What do you love about the winter holidays?

Read stories Iowans shared as they answered that question. RYH educators could use this handout found on the RYH website to engage their own audiences in story telling about their favorite holiday memories or activities.

Ready-to-use "Cookies" activity builds relationships

RYH educators will find this 30-minute inter-generational activity for elementary-school aged children and parents/grandparents ideal for winter at nature centers, libraries, congregations, schools or other organizations. Step-by-step directions make it easy to plan and hold. RYH also provides a ready-to-go event flyer to promote the Using Creativity, Cookies & Conversation activity.

Create meaning by taking control of holiday finances

Want to make the holidays less about money and more about relationships? Want to help your audiences simplify this component of the holidays? RYH educators will find this handout, Taking Control of Holiday Finances, useful for many audiences. The rewards for all can be great -- financially and emotionally.

Communication before holiday eases family tensions
Children benefit from relationships with grandparents, aunts, uncles and other extended family members. These relatives express love in many ways, including gift giving which some parents say can be excessive and difficult to manage. This RYH handout on family communication can help families practice clear, respectful, assertive communication skills to benefit all. RYH educators could add this handout to their display tables any time of the year.

We wish you fulfilling winter holidays and thank you for helping Iowans create more meaningful, fun, and environmentally friendly celebrations,

Susan Salterberg
Carole Yates
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