



## Links to Learning

### 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.






## Links to Learning

<b>DECEMBER – BEGINNER</b>	
<b>🗨️ Language and Literacy</b>	<b>🧑🏫 Science and Social Studies</b>
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	<b>SCIENCE</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speaks using a variety of vocabulary</li> <li>Refers to self by name</li> <li>Understands plurals</li> <li>Asks “why” and “what” questions</li> <li>Understands and uses descriptive words</li> <li>Understands and uses spatial vocabulary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explores differences in temperature</li> <li>Explores seasonal changes in nature</li> </ul>
<b>LITERACY</b>	<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pretends to read a book</li> <li>Acquires new vocabulary through shared reading experiences</li> <li>Connects events in story to own life</li> <li>Talks about characters and events in a story</li> <li>Tells a simple story from sequenced pictures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognizes and identifies common sights in the community (school, house, grocery store)</li> </ul>
<b>WRITING</b>	<b>DIVERSITY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begins to hold a crayon or other writing utensil correctly</li> <li>Makes horizontal and vertical lines on paper</li> <li>Makes circular marks on paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talks about own family</li> <li>Talks about family traditions and practices</li> </ul>
<b>🔢 Mathematics</b>	<b>🎨 Creative Expression</b>
<b>NUMBERS AND NUMBER SENSE</b>	<b>MUSIC AND MUSICIANS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repeats numbers 1-20</li> <li>Understands the number concept of one</li> <li>Understands the number concept of two</li> <li>Understands the number concept of three</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explores holiday music from different cultures</li> <li>Identifies loud and soft noises</li> <li>Sings familiar songs</li> <li>Makes music using non-musical instruments (spoons, boxes, pans)</li> </ul>
<b>GEOMETRY AND RELATIONSHIPS</b>	<b>ART AND ARTISTS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names shapes and colors (primary and some secondary)</li> <li>Does simple matching of color, shapes, and objects</li> <li>Sorts a few objects based on color, shape, or size</li> <li>Puts two halves together to make a whole</li> <li>Understands same and different</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses a paintbrush with increasing control</li> <li>Creates a painting using two or more primary colors</li> <li>Mixes primary colors to form secondary colors (blue + yellow= green)</li> <li>Paints a defined picture with basic shapes</li> <li>Draws with large body movements using crayons and/or markers</li> </ul>
<b>PROBLEM SOLVING AND REASONING</b>	<b>DRAMATIC PLAY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completes 3- to 10-piece puzzles</li> <li>Answers simple questions about what comes next in simple, familiar tasks</li> <li>Explains everyday occurrences using simple reasoning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engages in pretend play connected to the weekly story</li> <li>Engages in pretend play connected to personal experiences</li> <li>Acts out lyrics to familiar songs</li> </ul>

(continued on back)

# DECEMBER – BEGINNER (continued from front)

 <b>Wellness</b>	 <b>Social-Emotional</b>
FINE MOTOR SKILLS	SELF-HELP SKILLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Squeezes and manipulates Play-Doh</li> <li>• Uses safety scissors</li> <li>• Turns over small containers to find things</li> <li>• Uses snaps, buttons, and zippers</li> <li>• Picks up small objects with control</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Puts on and removes jacket with assistance</li> <li>• Verbalizes need for diaper change or bathrooming</li> <li>• Expresses needs and wants</li> <li>• Accepts changes in routine with proper preparation</li> </ul>
GROSS MOTOR AND BALANCE	SOCIAL INTERACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walks in a line</li> <li>• Throws a bean bag at a target</li> <li>• Copies simple body movements</li> <li>• Sits with legs criss-crossed</li> <li>• Walks along a straight line</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transitions to new activities with assistance</li> <li>• Follows classroom behavior expectations (indoor voice, calm body)</li> <li>• Shows varied feelings</li> <li>• Labels some emotions in self (happy, sad, angry)</li> <li>• Initiates play interactions with peers</li> <li>• Begins to understand personal space</li> </ul>
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND NUTRITION	 <b>Citizens of the World</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coughs into elbow</li> <li>• Follows simple hand-washing procedures</li> <li>• Identifies a variety of foods by name</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explores ways to say “hello” in different languages</li> <li>• Introduced to new Spanish vocabulary</li> <li>• Reviews previously acquired Spanish vocabulary</li> <li>• Explores foods from around the world</li> </ul>