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Legacy Lines

A Newsletter for Families

December
2017

Thoughts from your Legacy Team...

December is here
Santa's checking his list,
All I can say is "What have I missed?"
The teachers are begging for a day off,
The children are sick with lots of bad coughs,
Parents are looking for that perfect gift,
As the diapers give us an unpleasant whiff.
The chef will make us a yummy treat,
While we all dance to a Merry beat.
So as Christmas draws near,
And the excitement grows
Be sure to give love from your head to your toes.

Have a Merry Christmas!!!

Take a Peek Inside

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Let's Celebrate!

Hanukkah
Wednesday- Dec. 13th- 20th

Christmas
Monday- Dec. 25th

Kwanzaa
Tuesday- Dec. 26th-Jan. 1st



December

**Infants A & B – Dreamers ~ Theme: Peek-A-Boo Babies**

This exciting month brings many things to our infant classroom. Rhymes, fingerplays, songs and book making are just a few of the plans to be carried out. The classroom will be alive with the sound of holiday bells and holiday music but be rest assured our teachers will take cues from the babies allowing time for choices and self-initiated activities.

**Jr. Toddlers – Travelers ~ Theme: Ribbons and Rhymes**

The last month of the year brings with it some holiday magic in the air. Our little travelers will learn about Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. We continue our work on rhyming which is proven to help children have an easier time when learning to read. Keep up your great work at home and we will meet our own personal and professional obligations right alongside you!

**Sr. Toddlers – Adventurers ~ Theme: What's Inside?**

Awesome smells fill the air as time with your child takes on a special joy of its own. Our toddlers will be making cards for Seniors or for those in hospitals. We want to help children learn that the holidays are about giving. As always, we will weave letters and numbers into everything we do. While the holidays are exciting, they can also be stressful. Take time to calmly read, listen to music, and enjoy your children and yourself! We do!

**3s – Discoverers ~ Theme: Bows & Strings & Special Things**

So much is happening this month as the children will learn about the different holidays celebrated in December: Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. We will temper our days with Bows and Strings with creative ideas applied. Books, supplies, and activities that fit your child. Opportunities for art, cooking, literacy, colors and shapes will round out our glorious calendar year.

**4s – Voyagers ~ Theme: Surprises and Celebrations**

Children love surprises and this month is filled with many. Activities will focus on Hanukkah, Las Posadas, Christmas and Kwanzaa. The character building focus is compassion. We will begin concentrating on letter sounds and reinforce letter recognition. Continue your own normal routine whenever possible despite the upcoming festivities. As always, help your child find enjoyment and fulfillment in each other. We do and it feels GREAT!!!

**Navigators ~ Theme: Community Project**

Some of the activities your child will be engaged in are: making wrapping paper, holiday (Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa) cards, talking about family traditions, designing a holiday wish book, learning about involvement in the community, playing freeze tag and designing their own picture frames. As your child is old enough to pick up on stress during this often-frenzied season, try to indulge them in the calm you will try to practice while ensuring it is a joyful celebration!

December

**Infants A & B – Dreamers**

Math- Dreamers will all about the color red this month! They will get to touch and feel different red objects and begin to build their differentiation skills by identifying red objects in their environment. They will also continue to build their shape recognition skills by exploring holiday shapes.

Science- This month infants will be provided varied opportunities to have sensory exploration as they discover objects that are cold. They will continue their exploration with snowflakes!

Social Studies- October's Social Studies Enhanced Learning lessons will focus on self-identification. Infants will practice picking themselves out of the class and work on their sense of others.

**Jr. Toddlers – Travelers**

Math- Travelers will continue to work on their shape recognition skills by identifying the shapes they pull from their stockings! They will also get the opportunity to build a snowman using shapes.

Science- Toddlers will explore the senses of winter and strengthen their sense of hearing as they listen for holiday sounds!

Social Studies- Jr. Toddlers will get a chance to practice their sharing skills as they share presents and they will learn about what stop signs are!

