by a Scream."

Wentz's colleague Dr. Paul H.

Ripple illustrated the stories.

Copies of "Patients Are A Virtue," can be ordered at \$12.95 per book plus \$3 for shipping (plus 78 cents Pa. sales tax for Pennsylvanians) from Masthof Press, R.R.1, Box 20, Mill Road, Morgantown, PA 19543-9701.

Patients Are A Virtue



Dr. Henry Wentz, right, wrote "Patients Are A Virtue: Practicing Medicine In The Pennsylvania Amish County." Dr. Paul H. Ripple, left, provided sketches for each chapter.

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Wednesday, June 4	9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. Delmar Grain, Inc. @ Skip Ammons Farm Road 503B West Delmar, DE Contact: Skip Ammons 1-800-227-2908 or 302-846-9567
Thursday, June 5	5:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Hoffman Seeds, Inc. Technology Learning Ctr. Rt. 772, West of Manheim Contact: Steve Smith 1-800-776-7929 OR 717-898-2261
Tuesday, June 16	6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Fuhrman Foods Farm #23 Route 405 North Northumberland, PA Contact: Chris Wilson 717-653-9060

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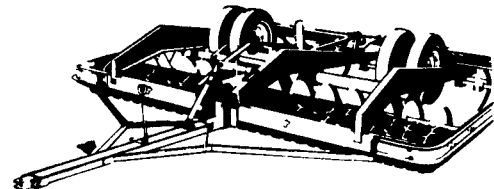
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