This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. As it gets a bit colder outside, it is time to warm up with a little activity art. This week our project will be about letters, numbers, colors and crazy movements. It is a game, but no one will win or lose. It is about sharing time together, thinking up words that start with different letters, add some color, and shake your body a little bit. It is crazy fun, so let’s getting moving!

1-To make boxes, fold the paper lengthwise 2, 3, or more times to start. Open the paper up and then fold the paper widthwise. The more folds you make, the more boxes, for more words. Open the paper up again and darken the lines with a pen or marker. On another sheet of paper, write each letter of the alphabet. Next to each letter, write a few action or movement words that begin with the letter. B for bend or J for jump are examples. Now, is the fun part. One person writes the letters of their name in the squares, starting anywhere on the grid. The letters can go across or down the paper. Put the number 1 in each of the squares of your name.

2-Another player can now choose one of the letters in your name and write an activity or action word. It can start with the letter or have one of your letters in the word. Write the number two in each box that makes up the new word, except for the box with the number one. That means the mutual letter will have the number of the first word. Keep taking turns at filling in action words using the letters on the paper like a crossword puzzle and putting the next number on each new word. When all possible words are added, write each number used on another sheet of paper. Next to each number write a color word, taking turns choosing the colors.

3- The person whose name is on the paper, colors the name boxes with the matching color. They pick one of the action words on the paper. The next person has to act out the word or demonstrate it with movement. Then they color in the boxes with the matching number, and choose the next action word for the other person. Keep going until all the boxes are colored in. Now, you can start over on another pieces of paper with another name or cut up the words and use them as a puzzle. So many choices to have fun!

Be well, move, and smile!

Ms. Susan