

B. Weight Family Letter
January 4, 1987

Dear Family,

We had happy holidays! We invited a family from our ward over for Christmas Eve dinner and program. We served a nice ham dinner and afterwards sang carols and recounted the Christmas story.

The following morning, our kids slept in until 8 am. It was great! We made them get dressed and then let them open one gift. Bryan traditionally buys each child a box of sugary cereal and this is the gift they get to open. Then we had breakfast. (I told Bryan that I thought it was cruel and unusual punishment to make the kids eat breakfast before they open their gifts but they didn't seem to object to it--except that they decided that the Apple Jacks, Sugar Smacks and Corn Pops were too sweet. Next year Bryan plans to buy All-Bran and Shredded Wheat!) When the children were opening their gifts we made a real effort to emphasize the giver. We'd say things like, "Oh, look what Hyrum gave Sarah" instead of "Look what Sarah got". We're trying to encourage them to have a more grateful attitude.

Willis has had problems with ear infections almost continuously since September. He's been on antibiotics during this time except for a couple of weeks in Oct. Two weeks ago we took him into the emergency room late one night because he screamed for two hours solid and could not be comforted. He kicked his legs wildly and we could not determine what might be causing him such discomfort. He was on an antibiotic for his ears so I didn't think it would be his ears, but it was. Both were badly infected. The pediatrician changed the antibiotic but after ten days his right ear was still a little red and the left still had fluid. He's on a different antibiotic now and the Dr. says she'll recommend tubes if they aren't clear after this treatment.

Hyrum was asked at tithing settlement what he knew about tithing and he immediately responded saying "Donald duck is very funny! His pants fell down . . ." We had just watched a Donald Duck video the day before where some ants pulled off his clothes. The bishop said "I should expect an answer like that from a three year old." Hyrum likes to watch videos. His favorite is Robin Hood. We gave him Sword in the Stone for Christmas because we're very tired of Robin Hood! Hyrum also likes looking at books and is quite content to play by himself. Willis likes wrestling with Hyrum. There is only about 4 pounds weight difference between them.

We gave Hannah dance lessons for her birthday. She wanted to take piano or violin but I wasn't sure she was ready for that. Her dance classes include ballet, modern, and some tap. Her teacher is an older woman who is excellent with the children. I am teaching Hannah a little piano. I've attended some of Sarah's piano lessons and so I copy her teacher's methods to teach Hannah. So far it's been effective. She is only a few weeks behind Sarah in her piano books. She's a little bit slower in the theory books which is understandable because she's in K and hasn't learned to read.

Santa Claus gave Sarah "A Little House on the Prairie" book for Christmas. She enjoys reading that. I've begun reading "Charlotte's Web" to them as a bedtime story. I'm enjoying it as much as the kids. I guess that's one of the great things about having kids is that you get to relive part of your childhood.

Love, *Bryan & Charlotte & Kids*