

Issue 3  
DECEMBER 2020

THE CONCERNED KIDS CHARITY OF TORONTO

# FUNsplosion



Fun awaits inside. This magazine contains art activities, free games, contests, puzzles, and more



# About **TCK**

The Concerned Kids (TCK) is an arts-based children's charity that has been engaging, educating, and empowering children since 1989.

We work with schools, educators, community groups, nonprofits, and directly with parents to delivery high-quality, impactful programming.

Learn more!  
[www.theconcernedkids.com](http://www.theconcernedkids.com)



## ADAPTED to the times

Whether we're making art projects with kids, delivering parent-child programming, or performing our puppet-plays, all can be achieved either on-line or in-person with all health & safety protocols in place.

## MADE FOR kids, parents, families, educators...

Our programs not only educate kids, keep them engaged, and reduce their social isolation, they also provide parents and educators with a much-deserved break.

## PARTNERSHIPS with purpose

We welcome the opportunity to speak to you about how we can work together to keep children and families safe, engaged, learning, and having fun.

## Here's a sneak peak of our offerings

- Mom+Me
- Virtual After School Club
- Paint Exploration Program
- Puppet Pals
- Puppetry Theatre Camp
- March Break Camp
- TCK's Puppet Playhouse Shows
- Puppetry Theatre Performances
- Immersive Puppetry Program
- ...and so much more!



416.636.1656



[http://](http://www.theconcernedkids.com)

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[info@theconcernedkids.com](mailto:info@theconcernedkids.com)

As 2020 comes to a close, we'd like to share with you how your support made a massive impact on the lives of children in our communities.

Without your help, there would have been far more children feeling the negative effects of a lockdown including isolation, loneliness, and fear. But, because of generous supporters like you, TCK was able to deliver virtual programming right into the homes of children and families across southern and central Ontario. They kept children learning, engaged, and having fun while simultaneously providing parents and caregivers a much-needed break.

- **TCK's FUNsplosion Magazine** reached more than **25,000 children**
- We were able to offer over **300 scholarships** for our online programs
- **TCK's Puppet Playhouse** was viewed by over **20,000 children**

The massive pivot in our programming (from in-person to virtual) that TCK successfully executed last spring would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors. And we have big plans for the future.

If you'd like to help us keep children and families safe, happy, engaged, and learning into 2021, there are 5 WAYS you can be part of the TCK family:

- You can **purchase a scholarship** for a child or children from an underserved community. This holiday gift for a deserving child will help reduce their social isolation and provide them an opportunity that they otherwise would not be able to access.
- You can **purchase a seat** in one of our classes as a holiday gift for a child in your life. Experiences are the best gifts to give, and this holiday season this is especially true. Choose from Paint Exploration, Puppet Pals, After School Club, and so much more.
- Got a holiday or birthday party coming up? We've got you covered! So many kids are missing out on special occasion parties, but with our **Virtual Paint Experience**, children can enjoy the fun of togetherness and joint activities over Zoom! Our expert Artist Facilitators bring a ton of fun and create a shared experience like no other.
- **Shop our store!** We have so many great items that children love, and every purchase supports our programming. We have puppet-making kits, gratitude journals, paint kits, and more!
- We also gratefully accept monetary **donations**. You can choose from a one-time gift or set-up monthly giving. Visit us online at [www.theconcernedkids.com](http://www.theconcernedkids.com) for more information.

COVID and the subsequent lockdowns have been especially hard on children. We will need your help to meet the high demand for our programs. And don't forget – every donation over \$20 meets the requirement for a tax receipt.

Once again, we'd like to extend our deepest gratitude to our donors this year. Your contribution to TCK has made a huge difference in the lives of children and families during this extremely challenging year. But it's not over yet. In 2021 we will continue to deliver high-impact, quality programming to meet the needs of children and families and we need your support.

