

We had lots of exciting programming during the month of November in Kids' Place. Our regular weekly infant, preschool, and elementary story times were well-attended with 191 children and adults in attendance during the month.

We also had a number of special events enjoyed by many of our patrons. Twenty children from our "Adventure Time" elementary group presented a Thanksgiving Play to many of their family members and friends on November 21st. It took a few weeks to get ready as the students painted and constructed set pieces, practiced reading and acting out a narrated script, and put together costumes to represent the "First Thanksgiving" to the audience. Afterwards the group shared a small "feast" of treats and snacks.



**Thursday "Adventure Time" Thanksgiving Play and Feast**

Other happenings during the month included a visit from the Branch County Humane Society with a program called, "How Much is that Doggie in the Window?" on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The patrons in attendance went away with much useful information about proper dog and cat care. Finally, a number of young crafters enjoyed a "Christmas craft Make and Take" day on November 30th. These kids got a head start on their Christmas gifts by make some neat crafts.



**Proper Care of Pets Program**



**"Christmas Craft Make and Take" Crafters**

Coming up in December is the culmination of our fall story time schedule just in time for the holidays. On December 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 480 patrons from throughout Branch County will enjoy the annual "Christmas Train" event on the Little River Railroad. Santa and his elves will be on hand, and the conductor of the train will read "The Polar Express" by Chris Van Allsburg. In addition, our young patrons can continue to have fun through the holiday season with a number of "Stay-cation" events before the year is over: another Craft Day, a Wii Game session for teens & tweens, a special Saturday story time and even a "Kids' Countdown to 12!" New Year's event. (Don't worry, we're counting down to 12 p.m., not a.m!)

After the New Year we are looking forward to "The Wings of Freedom" (a program about WWII planes), and "Sea Dweller ABC's" (a program to learn about the care and maintenance of aquariums). We will also begin our Winter Story time sessions, including our new monthly Saturday Kids First Club for kids 3<sup>rd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Other happenings...



Is this Santa checking the roof?



Some friendly elves helping keep our floor clean. You should check out the U.S. Carpet. Miss Kate shampooed the grime away, just in time for the holidays!

Looking towards Spring:

We've applied to take part in the Michigan Credit Union League's "Money Smarts Week in April. The United Educational Credit Union of Coldwater has agreed to partner with us in hosting three events during the Money Smart Week of April 5-12. These events will focus on preschool-early elementary, upper elementary and teens. The League provides books for both the children and their parents. We hope to hear we've been chosen before the end of the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Littlely & Linda Dull