



Island Readers & Writers

inspiring a passion for reading

Lighthouses in the Penobscot Bay Area





Explore and record the history of lighthouses in Penobscot Bay. Discover: when they were built; who designed them; who lived in them; what determined their location; how was the beam of light produced; who owns them; what lighthouses in Penobscot Bay that are no longer in operation?

LightHouse Christmas by Toni Buzzeo

Activities suggested by Island Readers & Writers

Creative arts projects:

Build a model lighthouse. (Wooden thread spools or paper towel tubes can make neat lighthouses! Heavy paper, scored and folded, can be painted/colored flat, then folded up into the lighthouse.)

Research lighthouse styles and paint schemes- design and paint your own color/pattern scheme on a lighthouse (could be on paper, or wooden model)

Use "found" items to make a small gift for someone (or a pet), or create a tree ornament (scraps of paper, cloth, trimmings, ribbon, etc).

Study perspective in illustrations (p 26-27) then draw something from that perspective (a tree, the ceiling, underside of a desk, looking up at a rock or fence . . .)

Think about what the sea might look like from the top of the lighthouse, draw what you see (also a perspective lesson).

Focus on the spiral shape (as seen in the lighthouse stairs)- find it in nature, buildings, etc.

Role playing:

Brainstorm and then role play situations that might require courage or bravery.

Have teams think of creative ways to deliver Christmas presents, then role play those and have others guess their method of delivery.

Frances and Peter are the only children at Ledge Light- how do they stay busy, what kinds of things can they do for fun?

Writing projects:

Write about traditions that are important to you in celebrating Christmas, or any holiday; what makes the holiday special for you

Write a story explaining how the one-eared cat came to Ledge Light; why does he only have one ear?

Write about family- the Ledge Light family "grew" to include the sailor and the cat- what defines family to you?

Research isolated areas (islands, deserts, Alaska . . .) and write about how holidays such as Christmas may be celebrated a little differently there. Include challenges and adaptations to traditional celebrations that would need to be overcome.

Frances, Peter, and their father moved to Ledge Light after the death of the children's mother- write a paragraph from each character's point of view about how that move makes them feel, what they think about the move and how it affects them.

Write an entry for the "Keeper's Journal"