



# July Newsletter



**Hello Kids Club Members!!**

## What to watch this month!



In the land of Someplace Else, Donkey Hodie and her friends - Purple Panda, Bob Dog, Duck Duck, and more - dream big and solve problems every day. From dealing with scary thunderstorms to feeling jealous of younger Cousin, Donkey overcomes obstacles and keeps moving forward. Enjoy the adventures of Donkey Hodie every weekday at 10 AM on MPB. You can also hear Donkey read bedtime stories at the link below!

**Donkey Hodie**  
Bedtime Stories



We hope all our Kids Club members have the best birthday!

May your upcoming year be filled with fun and new ideas, with lots of love and laughter to share!



## Book Corner



Learn more about the famous thinker, Albert Einstein, with author Brad Meltzer's Read-Along when you click his picture. Learn more about Fourth of July celebration by clicking on *Red, White, and Boom*.

Ask if you can take a trip to your local library or bookstore to look for more books, like *Harry and the First 100 Days of Summer* and *My Wild First Day of School*. Which books have you read this summer? Let Empee Bee know by getting an adult to send your reading list to [mpbinfo@mpbonline.org](mailto:mpbinfo@mpbonline.org)!



## Tips & Tricks!

For a friendlier Fourth without fireworks:

**Nature Works** Get permission to check the pantry for bird-safe seeds: sunflower, safflower, flax, quinoa, pumpkin, chia, or sesame. Toss the seeds in the air outside and the birds will clean up!

**Bubble Works** Make a wand with pipe cleaners or twist ties and popsicle sticks. Create bubbles with food coloring, six parts water, and one part dish soap. How do they react with sunlight or indoor lights?

**Water Works** Use sponges and empty plastic bottles to throw water in the air. Perfect for a hot Mississippi evening!



(S)



## Science Safari

**What's It Called?** You already know that a group of people is a crowd. What are other animal group names? You can have a:

- crash of rhinos
- parliament of owls
- pride of lions
- tower of giraffes
- congress of ravens
- scurry of squirrels
- nest of snakes
- shiver of sharks

Virtually go to the zoo anytime by clicking on the lizard, which is part of a circus of chameleons!



(T)



## Tech Tidbits

**Donkey Hodie's Virtual Fro-Yo Stand** Do you know what's super special about July 21st? It's National Ice Cream Day! Join Donkey Hodie in her Fro-Yo Stand and help her make virtual frozen treats for all her friends. Take orders, put the ingredients together correctly, and serve to Duck Duck, Bob Dog, Purple Panda, and even Clyde the Cloud. Could you transfer and apply the same techniques and proportions in the real world?

(E)



## Engineering Explorers

**Balance the Treehouse** Pick your favorite Elementary Hero character (Lucita Sky, AJ Gadgets, Benny Bubbles, or Sarah Snap) and tap on their picture. Check every treehouse to see how they are built. Each structure needs to be adjusted so that they are stable. Unused materials can be recycled and you can save the day at Hero Elementary by making the treehouses safe!

(A)



## Art Adventures

**Create a Sock Puppet** Use your imagination to make new friends. Remember to get permission to use your supplies before you start!

- Put an old or unmatched sock on your hand.
- Tuck and fold to make a mouth with your thumb.
- Draw an expressive face using crayons or markers.
- Glue on yarn or felt for hair and buttons for eyes.
- Name your new friend and share its story.

(M)



## Math Magic

**Did you know?** When multiplying large numbers, it may help to break them down like this example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 18 \\ \times 17 \\ \hline 156 \quad (10 \times 10 + 8 \times 7) \\ + 70 \quad (10 \times 7) \\ + 80 \quad (10 \times 8) \\ \hline = 306 \end{array}$$

What other math tricks do you know? Share them with us in an email to [mpbinfo@mpbinfo.org](mailto:mpbinfo@mpbinfo.org).



## Eating Right!

Fresh vegetables are really important for keeping the body strong, flexible, and resistant to illness. Although each person likes different types of vegetables, everyone should try to eat a variety. If there is a vegetable that you don't care for (broccoli, cauliflower, Brussel sprouts), what flavor could you add to make it tastier to you? Shredded cheddar, Monterey jack, or parmesan cheese? Salsa?

Try different options!



## Just for FUN!

### Make Fruit "Sparklers"

Create edible treats that sparkle!

- Roll frozen fruit pops quickly in water and then in cookie sugar sprinkles.
- Mix and match colors for different effects.
- Hold up to a light or the sun and look at the difference each type of light makes.



## For Grownups

### Ease Back Into School Mode

- Practice routines the week before the First Day: doing chores, limiting TV time, eating healthy meals, getting ready for bed, choosing clothes for next day, brushing teeth, and getting the right amount of sleep.
- Shop for back-to-school items (clothes and supplies) as early as possible.
- Parents of first year students can find resources [here](#) to help the transition.
- Keep a calm and positive attitude.





