

Mainlines

OCTOBER 2015

A newsletter for the customers of the Holyoke Gas & Electric Department

Energy conservation saves money.

HG&E recently updated appliance rebates to reflect the latest energy efficiency standards.



HG&E Appliance Rebates provide **CEE** and **ENERGY STAR** rated appliances.

SAVINGS UP TO **\$50** Clothes Washer Rebate

SAVINGS UP TO **\$75** Refrigerator Rebate

SAVINGS OF **\$25** Dishwasher Rebate

SAVINGS OF **\$25** Room AC Rebate

SAVINGS OF **\$20** Dehumidifier Rebate

SAVINGS OF **\$20** Air Purifier Rebate

For more information and to download an HG&E Rebate form visit:
www.hged.com/energystar

Note that each utility customer of record is entitled to receive a rebate for each appliance type only once every five years. Customer must receive electric service from HG&E to be eligible. Visit www.hged.com/energystar for details.

Important Natural Gas Safety Information

"Natural Gas is the most popular home heating fuel in America and is supplied by a pipeline distribution system that is among the safest, most reliable and secure methods of transporting energy."
-Northeast Gas Association



Please see a brief brochure included with your monthly HG&E bill, which provides important natural gas safety information for you and your family.

If you have any questions, please contact HG&E at (413) 536-9300.

MuniHELPS Conservation Helpline

888-333-7525

Call with any questions about home energy conservation. You can also schedule a free in-home energy audit.

Your Trusted Advisor!
phone | internet | data

A fiber optic network connection from HG&E offers business internet, wide area networking, & phone services with nearly limitless connection speed, reliability, and unbeatable 24-hour local support.

Serving businesses throughout the Pioneer Valley.

Holyoke Gas & Electric Telecommunications | www.hge.net | (413) 536-9444

Community Corner



Holyoke Early Literacy Initiative [HEL I]

Support your child's literacy development while celebrating Halloween!

(Tips taken from the United Way, <http://www.vsuw.org/about-us/blog/blog-entry-11>)

As we know, your young children learn so much from YOU AT HOME through your everyday conversations. While you're having fun and bonding with your child, you are directly contributing to their literacy development. Check out the tips below to have Halloween-themed conversations with your kids. Remember, HEL I Parents do at least "One Thing a Day" to keep kids "On Track for Literacy". Keep up the great work!

Below are **8 ideas** to spark Halloween-themed conversations.

- **Your Costume:** Children love talking about things that are interesting to them. Ask about their costume.
- **Halloween Vocabulary:** Discuss new words/ideas like jack o' lantern or pumpkin carving. Allow infants to hold or touch an object while you say a new word to increase comprehension.
- **Costume Sounds:** Practice saying the names of unfamiliar costumes.
- **Counting Colors:** Ask questions that lead children to count. Is the pumpkin orange, or ghost white and how many do you see?
- **Scary or Nice:** Ask if a costume is supposed to be scary (or silly) or nice to encourage critical thinking.
- **Silly Songs:** Holiday songs, rhymes or poems will delight and engage children. Change familiar tunes for more fun – "Twinkle, twinkle little star" could become "Pumpkin, pumpkin orange and bright, sitting out on Halloween night..."
- **Make Believe Questions:** Ask abstract questions like, "What would happen if that little girl could fly on her broom?"
- **Be My Eyes:** When it is time for a break, sit down with your child, close your eyes, hold their hand and ask your child to be your eyes. Have them describe everything they see around them. Ask questions as they narrate – "What color was the girl's costume?" or "Do they look like they are having fun, are there smiles on their faces?"



Iniciativa de Alfabetización Temprana de Holyoke [HEL I]

Apoyar el desarrollo de alfabetización de su hijo mientras está ¡celebrando Halloween!

(Consejos tomados de United Way <http://www.vsuw.org/about-us/blog/blog-entry-11>)

Como sabemos, los niños pequeños aprenden mucho de USTED EN CASA a través de sus conversaciones cotidianas. Mientras que usted se está divirtiendo y en unión con su hijo, usted está contribuyendo directamente a su desarrollo de la alfabetización. Echa un vistazo a los siguientes consejos para tener conversaciones con temas de Halloween con sus hijos. Recuerde, los padres HEL I hacen, al menos, "Una Cosa al Día" para mantener a los niños "en el camino para la Alfabetización". ¡Sigán con el buen trabajo!

A continuación se presentan **8 ideas** de conversaciones en temas de Halloween.

- **Su vestuario:** A los niños les encanta hablar de cosas que son interesantes para ellos. Pregunte acerca de su vestuario.
- **Vocabulario de Halloween:** Discuta nuevas palabras / ideas como linterna o talla de la calabaza. Permita que los niños sostengan o toquen un objeto mientras que usted dice una palabra nueva para aumentar la comprensión.
- **Sonidos del Vestuario:** Practique decir los nombres de los vestuarios desconocidos.
- **Contando Colores:** Haga preguntas que lleve a los niños a contar. La calabaza es naranja o el fantasma es blanco y ¿cuántos ves?
- **Miedoso o Agradable:** Pregunte si el vestuario es supuesto a ser miedoso o (tonto) o agradable para fomentar pensamiento crítico.
- **Canciones Tontas:** canciones de días de fiesta, rimas o poemas deleitarán e involucrarán a los niños. Cambiar melodías familiares para más diversión – "Twinkle, twinkle little star" podría convertirse en me "Calabaza, calabaza anaranjada y brillante, sentado en la noche de Halloween..."
- **Haga Preguntas de Hacer Creer:** Haga preguntas abstractas como, "¿Qué pasaría si esa niña podía volar en su escoba?"
- **Sea Mis Ojos:** Cuando es hora de un descanso, sentarse con su hijo, cierre sus ojos, tenga su mano y pídale a su hijo que sea sus ojos. Pídale que describan todo lo que ven a su alrededor. Haga preguntas como narrar - "¿De qué color era el vestuario de la chica?" o "¿Es que parece que se están divirtiendo, ¿hay sonrisas en sus rostros?"



EMPOWERING YOUR WORLD

HGE Main Office
99 Suffolk Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 536-9300
www.hged.com

Customer Service Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Contact Customer Service:
(413) 536-9300
Customer_Accounts@hged.com

**Marketing/Newsletter
Coordinator:**
Kate Sullivan
ksullivan@hged.com

Payment Options

Online Payment
www.hged.com

Walk-in/Drive-Thru
99 Suffolk Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 536-9300

Mail
P.O. Box 4165
Woburn, MA 01888-4165

Holyoke drop boxes

- Senior Center, 291 Pine Street
- C-Mart, 1500 Northampton Street
- DB Mart, 494 Westfield Road
- Stop & Shop, 28 Lincoln Street
- Stop & Shop, 2265 Northampton Street
- Wally's BP Shop, 297 Apremont Hwy

Holiday Closings

Columbus Day
Monday, October 12, 2015

Veterans' Day
Tuesday, November 11, 2015

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 26, 2015

Commissioners

Francis J. Hoey, III
Robert H. Griffin
James A. Sutter

Manager

James M. Lavelle