



November 2015

Family Ideas to Celebrate Advent



As we head towards the exciting Christmas season, how do you prepare for the mystery of Christmas? Here are a few ideas:

1. Wrap up twenty five Christmas books. Each day one child gets to unwrap one book that you will read together as a family.
2. Order [Unwrapping the Greatest Gift](#) by Ann Voskamp as a devotional to read as a family this season.

3. [Jesse tree](#)

4. [Kindness Calendar](#)

5. Create a Giving List of things that you can give to others this Advent season (jobs you can do for the neighbours, cards you could send in the mail, people you could bake cookies for, charities that you can donate to)

6. Read a book from the [Jotham's Journey](#) series.

7. Create a new rhythm or routine for the advent season. Start each morning in Advent by reading a Christmas poem, memorizing a Christmas carol.

Ocean Exploration for Homeschoolers

Huntsman Marine Aquarium Winter Program, St Andrews

Elementary age students are invited to attend any of the following scheduled homeschool programs:

- **November 19 or 20:**
Beach - Intertidal Exploration at Brandy Cove
- **December 8 or 10:**
Plankton Lab - Life in a Drop of Water
- **January 12 or 14:**
Invertebrate Lab - An Introduction to Classification
- **February 23 or 25:** Echinoderm Lab - Right-Side Up Experiment



\$20/ child, must pre-register. All programs run from 9:15am- noon.

For more info, click [here](#)

Oh deer, oh deer!

Necropsy Activity for HENB High Schoolers

Sixteen students from across the province participated in experiential science learning at a deer necropsy on November 27 at the UNB Forestry Centre.



A huge thank you to Rod Cumberland who donated his time and expertise to provide such an incredible and memorable learning opportunity for these teens. It will most definitely be one that they will not forget!

How about Christmas projects?

Some really great ideas here

From memorization to art projects to baking, singing, or cooking, there is a suggestion here for everyone!

1. [Lapbook](#) on the Symbols of Christmas
2. [Color the Classics](#) (Christmas edition) - also available through many curriculum suppliers
3. Memorize Luke 2:1-20
4. Choose gifts from [World Vision](#) or [Compassion](#)
5. Do a service project- carol to shut ins, bake cookies (cheer plates) for shut ins, give to the food bank, join with other families and provide dinner and gifts to a low income family, invite someone who is alone to share Christmas dinner.
6. [3D snowflakes](#) - these are beautiful if done with colored paper





HENB Leadership Breakfast

Great food, fellowship and dialogue on Sat, Nov 21

Over **20 support group leaders and HENB executive members** joined forces over breakfast to discuss the vision and direction of HENB for the upcoming year. With this excellent turn out, delicious food and engaging conversation about the role HENB should play in the lives of home educating families, the 2nd Annual Leadership

Breakfast was a tremendous success.

HENB asked support leaders to answer these two questions for newsletter readers:

1. What is one of the ways that you keep yourself level headed through the chaos of home education?

- proper sleep
- music
- tea/ coffee
- realizing that things don't have to be perfect, sometimes just "good enough"
- having a husband who takes over 2x a week
- stop comparing schooling of other children
- taking a break
- local support group involvement

2. What is one homeschooling resource or book that you wouldn't want to live without this year?

- the Bible
- Wordsmith
- Daily Grams
- WRS (*Wilson Reading System*)
- Mystery of History*
- Computer
- Sally Clarkson's *Educating the Whole Hearted Child*

Stay tuned for the **February newsletter** which will **highlight some of the key areas of improvement** that HENB will focus on for 2016.



Family Camp Registration

Caton's Island



Open to home educating families around the province at beautiful Caton's Island.

Date: June 23-26, 2016

Price: \$275/ 3 nights with accommodations, food, and activities included.

\$100 deposit required to reserve your spot!

Contact [Dawn](#) for more details.

Why HSLDA?

Your Legal Protection for Homeschooling

Not the fanciest gift idea but why not ask a grandparent to gift you a year's membership to HSLDA?

Home School Legal Defence Association (HSLDA) is a national organization that works on behalf of home educators across Canada.



HSLDA
Home School Legal Defence Association
"Advocates for Family and Freedom"

It works out to just over \$13/ month but gives you insurance coverage for ANY field trip you organize or ANY activity you host in your home.

HSLDA's purpose is to empower, protect, and encourage home educators across the country, as well as represent home education to those who are not home educating themselves. This includes prospective home educators, antagonists, media, government etc.

Check out [HSLDA](#) for what they do and how to become a member.

Mark these Dates

HENB Upcoming Events to Remember

[Annual Conference](#), Sussex, Fri, May 27 and Sat, May 28

To add your event to this calendar, please contact Lora at



info@henb.ca.

Student Poems/ Art for 2016!

Showcase your son/daughter's gifts

HENB would like to **highlight the work of 1 or 2 students each month**. Please submit your **child's name, grade and poem or photo of their art piece** to possibly be included in next month's newsletter.

Or is your local support group hosting an event that you want other families to know about?

Email Lora at info@henb.ca to enter your child's work or to add an event to the newsletter.

Together we have more resources. Together we can provide more opportunities for our kids to learn and grow. Together we are stronger.



Contact

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"Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life."

-Charlotte Mason