**From all of us at TCK we wish you, your family, and community the warmest of wishes and the happiest of new years.**

- The TCK Family





# WINTER WORD SEARCH

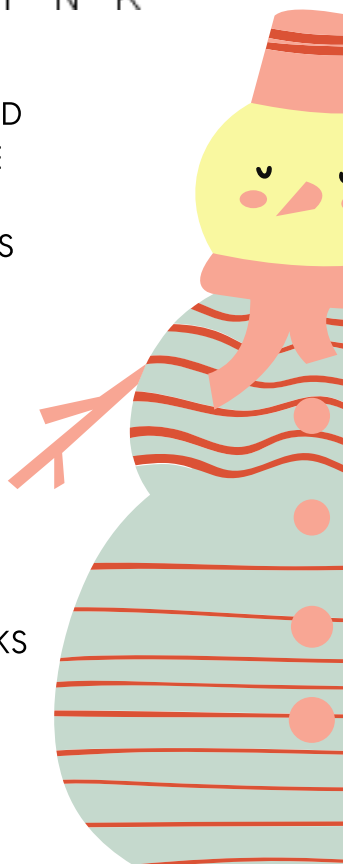
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BLACK ICE  
BLIZZARD  
BOOTS  
CARNIVAL  
CHRISTMAS  
COLD  
EGG NOG  
FIREPLACE  
FIREWOOD  
FOG  
FREEZE  
FROST  
GLOVES

HAIL  
HEADBAND  
HIBERNATION  
HOCKEY  
HOLIDAYS  
ICE FISHING  
ICICLES  
KNIT CAP  
LONG UNDERWEAR  
MITTENS  
OLYMPICS  
PARKA  
SCARF

SEASON  
SKATES  
SKI DOO  
SKI PANTS  
SKIING  
SLED  
SLEET  
SLIPPERY  
SNOW CASTLE  
SNOW PLOW  
SNOW SHOVEL  
SNOW TIRES  
SNOWBALL

SNOWBOARD  
SNOWFLAKE  
SNOWMAN  
SNOWSHOES  
SOLSTICE  
SOUP  
STEW  
STORM  
SWEATSHIRT  
TOBOGGAN  
VACATION  
WIND CHILL  
WOOL SOCKS







## INUIT

Inuit are the Indigenous peoples of the Arctic. The word Inuit means "the people" in the Inuit language of Inuktitut. Many Inuit in Canada live in 53 communities across the northern parts of Canada in Inuit Nunangat, which means "the place where Inuit live." Inuit Nunangat consists of Inuvialuit (NWT and Yukon), Nunavik (Northern Quebec), Nunatsiavut (Labrador) and Nunavut.



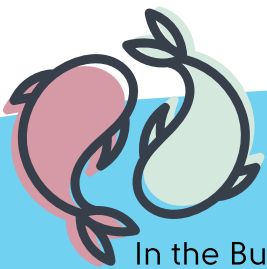
*'tis the season*

TO CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

## Hanukkah

Hanukkah, or Chanukah, is a Jewish celebration also known as the Festival of Lights. It is an 8-day celebration that commemorates rededication and purification of the temple after the Jews' victory over the Greek Syrians in 165 BC.

It is said that the temple had a single jar of oil that was supposed to last one day, but miraculously was able to burn for 8 days straight. In memory of this event, people light up menorah (candelabrum) on each night of the celebration. Many people celebrate with family, enjoying dinner, singing and sharing gifts. This year, Hanukkah celebration starts on December 24.



## Bodhi Day

In the Buddhist culture, Bodhi Day is a celebration of enlightenment. In his determination to reach enlightenment, Prince Siddhartha Gautama vowed to sit under the peepal tree (now known as Bodhi Tree) until he was able to experience Nirvana. Upon attaining the enlightenment he became known as the Buddha, or the "Awakened One".

Bodhi day is a commemoration of Buddha's awakening. It is a day of remembrance, meditation and chanting. Some people choose to decorate a ficus tree with multi-colored lights to symbolize diverse paths to Nirvana and to remind us that all things are united.





## French Canadian Christmas

Christmas is a common Christian celebration that commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. It is generally celebrated on December 25, even though many choose to start celebrating the day before, on Christmas Eve. Some cultures celebrate Christmas on January 7, following the Orthodox Christian calendar.

