



The Luso

Winter 2011



Holiday Coloring Contest

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Credit Union Closings:
November 24, 2011-
 Thanksgiving Day

December 26, 2011-
 Christmas Day Observed

All students aged 5 to 10 who complete the coloring contest on the back of this newsletter will be entered into our Credit Union wide contest to win one of six holiday gift bags! These bags are stuffed with toys, games, art supplies and plenty more all valued at over \$100!



Also, one student from your school will be selected to win their choice of a board game or gift card! Please return your entry by December 15, 2011. Entries may be returned at school banking or to the Credit Union at 599 East Street, Ludlow, MA. Winners will be announced on December 16, 2011.

Popcorn Snowmen

from **FamilyFun Magazine**



Ingredients

- 15 cups popped popcorn
- 1 stick butter/margarine
- 2 10 oz. packs marshmallows
- 1/4 cup confectioner's sugar
- Pretzel sticks
- Raisins
- Candy corn
- Mini jawbreakers
- Gumdrops or red hots
- Fruit leather

Instructions

1. Put the popcorn in your largest mixing bowl and set aside. Melt the butter/margarine in a nonstick saucepan over medium-low heat. Add all the marshmallows to the pan, stirring continually with a wooden spoon until they're completely melted. Pour the mixture over the popcorn and stir to coat evenly. As soon as the marshmallow is cool enough to touch, rub a little butter or margarine in your hands and make popcorn balls (about 1 cup of popcorn per ball).
2. Build and decorate your snowmen on sheets of waxed paper. For each one, stack three popcorn balls atop each other. Push pretzel-stick arms into the sides of the middle popcorn ball. Add raisins for eyes and a candy corn for a nose. Arrange a row of mini jawbreakers into a broad grin. For buttons on the snowman's chest, use gumdrops or red hots.
3. If your popcorn balls aren't sticky enough to hold the decorations, mix up a small batch of stiff white icing by adding water, a few drops at a time, to 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar and stirring until smooth. Use this to glue the candy in place. For snowmen's scarves, cut rectangles out of fruit leather and fringe the ends. Makes 5 snowmen.

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Savings tip: Be a smart shopper! Look for sales and coupons to save money on the things you want to buy!

10 Cool Things About Water



- Cold water weighs more than hot water
- A hippopotamus can walk along the bottoms of lakes and rivers
- It takes 2,900 gallons of water to produce one pair of jeans
- Every person in the U.S. uses about 100 gallons—or 1,600 cups—of water every day
- A bath uses 75% more water than a five-minute shower
- More Americans fish than play tennis or golf
- Freshwater makes up less than three percent of the earth's water
- More than 3.5 million miles of rivers and streams flow through the U.S.
- The rain that falls today is the same freshwater that dinosaurs drank
- The snake-necked turtle, found in marshes and shallow waters of Australia, Indonesia, and New Guinea, smells like a skunk

- National Geographic Kids September 2011 Issue

Indoor Games

We know the winter can be a drag... try one of these fun indoor games!

HUMAN SLIDESHOW

What You Need: Paper & Pencil

Instructions: (1.) **To get started:** Assign one player to be the emcee and the others to be the "slides." Have the group choose a fairly simple, universal activity to act out, such as making dinner or playing soccer. Once the topic is decided, the slides write down a list of 5 to 7 scenes to depict it -- without discussing them with the emcee. For example, if the activity is cleaning your room, the slides might pretend to vacuum, fold laundry, or hide the whole mess in the closet. (2.) **To play:** With the emcee watching, the other players act out a scene from their list. The emcee uses her imagination to describe what's going on. When she's done narrating, she says "click," and the slides change to their next scene. The audience tries to guess the topic that the group is acting out. (3.) **Our testers' twist:** Divide players into teams of 3, each with its own emcee and topic. See if the audience can guess what each team is acting out (be sure the emcees don't give it away!). The team that earns the most correct guesses wins.

