

# The Colonial Times

Brought to you by the Allied Arts Council of Pincher Creek

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Even after all this time  
the sun never says to the earth,  
"You owe me."  
Look what happens with a love like that.  
It lights the whole sky.

—Daniel Ladinsky

Photo by Jennifer Jenkins

Hello friends,  
Hooray for sunshine! As the snow finally melts and our bees coming out of their hives on exploratory flights, I am revelling in the end of what has seemed like an endless winter. Just like the tulips, who have activated their roots and pushed leaves up even before the snow melted, our community is reaching and growing in new ways during adversity. There are some amazing initiatives happening right now, in our community and beyond. From sweatbands and iPads to yoga videos and library books, folks in our community are sharing the love in beautiful ways. Following in the footsteps of organizations like the Leighton Art Centre and Together Rising, we are calling on our community to make some beautiful homemade cards for people in isolation in our health care centres. If you know someone who needs a message, you can write to them directly, and if you don't, go ahead and write an open letter of love to us at AAC (Box 2434, Pincher Creek) and we will distribute them to the hospital and care centers where the brilliant superheroes in scrubs will get your message to someone who needs it. Send a little of this wonderful sunshine inside to those who can't come out yet.

We would also like to take the opportunity here to wish David Green a very happy birthday! David is the personification of the phrase, "good things come in small packages!" Pincher Creek would be a very different place without his spirit and energy lifting all of us up. He has been a founding member of a number of community service organizations, he has been on the board of many others, his work for FCSS is a big reason that most of the family service organizations still exist, he is the first person we turn to for wise words and a calm presence in stressful times, and he has a great sense of humour! The last point should not be undervalued. Happy birthday, David!! Thank you for everything you do and have done. That's it for today, folks. Big love to the world out there, Claren



# SUN PRINTS



**This week we encourage you to harness the power of the sun for art's sake.**

Sun prints are quick to set up, but take a while to complete, hence why there aren't any complete pictures to offer you of this project yet.

Choose materials you want to try printing on. Fabric and construction paper are 2 of my top choices for this project. You will also need a plexiglass or glass pane. Try salvaging a piece of glass from an unused picture frame or an old 1 pane window like mine. You then need to find something to be your resist (the shape you will be printing). I used Eucalyptus that was on its last legs.

For a print surface I used black poster paper, black cotton and a piece of cotton I had dyed with red cabbage a few weeks ago and seems to have a mysterious colour changing quality when exposed to heat. I ironed my fabric so I would have a better chance at a clean print then laid out the sprigs and stapled them onto the fabric and paper. You could also use tape or perhaps pins to fix the sprigs in place. Tape them to an old that sees a lot of sun or lay out in a calm outside space with your glass on top. If you choose to lay it all down and let it sit, you don't necessarily need to fix the sprigs to the print surface, gravity will do that for you.

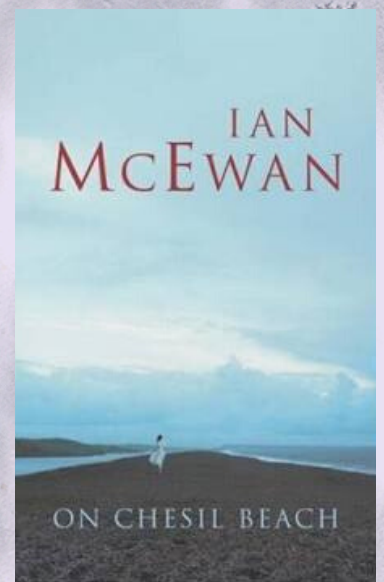
Wait a few weeks. This one will take some time to complete. The idea being that the exposed surface will get sun bleached and the paper underneath the sprigs will not. I am hoping for delicate line quality reminiscent of a shadow.

## ESCAPE TO THE READING ROOM

WITH GEORGIA DALE

*On Chesil Beach* by Ian MacEwan

Set in the early 60s, markedly before the sexual revolution of that famous decade, this book joins Florence and Edward as they attempt to negotiate an alien world of bodily intimacy after their year of chaste courtship. As they both urgently try to repress feelings and experiences that existed long before the language was invented to express them, Edward and Florence's doomed wedding night travels through passion, terror, regret and grave humiliation. Ian MacEwan's depiction leaves the reader in awe of the human capacity for love, and full of sadness for these young people trying to preserve their love in the face of wordless suffering. Find this book in one of Pincher Creek's mini-libraries this week!



# Shadow Drawings - Outdoor Drawing Activity

By Stacey McRae

This activity is a simple one but can be expanded endlessly in your everyday play.

Materials: paper, pencils, shadow maker and sunlight

Shadow makers can include your kids favourite toys, something from the house or the natural world outside. I am excited to try this exercise again when there are leaves on the trees and the wind is at bay.

Head outside with your materials and pick a sunny spot to sit where a shadow can be cast on your paper. Arrange your toys or shadow makers so they will create a shadow onto your page.



Start by drawing around the shadow of one toy, then another. Play with moving the toys around to create a narrative on the paper.

## **Questions to ask:**

- What story can you create within the drawing?
- Do the drawn shapes look like something other than the toy?
- Had you anticipated the difference?
- Are you working with hard or soft shadow lines?
- How does the sun's light change the line quality as time passed during the drawing?
- What has effected the sunlight in order to change the line quality of the shadow?
- What else around you would make for an interesting shadow?
- What was unexpected about the end results of the drawing?

## **Taking it Further:**

- Can the drawing become a surface to paint on?
- Can it become a cut out shadow puppet glued to a popsicle stick to have a puppet show with?
- Can you use this type of drawing to create colouring pages for younger siblings or those in your care?
- Can you send a drawing to a loved one in the mail or drop it off on their doorstep?
- Can you create your own cards?
- Can you use this as a discovery of time and rotation of the earth and come back to redraw the shadows again at different times of the day.