

LEARNING RESOURCES:

- Don't forget to book your hand on learning kits for the school year, we still have some great kits available for teachers use.
- Seasonal kits, we still have Thanksgiving and Halloween kits available this month, book soon to avoid missing out.
- High school teachers, don't forget we have some great resources for you this year.

INTERESTING PICTURES

National Geographic has just announced their **BEST SCIENCE IMAGES OF 2008**. Check out National Geographic's Daily News Section of their website. There are some interesting pictures included.

Learning Opportunities

There are lots of great fall learning opportunities out there in and around Medicine Hat.

Medicine Hat Interpretive Program

There are lots of curriculum based programs that the interpretive center offers through out the fall and winter months. Check out their nature line website or call Praxis for more information

Calgary Zoo

Why not take your class to the zoo and take in one of their many sessions, or spend the day with a zoo expert and see all the animals, including Yewande the baby gorilla. The education programs part of the zoo's website www.calgaryzoo.org has more information.

Royal Tyrell Museum

Why not check out one the thirteen different curriculum based programs that the Tyrell museum offers for all grades from kindergarten to grade 12, www.tyrellmuseum.com has more information. I was just there and they have changed some of the displays.

Inside Education

Inside Education has just announced their fall and winter professional development opportunities for teachers. www.insideeducation.ca has a list of all the new programs.

Call Praxis @ 403-527-5365 for more information about any of these great opportunities.

ROBOTICS CLUB

Praxis is pleased to announce the return of our Robotics Club, starting on Monday November 10. Please see the enclosed poster for information.



An example of one of the machines you can make in Robotics Club.

Family Science Olympics

Science and Technology week is fast approaching, this year not only will it be celebrated in Alberta but also all across Canada with the National Science and Technology week from October 17 to 28. To celebrate Praxis hosting our annual Family Science Olympics on Saturday

October 18th in cooperation with the Medicine Hat branch of APEGGA. This is fun for the whole family, there will be activities for everyone. We hope to see you all there.

Date: Saturday October 18

Time: 10 am to 3pm

Where: Medicine Hat High School—Taylor Science Center (enter the school from 5th Street)

Note: Each family must have one "member" over 18 to participate.

For more information call Praxis at 403-527-5365

Creepy Soap



Soap that looks like blood!

Materials:

- Bar of soap
- 3 Ex-lax tablets
- 4 teaspoons rubbing alcohol
- Jar with a lid

Procedure:

1. Crush the Ex-Lax tablets up, you can easily do with by putting them on a hard surface and use the back of a spoon to press on them to crush them.

2. Place all the crushed pieces into the jar
3. Add the rubbing alcohol to the jar and screw on the lid
4. Shake the jar until the tablets are all dissolved.
5. Open the jar and carefully pour a little bit of the mixture on your hands and rub it in.
6. Let your hands dry. Try not to touch anything!
7. Wash your hands with the bar of soap, and watch what happens

Explanation:

Your hands should have turned bright red. Ex-Lax has the chemical phenolphthalein in it, which is used as an indicator for acid/base reactions. In the presence of a base, phenolphthalein turns different shades of red, depending on how strong the base is. When you washed your hands with soap, you were washing with a base, as soap is often made from an alkali or base called sodium hydroxide. When the solution on your hands comes into contact with the soap it turns bright red.

Here are a couple
of great
experiments to try
at this time of year
with Halloween
right around the
corner.

For all of your science
needs contact Praxis

Phone: 403-527-5365

Fax: 403-528-6570

E-mail: praxis@praxismh.ca

Web: www.praxismh.ca



Founding Member of:



Don't forget you can always get an extra
copy of the newsletter off our website!

Jack-o-light

Materials:

- Pumpkin
- Knife
- Candle
- Matches

Procedure:

1. Cut off the top of the pumpkin, as if you are going to make a jack-o-lantern

2. Scoop out all the insides
3. Place a candle in the pumpkin, light it and let it burn for a couple of minutes
4. Put the lid on the pumpkin
5. After a couple of minutes lift the lid up and see if the candle is still burning

Explanation:

The candle should be out, because it can't burn with out oxygen (air) and when you put the lid on you cut off the candles air supply. A jack-o-lantern can burn because when you cut out the face you are opening up holes that air can get through to the candle.

Now finish off your jack-o-lantern in time for Halloween!