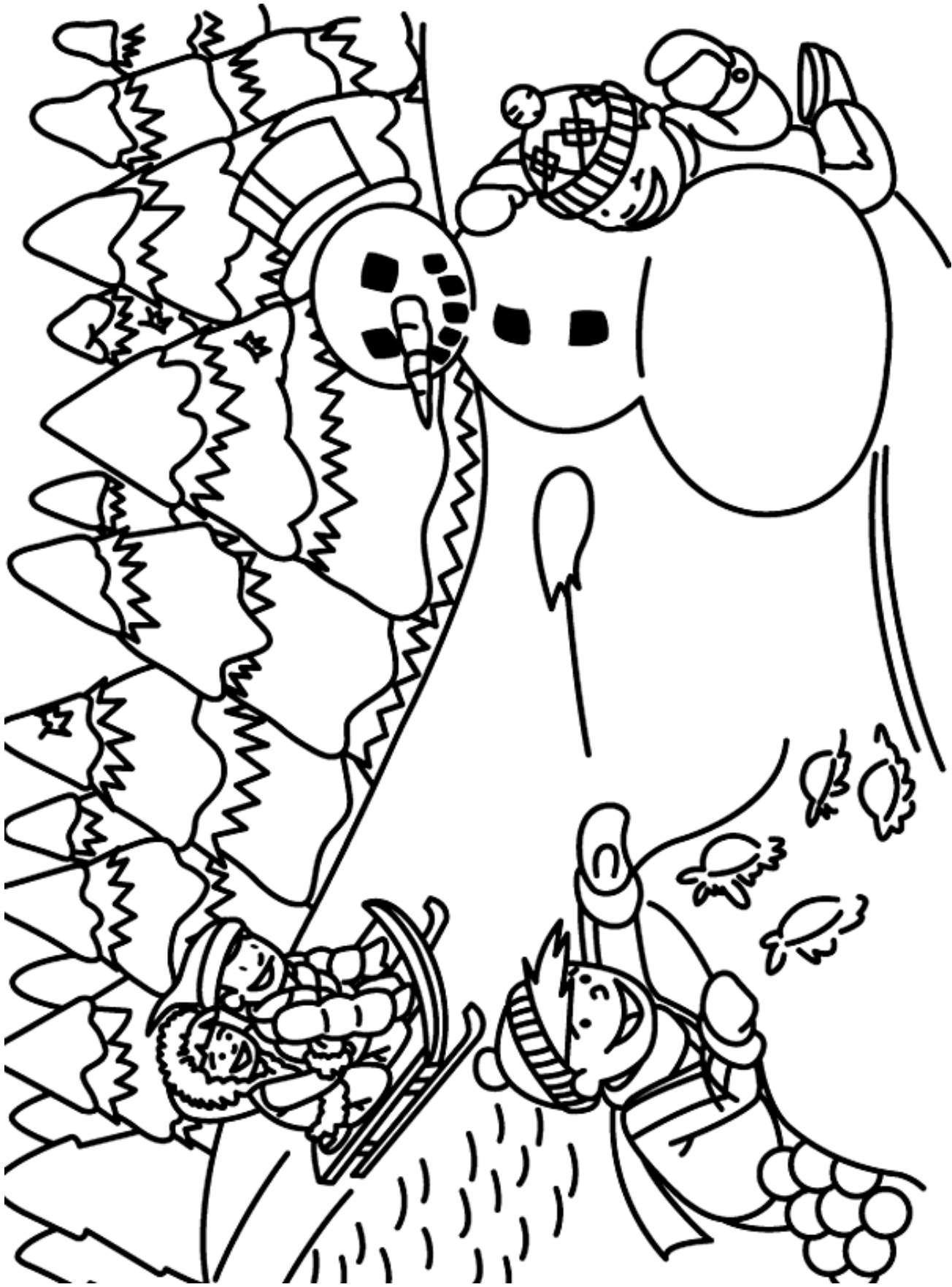
from **FamilyFun Magazine**



INDOOR OBSTACLE COURSE

Looking for some competition? Setup an indoor obstacle course and have someone time you while you complete it. The fastest wins! Here are some ideas:

- (1.) Crawl under or over a row of chairs.
- (2.) Crawl under a string stretched between two chair legs.
- (3.) Jump into and out of a Hula-Hoop five times.
- (4.) Walk on a balance board.
- (5.) Throw a beanbag into a laundry basket.
- (6.) Run while balancing a beanbag on your head.
- (7.) Do a ring toss.
- (8.) Do ten jumping jacks.
- (9.) Skip in place while reciting a jump rope rhyme.
- (10.) Do a handstand.
- (11.) Somersault from one point to another.
- (12.) Ride a tricycle along a predetermined route.
- (13.) Play one hole of Newspaper Golf.



Name: _____ School: _____

Age: _____ Phone Number: _____