

# details

SERVING THE DUGGAN COMMUNITY OF SOUTHWEST EDMONTON

SEPTEMBER 2004

## *reading minds ...*

### **RAISING KIDS FOR THE FUN OF IT**

*By Wendy Johnson, Gloria McInnis and Heather Tansem*

\$19.95 available at local bookstores

This spring, three Southwest Edmonton women published a great activity book called "Raising Kids for the Fun of it". The authors' backgrounds (besides being "experienced" parents) are in education and marketing and they bring a real sense of professionalism to their work. This is apparent in the layout and ideas selected for the book. For example, the book is divided into chapters according to season. Within each chapter are nifty logos to identify sections dealing with family fun, party time, family discussions, positive parenting, focus on learning and organized living. Bold headings and illustrations make the book flow smoothly and make it fun to read. The writing is clear and uncluttered and looks professionally edited.

The activities included are useful for individual children, groups or families. Party ideas can be used in any group context and advice on helping a bewildered child to deal with a difficult problem is realistic and genuinely helpful. Family activities are practical, inexpensive, and since the authors are local women, they are absolutely relevant to the Duggan scene. Some of the "get organized tips" are brilliant and can be used by everyone at any stage in their lives.

The excellent layout and content gives the book a much wider application than perhaps even the authors realized. It will not only be useful to moms, but to fathers, grandparents, teachers, cub, brownie and other youth leaders, and anyone else who has anything to do with children.

*Reviewed by Elisebeth Checkel*