

We found the following activities on the schools' website pages. Check them out:

[www.wced6026.org](http://www.wced6026.org)  
[www.albany.k12.mn.us](http://www.albany.k12.mn.us)  
[www.isd740.org](http://www.isd740.org) (Melrose)  
[www.isd743.k12.mn.us](http://www.isd743.k12.mn.us) (Sauk)  
[www.paynesvilleschools.com](http://www.paynesvilleschools.com)

### Albany

Early Childhood Family Education  
Parent/child classes for children 0-4 years old on the following Thursday nights from 6:00-7:00PM:

January 14, 21, 28

February 4, 11, 18

\*Register online - fees range from \$47-\$58, but scholarships are available. If you qualify for Free and Reduced lunch, the fee is typically halved. If you need help registering for this class, please contact your child's teacher, and call **845-2171 ext, 5060 with questions.**

### Avon

Shake, Wiggle & Ball Play at the Avon Gym. 1:30-3:30 pm on  
January 25, February 1, 8 & 22.

Preschoolers thru 6th graders  
\$1.00 per person

### Paynesville

Preschool Indoor Playground  
Parent/child activities for children ages 6 and under on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:30PM at the Paynesville Elementary gym stage.

\*No registration necessary

Looking ahead to February:

**Paynesville** - water baby/aqua tots class

**Melrose** - beach night

No visit for 24 hours after **ANY** diarrhea, fever or vomiting in the house.



**WEST CENTRAL EDUCATION DISTRICT**  
Serving Albany~Melrose~Paynesville~Sauk Centre

## Learning Through Play: Parent-Child Interactions

By Cari Ebert MS, CCC-SLP

1. Get down on the floor and play with your child.
2. Give attention to what your child is doing.
3. Tune into your child by putting electronics aside.
4. Follow your child's lead during playtime.
5. Avoid asking too many questions during playtime - don't constantly quiz your child.
6. Play face to face with your child.
7. Enthusiastically describe what your child is doing, seeing, and hearing.
8. Be playful and animated - play like a kid!
9. Hold desired items next to your face to encourage child to look at you when you talk.
10. Encourage make believe play (a peg can be an airplane; a block can be an apple to feed the baby).
11. Allow for messes - the mess is half the fun!
12. Imitate your child's actions and sounds.
13. Watch, listen, and encourage the play but don't take over.
14. Encourage your child to use two hands during playtime (hold the paper while they scribble).
15. Remember playtime is more about the relationship between you and your child and not the toy.

### Playdoh Recipe

2 cups flour  
2 cups boiling water  
1 cup salt  
1/8 cup of oil  
1/8 cup of alum or cream of tartar  
Food coloring  
Extract (mint, orange, lemon, etc.)

Mix flour, salt, alum and oil in large bowl. Bring water to a boil. Add food coloring and extract to water and pour over flour mixture. Stir until combined, and dump onto a counter or table. Knead until completely mixed together, and Playdoh becomes smooth. Store in ziplock bag or tightly closed container. Let your child use plastic knives, cookie or biscuit cutters or cups to cut out shapes. It's fun to make long snakes or cookies, and have the children cut them into pieces. Don't forget to count the pieces, talk about size, or.....

