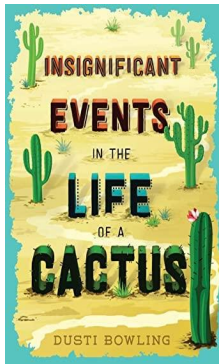




## RMU Trees Network December 2022 Newsletter

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### Join Us for a Virtual Book Club Starting Tuesday, January 17 from 6PM-7PM

We will be reading this remarkable story about a girl who was born with no arms. She meets a friend when her family moves and together they learn about facing their worst fears despite disabilities and challenges. Our goal of our first book club is to get children and young adults together virtually to establish connections, friendships, and comradery.

**Sign up by emailing Deanna Hiltz at [hiltzd@rmu.edu](mailto:hiltzd@rmu.edu)**

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### Parent Q&A Meeting Monday, January 9 7PM-8PM

Join us in the new year for a question and answer parent meeting hosted virtually by Dr. Vicki Donne, Trees Network Director and Mrs. Deanna Hiltz, Trees Network Outreach Specialist. We will be facilitating discussions around curriculum. Every parent wants to know what their child is learning in school. For students with disabilities, the curriculum can include PA Standards, functional standards, specialized programs, and adaptations. This often leaves parents having questions about their child's curriculum. The aim of our parent group meeting is to provide information and to connect parents who are facing similar experiences. Parent attendance and participation provides information to us to effectively prepare and plan resources to support parents. Our next parent support group is scheduled for **Monday, January 9, 2023 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm**. Upon registration, registrants will be sent a Google Meets calendar invite. Parents can register for the meeting by contacting Vicki Donne at [donne@rmu.edu](mailto:donne@rmu.edu) or Deanna Hiltz at [hiltzd@rmu.edu](mailto:hiltzd@rmu.edu), 412-397-5465, or by registering at <https://forms.gle/HUoKL5omxjzwZLNT7>



## December 5 Parent Workshop Success



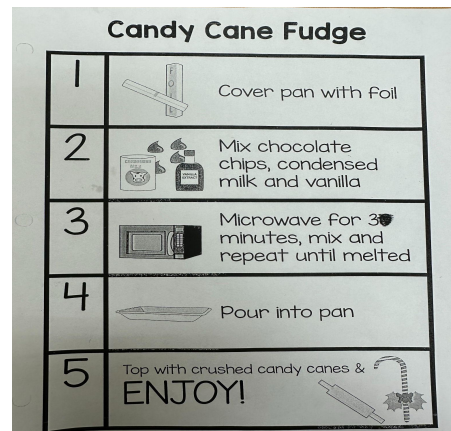
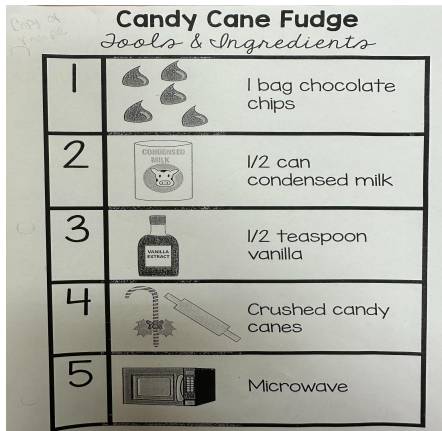
What a turnout we had for our December 5 parent workshop! Dr. Kathryn Poggi and Dr. Allen of Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network presented virtually on the topic of supporting caregivers and their learners in their lives. They provided great information on Functional Behavior Assessments (FBS), Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), and Collaborative Proactive Solutions (CPS). In the Resources section below, you can find links to the FBA

document and the ABA booklet referenced and used in schools across the state of Pennsylvania.

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## Fun for Families

Our scholars have been brainstorming interactive opportunities to share with our families. Starting in the New Year, look for fun activities in our newsletter. This month I thought we'd share an easy, step-by-step recipe to make Candy Cane Fudge. Attached are the picture supported sequences of ingredients and recipe to follow. Happy baking!



yum!

## Resources for Parents and Educators

The Network provides resources for parents and teachers. We created a web site with various resources and previous newsletters that can be read and viewed at

<https://www.rmu.edu/academics/provost/trees>.

Also, in each newsletter we try to provide links to resources of topics discussed in our parent meetings and workshops as well as other information that may be helpful to families, schools, and the community.



**Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA)** is a team process where schools are looking into challenging behaviors and developing strategies to improve challenging behaviors. This brochure provides information about FBA.

<https://www.pattan.net/Publications/Functional-Behavioral-Assessment>

Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qaz5kcS2oD4>

**Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)** is an approach to understanding behavior. This booklet shared by PaTTAN describes the principles of ABA, how it is used in education, and different educational methods that use the principles of it.

<https://www.pattan.net/Publications/An-Introduction-to-Applied-Behavior-Analysis>

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n79pgE4mJsw>

**WrightsLaw** keeps up-to-date information about special education law and advocacy for children with disabilities. <https://www.wrightslaw.com/>

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## About the Trees Network

The RMU Trees Network provides services and training to enhance the support for children and adolescents with intellectual disabilities and their families through professional preparation of teachers, continued professional development of teachers and service providers, and direct services to children and families. As part of our outreach to families, we host a parent support group, informational workshops, and other educational opportunities. In addition, family members are encouraged to contact the Trees Network for information, advocacy, referrals, and resources. We



welcome partnerships with other educational institutions, nonprofits and community service organizations!

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