# Silly Sign



## Make a silly sign for your house!

Think of a rule you'd like your family to follow. Draw a picture showing the rule. Hang your sign where your family can see it, and see if they follow the rule!

Find more games and activities at [pbskids.org/lyla](https://pbskids.org/lyla)

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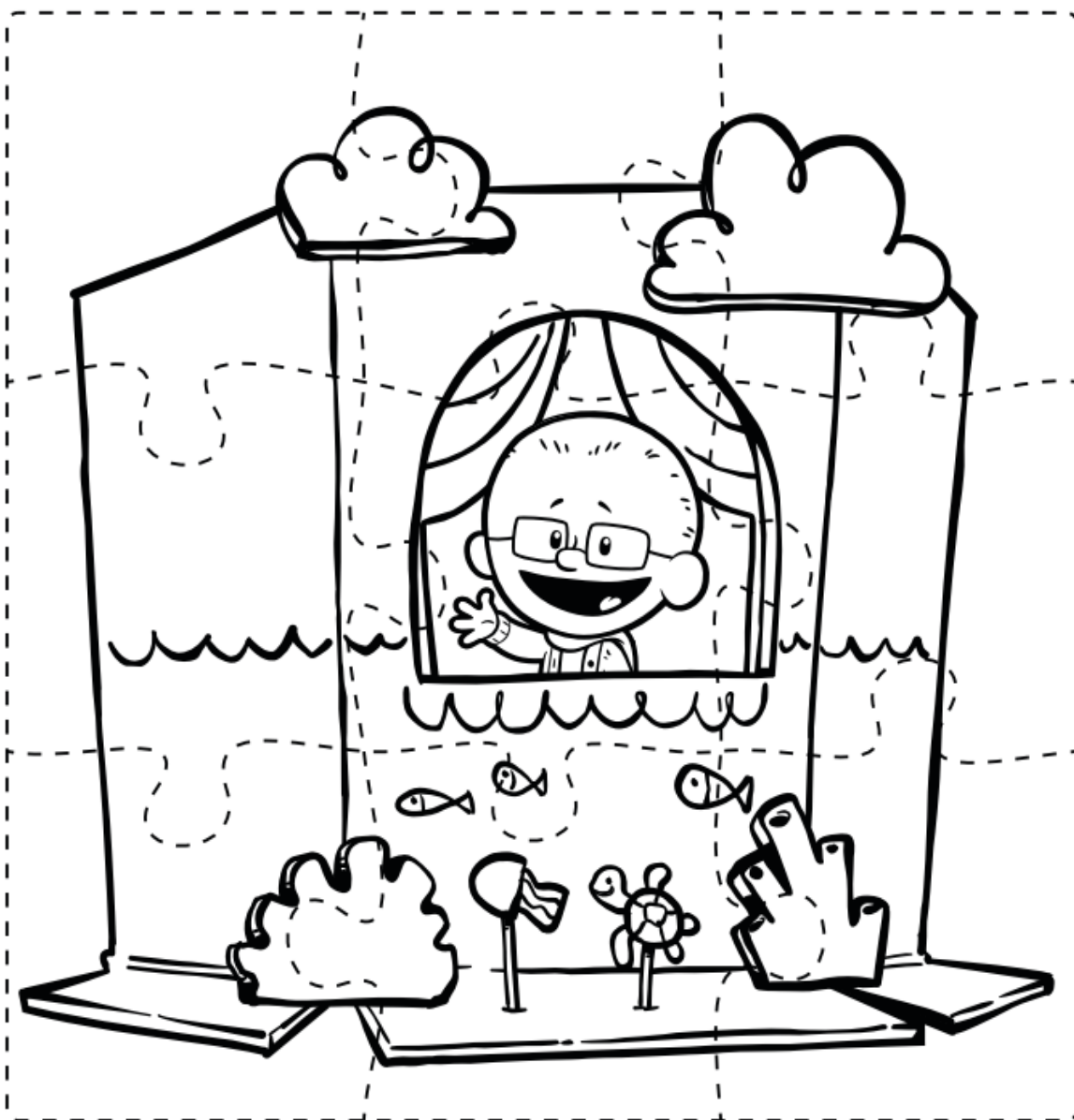
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## Puppet Show Puzzle

Brad needs your help to create a puppet set for a puppet show. Color in the puppet set and ask a parent to help cut out the pieces. Afterwards, mix up the puzzle pieces and put together the puppet set. Remember, doing something well takes time!



Produced by:

Find more games and activities at [pbskids.org/xavier](https://pbskids.org/xavier)



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Based on Brad Meltzer and  
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