

“**Seasons All Around**” is our December curriculum theme. The theme includes learning about seasons, weather and temperature and clothes we wear for different temperatures and seasons. We will have lots of hands on activities throughout the month. There will be lots of opportunities for communication in the classrooms and throughout the building.

Here are a few suggested home activities to encourage language, literacy and concepts:

December vocabulary:

Coat/jacket	Winter	Warm
Mittens	Spring	Cold
Gloves	Summer	Match
Hat	Fall/Autumn	
Scarf		
Boots		

Emphasize these words as you and your child play and look at pictures in books and magazines together.

Activities:

December is a very busy time for many families but it is also a great month for expanding language by using words and gestures to state emotions and describes objects by size and colors. Music is a wonderful and fun way to encourage language. December is a month filled with opportunities for music and language. Sing and Enjoy!

1. Look at family photographs together. Talk about the people and what they are doing and what they are wearing.
2. Read a Gingerbread Boy story together. Encourage your child to pretend to be the gingerbread boy saying, “Run, run, run. Can’t catch me, I’m the Gingerbread Boy.”, as you read the book.
3. Make a winter collage by tearing or cutting pictures of winter activities, winter clothes and winter scenes from magazines and newspapers.
4. Look at the nighttime stars to see stars and the moon.
5. Practice dressing independence: put on and take off coat, hat, mittens/gloves and putting them away, zip and unzip coats and pants, buttoning
6. Play “Find the Mitten”; hide a mitten in, on, or under something in your livingroom. Give your child directions as to where to look for the mitten. Let your child hide a mitten and give you directions/hints to find the mitten.
7. Match socks, mittens or gloves.
8. Cut two 4” by 4” squares from several different sheets of wrapping paper. Make a matching game by laying one of each of the 4x4 squares on the floor or table. Give your child the second set of 4x4 squares and have him/her match the paper.

December Theme Book Suggestions

Old Bear, Kevin Henkes

Don’t Wake Up the Bear, Karma Wilson There are several books in this series that take place in different seasons of the year

The Gingerbread Boy, Paul Galdone, or any version

The Big Storm, Nancy Tafuri

Papa, Please Get for Me the Moon, Eric Carle

I Like Stars, Margaret Wise Brown

Nursery Rhyme

Hey Diddle, Diddle, the Cow Jumped Over the Moon

