



Links to Learning

DECEMBER PRE-K

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will predict the outcomes of stories, sort and identify pennies, nickels and dimes, and share family holiday traditions.

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

- Read a book with your child. Pause after a few pages and ask him to guess what will happen next. Encourage him to explain his prediction.
- Ask your child about your family's holiday traditions. "What foods do we eat during the holidays?" or "Who do we visit during the holidays?" Share additional details to add to your child's understanding.
- Hand your child a jar of coins. Ask him to identify and sort the pennies, nickels and dimes.



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

DECEMBER – PRE-K	
📖 Language and Literacy	123 Mathematics
COMMUNICATION	NUMBERS AND NUMBER SENSE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recalls favorite nursery rhymes, poems, and alliterative phrases Dictates stories Knows some opposite words Uses three different words to describe an object Uses rhyming words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizes numerals 1–50 Counts by tens Counts items in two groups to determine which group has more
LITERACY	GEOMETRY AND RELATIONSHIPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talks about setting and how it is related to the story Recognizes uppercase and lowercase letters Recognizes common beginning consonant sounds Identifies words vs. letters vs. numerals Interprets story situations and predicts outcomes Understands whether information in a story is real or pretend Uses context/picture clues to question unknown vocabulary Follows words from left to right and page by page Reads/recognizes sight words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compares two objects for which has more or less of a feature (more legs, less feathers) Places three or four pictures in sequential order Orders the days of the week Identifies shapes as two-dimensional (2D, flat) or three-dimensional (3D, solid)
WRITING	PROBLEM SOLVING AND REASONING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses a journal as a way to communicate ideas and thoughts through writing and drawing Begins to use inventive spelling in writing Writes first name in proper case Writes the letters of the alphabet (uppercase and lowercase) Writes numerals 1–20 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies pennies, nickels, and dimes Completes 20- or more piece puzzles Creates an original pattern using four objects Creates and interprets a simple bar graph
🌟 Social-Emotional	🌍 Science and Social Studies
SELF-HELP SKILLS	SCIENCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retrieves and uses a tissue when needed Puts on and removes jacket independently Maintains belongings in cubby Makes choices within the classroom Asks for help when needed Cleans up with prompting Uses basic table manners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participates in experiments to answer questions Expresses data in a variety of ways, including illustrations, graphs, and oral explanations Identifies season and predicts weather based on season Graphs weather Explores the relationship between water and ice
SOCIAL INTERACTION	SOCIAL STUDIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learns and follows behavior expectations in centers Initiates play with a variety of peers Plays cooperatively with peers Recognizes and labels emotions in self and others Demonstrates some control of emotions Demonstrates appropriate response to authority figures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizes the use of money as a means of exchange for goods and services Identifies different types of products sold at different types of stores Explores changes over time by comparing pictures or hearing stories Develops an understanding of wants vs. needs
	DIVERSITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shares and compares holidays celebrated within the home Shares and compares family traditions Names and talks about grandparents

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DECEMBER – PRE-K (continued from front)

Creative Expression

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS

- Plays a variety of multicultural instruments
- Moves body expressively to music
- Creates musical instruments
- Explores and identifies emotions in songs or music
- Explores a variety of holiday music
- Sings a variety of songs

ART AND ARTISTS

- Paints with an object other than a paint brush
- Draws a stick figure with 3-6 body parts
- Draws or paints on a vertical surface
- Creates a collage
- Sculpts

DRAMATIC PLAY

- Engages in pretend play connected to the weekly story
- Engages in pretend play connected to a store
- Engages in pretend play connected to winter weather experiences

Citizens of the World

- Introduced to new Spanish vocabulary
- Reviews previously acquired Spanish vocabulary
- Explores different holidays celebrated around the world

Wellness

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- Pushes coins into a money box or piggy bank
- Cuts out simple shapes
- Folds paper in half
- Strings small beads or other items to make a pattern
- Squeezes and releases castanets

GROSS MOTOR AND BALANCE

- Throws a small ball or bean bag into a basket
- Catches a thrown ball from three feet
- Kicks a rolling ball
- Bounces a ball and catches it

HEALTH, SAFETY AND NUTRITION

- Understands the importance of seasonal clothing to keep us warm
- Sneezes and coughs into elbow
- Follows proper hand-washing procedures

Digital Interactions

- Demonstrates the safe and cooperative use of technology
- Communicates original ideas using digital tools
- Types first and last name on a keyboard or keypad
- Uses and explores different types of technology