

December/January  
2016/2017  
**Reading Connection**



Providing parents with reading strategies, resources, and facts to support reading at home



**Reading and Writing Over the Holidays**

The Holiday Season is an incredibly busy time of year. However, it's also a perfect time to sneak in some extra reading and writing practice, especially with the kiddos home for break. Here are some ideas for integrating reading and writing practice into the fun of the holiday season:

- Have your child write a letter or list to Santa. Spelling doesn't have to be perfect- encourage your children to write all the sounds they hear in each word.
- Have them help write the "To" and "From" gift tags.
- Make holiday cards for friends, family, and neighbors.
- Share a new holiday book together. (See the Book of the Month suggestion.)
- Have your child help read a recipe when making holiday treats.
- Take books along when traveling. Children can pass time by reading in the car and show off what they've learned to family members at gatherings.
- Tie in books with activities you are going to be doing. For example, you could read the book "The Gingerbread Man" with your child before making gingerbread cookies.
- Read books together and then have a movie night to watch the movie that was made from the book. The Polar Express is a great one for this time of year!
- Are your children getting some type of electronic tablet for the holidays? Take advantage of the many wonderful Apps that practice reading skills or websites that provide free ebooks. (See [keiferreading.weebly.com](http://keiferreading.weebly.com) for suggestions.)
- Have your children write Thank-You notes to family members for gifts they received.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!!

## Book of the Month



### Merry Un-Christmas by Mike Reiss

Most children think they'd love to have Christmas every day,

but not Noelle! In her town, the day she looks forward to is "Un-Christmas" the one day a year where it isn't Christmas! Your children are bound to love the imaginative text and illustrations (by David Catrow) and the book serves as a great springboard for discussions about appreciating what we have and seeing things from different perspectives.

## Technology Connection

There are so many technology-based toys out on the market! Check out these articles to get some gift ideas for the children in your life.

[The 15 Best Tech Toys for Kids](#)

[Tech Toys for Holiday 2016](#)

[Tech Gift Guide](#)

## Books make wonderful gifts!

Check out  
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for great deals!