Christmas is celebrated in many different ways and often includes putting up lights, stockings and various decorations. A common element is a Christmas tree, decorated with bright lights and ornaments. Some people attend a Christmas church service, while others look forward to sharing gifts and unwrapping presents from Santa.



## Kwanzaa

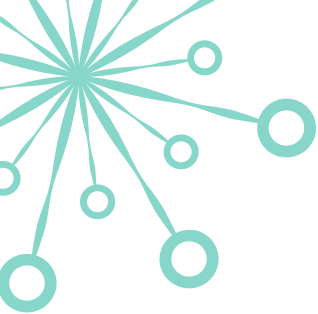
Kwanzaa is an African American holiday that began in 1966 and is celebrated by many people within the African community around the world. It is a celebration of community, family history and culture. The name Kwanzaa comes from the phrase *matunda ya kwanza* which in Swahili means first fruits, or harvest. Celebrations take place over 7 days from Dec. 26th to January 1st. Each day represents a different principle, and each day a candle is lit on the kinara (candleholder).

On the first night, the center black candle is lit, and the principle of *umoya*, or unity is discussed. The next 6 days represent self-determination, collective work and responsibility, economic cooperation, purpose, creativity, and faith. Families celebrating Kwanzaa decorate their households with objects of art, colorful African cloth such as *kente*, especially the wearing of *kaftans* by women, and fresh fruits that represent African idealism. There's also singing and dancing, storytelling, poetry reading and African drumming. On the final day of Kwanzaa, families enjoy an African feast, called *karamu*.

