

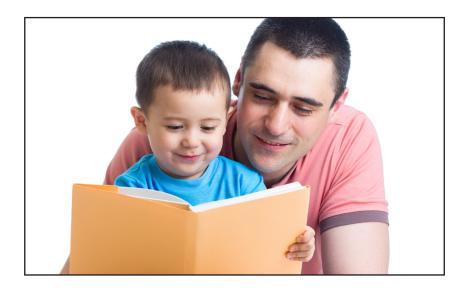
DECEMBER BEGINNERS

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will continue to use descriptive words, understand the concept of three, and share her family holiday traditions.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child:

- Go on a color hunt with your child. Walk through your home and ask her to find items of a certain color. Afterwards, ask your child to describe the items she found.
- Reinforce the concept of three throughout the day. At mealtime, give her three pieces of food. Count to three as she eats each piece.
- Gather some family photos and point out activities that are family traditions (i.e. unwrapping presents, eating holiday dinner, making a snowman). Encourage your child to talk about what she sees in the photos.



Here's what your child experienced this month.

Each month's Links to Learning activities build on the month before, connecting previously learned skills with new learning. These activities include the essentials of language and math, along with a variety of other skills.



Language and Literacy	Science and Social Studies Science and Social Studies
COMMUNICATION	SCIENCE
 Speaks using a variety of vocabulary Refers to self by name Understands plurals Asks "why" and "what" questions Understands and uses descriptive words Understands and uses spatial vocabulary 	Explores differences in temperatureExplores seasonal changes in nature
	SOCIAL STUDIES
	 Recognizes and identifies common sights in the communi (school, house, grocery store)
LITERACY	DIVERSITY
 Pretends to read a book Acquires new vocabulary through shared reading experiences Connects events in story to own life Talks about characters and events in a story 	Talks about own family Talks about family traditions and practices
	(6) Creative Expression
	MUSIC AND MUSICIANS
• Tells a simple story from sequenced pictures WRITING	 Explores holiday music from different cultures Identifies loud and soft noises Sings familiar songs Makes music using non-musical instruments (spoons, boxes, pans)
 Begins to hold a crayon or other writing utensil correctly Makes horizontal and vertical lines on paper Makes circular marks on paper 	
Makes circular marks on paper	ART AND ARTISTS
Mathematics	 Uses a paintbrush with increasing control Creates a painting using two or more primary colors Mixes primary colors to form secondary colors (blue + yellow= green) Paints a defined picture with basic shapes Draws with large body movements using crayons and/or markers
NUMBERS AND NUMBER SENSE	
 Repeats numbers 1-20 Understands the number concept of one Understands the number concept of two Understands the number concept of three 	
GEOMETRY AND RELATIONSHIPS	DRAMATIC PLAY
 Names shapes and colors (primary and some secondary) Does simple matching of color, shapes, and objects Sorts a few objects based on color, shape, or size Puts two halves together to make a whole Understands same and different 	Engages in pretend play connected to the weekly story Engages in pretend play connected to personal experience Acts out lyrics to familiar songs
PROBLEM SOLVING AND REASONING	
 Completes 3- to 10-piece puzzles Answers simple questions about what comes next in simple, familiar tasks Explains everyday occurrences using simple reasoning 	
	(continued on back)

) Wellness	⊕ Social-Emotional
FINE MOTOR SKILLS	SELF-HELP SKILLS
 Squeezes and manipulates Play-Doh Uses safety scissors Turns over small containers to find things Uses snaps, buttons, and zippers Picks up small objects with control 	 Puts on and removes jacket with assistance Verbalizes need for diaper change or bathrooming Expresses needs and wants Accepts changes in routine with proper preparation
<u> </u>	SOCIAL INTERACTION
Walks in a line Throws a bean bag at a target Copies simple body movements Sits with legs criss-crossed Walks along a straight line	Transitions to new activities with assistance Follows classroom behavior expectations (indoor voice, calm body) Shows varied feelings Labels some emotions in self (happy, sad, angry) Initiates play interactions with peers Begins to understand personal space
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND NUTRITION	© Citizens of the World
 Coughs into elbow Follows simple hand-washing procedures Identifies a variety of foods by name 	Explores ways to say "hello" in different languages Introduced to new Spanish vocabulary Reviews previously acquired Spanish vocabulary Explores foods from around the world