

December Activities

Name: _____

Family Time

I've compiled a calendar of activities to try with your child. These activities align with objectives from our classroom curriculum. Please initial each activity done with your child and return at the end of the month. The activities can be done in any order on any day. I hope these suggestions spark conversations and learning experiences for your family.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>¹ It's Pie Day. Celebrate by reading "How to Make a Cherry Pie and See the U.S.A. by Marjorie Priceman together (read alouds online)</p> <p>Reading</p>	<p>² Ask your child how many words he/she can think of that have the same beginning sound as "holidays" (H)</p> <p>First Sounds</p>	<p>³ On National Day of Giving, have your child draw pictures or make cards to give to friends and family members.</p> <p>Writing/Art</p>	<p>⁴ It's National Cookie Day! Bake your child's favorite cookies together and have them measure the ingredients with you.</p> <p>Math, Counting</p>	<p>⁵ Have your child go around the house finding pairs of rhyming objects</p> <p>Rhyming</p>	<p>⁶ What is your child's favorite holiday song? Sing it together and try it again with your own lyrics. Add dance moves or hand actions for some extra silly fun!</p> <p>Music and Movement</p>	<p>⁷ It's Cotton Candy Day. Make a mixture of half glue and half shaving cream. Add food coloring, then paint swirls of it on paper to make "cotton candy."</p> <p>Sensory, Science</p>
<p>⁸ Let's Play Please Pass while we eat. When you want something, face the person who has it, use a strong, respectful voice, and ask for what you want." Model and practice first.</p> <p>Self-Regulation, Routines</p>	<p>⁹ At breakfast time, read the back of the cereal box together</p> <p>Reading</p>	<p>¹⁰ Sort toys by size. Use words such as big, bigger, medium, small, smaller, etc.</p> <p>Classification</p>	<p>¹¹ Go on a "number hunt" while at the store. What numbers can your child find and recognize?</p> <p>Number recognition</p>	<p>¹² Have your child solve simple math problems using pieces of their favorite snack, such as crackers or raisins.</p> <p>Math</p>	<p>¹³ Sing familiar holiday songs with your children. ("Jingle Bells" "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" "Rudolph" etc.)</p> <p>Music, Movement</p>	<p>¹⁴ On National Cocoa Day, make some instant hot cocoa together. Talk about what happens to the mix as you stir. Count marshmallows as you drop them in!</p> <p>Science, Counting</p>
<p>¹⁵ It's Monkey Day! Make up a silly song or dance about monkeys and perform for your family! Try to create different monkey movements and sounds. Maybe have bananas for a snack!</p> <p>Dramatic Play, Music/Movement</p>	<p>¹⁶ It's National Cupcake Day! Draw and design cupcakes together as a family. Color frosting and toppings.</p> <p>Art, Creative Play</p>	<p>¹⁷ While driving in the car, have your child count the number of red cars they see!</p> <p>Counting</p>	<p>¹⁸ Pour a thin layer of milk in a pan. Add liquid food coloring. Dip a cotton swab in the dish soap and press and hold in the milk. Watch what happens!</p> <p>Science</p>	<p>¹⁹ Look for picture or objects that start with the same sound as your child's name. When you say the words, emphasize the beginning sound: "buh, buh, ball."</p> <p>First Sounds</p>	<p>²⁰ How many words can you and your child think of that rhyme with "snow?" Nonsense/made-up words are included!</p> <p>Rhyming</p>	<p>²¹ Make a simple pattern using silverware or other items, (spoon, fork, knife, spoon, fork, knife) have your child predict what goes next.</p> <p>Patterns</p>
<p>²² On National Flashlight Day, make shadow puppets on the wall by making shapes with your hands in front of the flashlight.</p> <p>Creative Play</p>	<p>²³ While at the store, have your child help you read the shopping list and find items. Point out environmental print (labels, tags, etc.)</p> <p>Environmental Print</p>	<p>²⁴ Involve your child in preparing a meal. At dinnertime, talk about what you are eating and how you made it.</p> <p>Engagement, communication, routines</p>	<p>²⁵ Tell your child a story about a favorite holiday memory from your own childhood. Share about your family traditions or things their grandparents did with you.</p> <p>Stories</p>	<p>²⁶ Choose a subject your child is interested in. Together, choose a nonfiction book from the library on that subject to read together.</p> <p>Informational Text</p>	<p>²⁷ It's National Candy Cane Day. Work on fine motor skills by stringing Fruit Loops on pipe cleaners and bending into candy cane shapes</p> <p>Fine Motor, Art</p>	<p>²⁸ Turn off the TV and phone tonight! Play a game, talk about your day, or have reading time.</p> <p>Language-rich experiences</p>
²⁹	³⁰	³¹				

<p>It's National Card Playing Day. Get out a deck of cards and make up your own game together. Introduce simple games like "go fish" or "old maid."</p>	<p>Have your child "read" a book to you. Tell your child what you liked about the book and ask what she/he liked.</p>	<p>Set out various objects, such as socks, buttons, and pens. Have your child sort them into piles by shape or color!</p>				
<p>Recognize and Recall</p>	<p>Retell, Speaking, Literacy</p>	<p>Classification</p>				

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