**Sr. Toddlers – Adventurers**

Math- This month is all about shapes for Adventurers! They will build a shape snowman and they will strengthen their shape recognition skills by identifying shapes in the mystery box.

Science- Sr. Toddlers will learn about their sense of hearing as they try to identify what's making the sound in the mystery box. They will also get a chance to make snow by measuring and stirring different ingredients and explore with their senses as they make a snowman!

Social Studies- Adventurers will have to work as a team to get Santa's reindeer to the sleigh and they will learn all about how other countries celebrate Christmas and what their "Santa" looks like.

**3s – Discoverers**

Math- Discoverers will have the opportunity to explore with units of measurement as they determine how much wrapping paper they need to wrap different presents. They will also work on recognizing and naming patterns with holiday patterns!

Science- 3-year old's will explore with their five senses as they create cinnamon ornaments! They will also discover how they can create different colors as they twirl and dance with colored streamers!

Social Studies- This month, Discoverers will learn about Hanukkah and why it is celebrated. They will also learn about family diversity and how different cultures celebrate holidays.

**4s – Voyagers**

Math- Voyagers will work on recognizing, naming, and creating their own patterns with candy canes. They will also have the opportunity to explore with standard and non-standard units of measurement as they measure Holiday trees.

Science- 4-year old's will learn about what snow is and will get the chance to create some. They will also learn why ice melts and experiment with accelerating the melting process.

Social Studies- This month, Voyagers will learn about the North Pole and how it differs from their environment. They will also learn about Kwanzaa and why it is celebrated. Children will be exposed to different cultures and cultural celebrations.

Holiday Craft

Salt Dough Hand Print Ornament

Directions

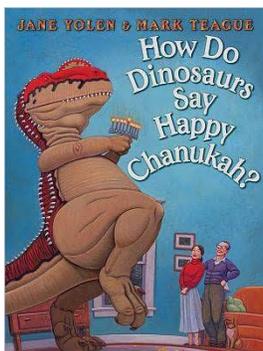
Ingredients

- 4 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1.5 cups water
 - Ribbon
 - Paint

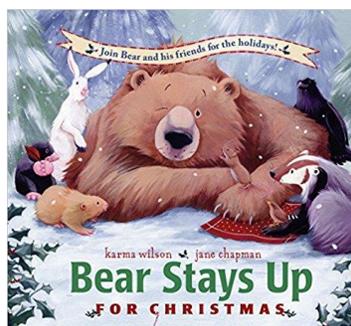


1. Preheat your oven to 200 degrees F.
2. Combine all of your ingredients and knead for 10 minutes. If your dough is too dry add a little bit more water in and continue to knead.
3. Roll out the dough to a thickness that you'd like your salt dough ornament to be.
4. Using a large cookie cutter, cut out different shapes for your salt dough ornament.
5. Have your child place their hand into the salt dough ornament.
6. Using a straw, make a hole in the top for where you want to hang your salt dough ornament.
7. Bake for 1-2 hours. If your ornaments are still doughy, put back in for another hour. (It will depend on your thickness how long you need to bake for. The thinner ornaments will take less time but thicker may take more).
8. If you encounter too much puffing, roll out thinner ornaments and this will help reduce the puffing. If the ornament is still a bit doughy, bake for longer or let sit out a few days to harden before decorating.
9. Once cool, you can decorate by painting with acrylic or kids paint

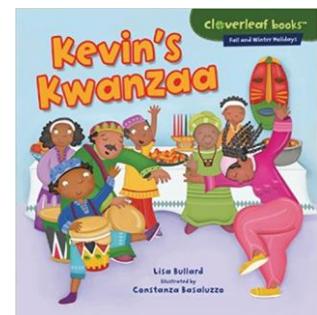
Holiday Books



How Do Dinosaurs Say Happy Chanukah?
By: Jane Yolen



Bear Stays Up for Christmas
By: Karma Wilson



Kevin's Kwanzaa
By: Lisa Bullard