



# YAK'S CORNER TEACHER GUIDE

This week we read reviews of new toy products. We also learned about the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah and made an edible dreidel.

## Paper Caper

**ACTIVITY:** It's fun to read about toys that we might like to receive as holiday gifts. But there are lots of parents who rely on help from their communities to provide holiday gifts for their children. Newspapers are a great place to find out how to help other people. In your newspaper, look for information about organizations that are collecting holiday gifts for needy children. Make a chart of gift collection programs that shows the following information for each organization: name, phone number, address, type of items being sought, deadline for donating.

**STANDARDS:** Students will use a variety of graphic organizers, including charts. Students will collect information and present it in an organized manner.

## Making the Grade

**ACTIVITY:** When teachers grade students, they develop standards of achievement that are expected from a student before he or she receives a certain grade. Develop your own standards of achievement for grading toys. You can use letter grades like Yak's toy reviewers or develop your own system. For each possible grade, you should provide a list of several criteria the toy must meet in order to receive that grade.

**STANDARD:** Students will develop criteria for evaluating a group of items.

## Cultural Connection

**ACTIVITY:** There are many cultural celebrations that take place in December. Compile a list of as many as you can think of. Then, using the Internet and the library, research each celebration and find its origin. Make a book in which you describe each celebration you researched and draw images that are associated with that celebration. For example, for Hanukkah, you could draw pictures of dreidels or menorahs and include a summary of information you read in Yak's Corner.

**STANDARD:** Students will identify important cultural celebrations and explain their significance



RON HOSKINS/KRT

**The menorah plays an important role in the celebration of Hanukkah.**



PATRICIA BECK/KRT

**Kristy McPherson, 11, tries her hand at the Harry Potter and the Levitating Challenge Game.**

## Positively Potter

**ACTIVITY:** Harry Potter and the Levitating Challenge Game received rave reviews from Yak's team of youth testers. It's likely the popularity of the "Harry Potter" books and the recently released movie will mean all things Potter will be popular this holiday season. Based on your knowledge

of either the books or the movie, come up with your own idea for a toy. Make a sketch of what the toy would look like and then write a few paragraphs about how it would work.

**STANDARD:** Students will write to explain an idea.

## It All Adds Up

**ACTIVITY:** Here's a math challenge: Write the prices of each of the items listed in the toy review. Then add them up to see what the total cost of the toys would be.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** If there is sales tax where you live, figure out what the total tax would be based on the sum of all the toy prices.

**STANDARD:** Students will calculate sums for problems with more than two addends.

TEACHERS: If you have any ideas for activities we could add, let us know! Send an e-mail to KRT OnePages at krt-onepages@krtinfo.com.



# YAK'S CORNER ACTIVITY SHEET

www.yakscorner.com

Hey kids, this week we read reviews of new toy products. We also learned about the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah and made an edible dreidel.

## Paper Caper

**ACTIVITY:** It's fun to read about toys that we might like to receive as holiday gifts. But there are lots of parents who rely on help from their communities to provide holiday gifts for their children. In your newspaper, look for information about two organizations that are collecting holiday gifts for needy children and fill out the charts to the right.

## Charitable organizations

Name of organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type of items sought: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Collection deadline: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type of items sought: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Collection deadline: \_\_\_\_\_

## It All Adds Up

**ACTIVITY:** Here's a math challenge: Write the prices of each of the items listed in the toy review. Then add them up to see what the total cost of the toys would be.

ITEM	COST
Harry Potter and the Levitating Challenge Game	_____
Sugarplum Princess Barbie .....	_____
HitClips Groove Machine .....	_____
Spy Listener .....	_____
Bioncle action figures .....	_____
Red Dragon Puppet .....	_____
Rescue Net Map'n Go Fire Truck .....	_____
Tony Hawk Skateboard .....	_____
Popples Pizzazzy-Jazzy Popple .....	_____
Robo Baby Robo-Chi .....	_____
What's Her Face! doll .....	_____
TOTAL: _____	