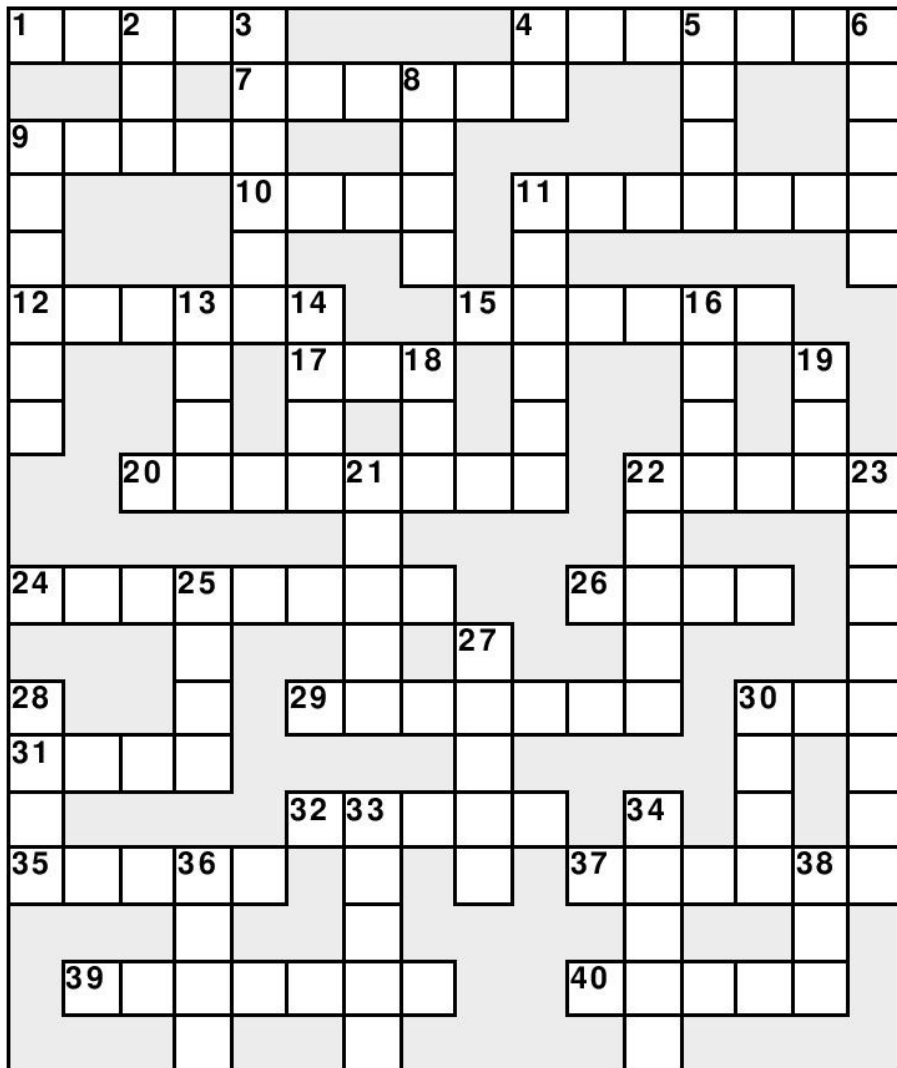


Check out how we are celebrating on our  
YouTube channel.





# WINTER CROSSWORD

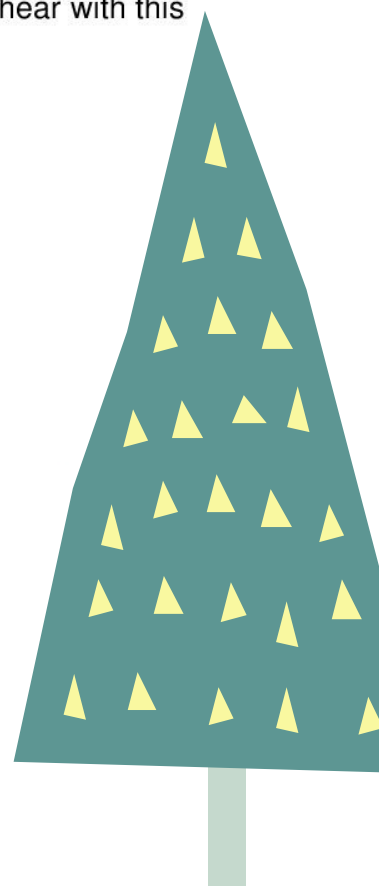
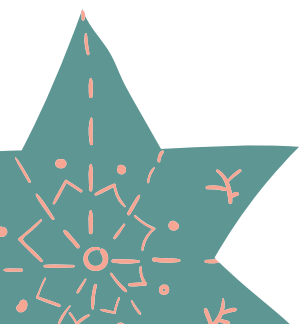


## Down:

- 2. Frozen water
- 3. Small
- 4. Myself
- 5. Small pie
- 6. Neck warmer
- 8. Chilly
- 9. Used to move snow
- 11. A season
- 13. Strong emotion
- 14. Ripped
- 16. Nil
- 18. Bath \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. Cloud of water vapour
- 21. Last month of winter
- 22. Wooden snow vehicles
- 23. Winter road condition
- 25. Be carried on
- 27. Locomotive
- 28. Carried along by wind
- 30. Piece of hockey equipment
- 33. Make this in the snow
- 34. Winter foot wear
- 36. Faucets can do this
- 38. You hear with this

## Across:

- 1. Sudden cold breeze
- 4. Hand warmers
- 7. Hanging spike of ice
- 9. Freezing rain
- 10. Show and \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. Conditions outside
- 12. Flowering plant, colour
- 15. Achoo
- 17. Not in
- 20. Month of winter
- 22. Carols, etc.
- 24. Valentine month
- 26. Thaw
- 29. Keeps drinks warm
- 30. Small dog
- 31. Winter Olympic sport
- 32. Silky material
- 35. Breezy
- 37. Ice sport
- 39. Foot warmer
- 40. Direct a vehicle's course



# PRINTS AND PATTERNS

Using the different materials, create a unique pattern for each of the unicorns below.  
Combine geometric and organic shapes to make your patterns.

## MATERIALS

Paper, Pencil, , Poster Paint,  
Watercolor, Paintbrushes,  
Oil Pastels, Markers,  
Crayons, Colored Pencils





# WHEN ITS ALL GONE

WRITTEN BY  
HARMONY

HI MOM, HI DAD.  
HOW ARE YOU  
GUYS DOING?

WE'RE GOOD AS  
ALWAYS, BUT FORGET  
ABOUT US. HOW ARE  
YOU?

DERAYAH ALREADY  
KNOWS THIS RECIPE.

I'M DOING FINE

SMELLS GOOD  
IN HERE, WHAT  
ARE YOU COOKING?

NOT MY ANGEL,  
THE OTHER ONE,  
THE BAD ONE.

MOM'S FAMILY RECIPE

CHOP  
CHOP

THIS FAMILY RECIPE HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN  
FOR GENERATIONS IN THIS FAMILY. I BET  
YOUR DAUGHTER COULD NEVER GET RIGHT.







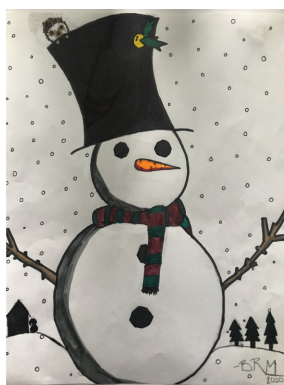
Ontario  
Trillium  
Foundation

Fondation  
Trillium  
de l'Ontario

BRAMPTON & CALEDON  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

THE  
CONCERNED  
KIDS  
Communicating through Puppetry

## Kids Corner



Bryson M., 13



Charlie L., 6

## The New 2020

March break was suppose to be one week long, then it turned out that our whole spring was gone.

As COVID-19 has us locked up in our home, for distance learning I'm writing this poem.

I can go out and ride my bike,  
I can roller blade or go for a hike.

Social distancing is what we all need to do,  
stay 6 feet away from others and wash our hands too.

Even though being with family has been fun,  
I really wish this quarantine would soon be done.

By: Brayden Z., 13

Share your work with us. [email us at [info@theconcernedkids.com](mailto:info@theconcernedkids.com)

Your work could be featured in a future edition of Funsplasion





# HOLIDAY PAPER CRAFT PROJECTS



Explore simple shapes and colours to create fun, family friendly, holiday decorations with paper & string this festive season.

## Materials Needed:

- Construction Paper
- Scissors
- White Glue
- String
- Markers
- (Glitter , pom-poms, & stickers optional)

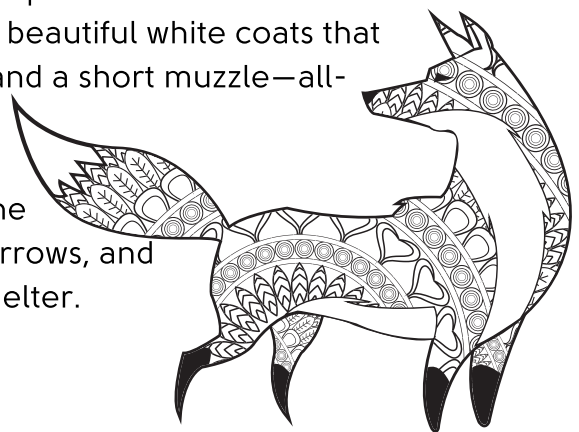


Follow along on our  
YouTube Channel



# Arctic Fox

The arctic fox is a hardy animal that can survive Arctic temperatures as low as  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the tundra where it makes its home. Arctic foxes have beautiful white coats that act as winter camouflage. It has furry soles, short ears, and a short muzzle—all-important adaptations to the chilly climate. When the seasons change, the fox's coat turns as well, adopting a brown or gray appearance that provides cover among the summer tundra's rocks and plants. Arctic foxes live in burrows, and in a blizzard, they may tunnel into the snow to create shelter.







# GIVE THE GIFT OF INTERACTIVE VIRTUAL ARTS EDUCATION THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

All sales support scholarships to local children

## Gift Ideas for Children



**mom  
+ me**  
PUPPETRY PROGRAM



Painting  
Exploration  
Program



## Gift Ideas for Teens



[theconcernedkids.com](http://theconcernedkids.com)

save 15% using promo code 'holiday'