

# **DECEMBER 11th-22nd UNIT PLAN**

**Ms. Danielle**

**UPK 2023**

**TOPICS:** Continue to learn about all the different holidays celebrated in the month of December (Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and New Year's Eve). Some of the things we will discuss/work on are, lighting a candle a day for Hannukah, the nativity, Saint Nick/Santa Claus celebrations and traditions and the principles of Kwanzaa and getting into the holiday spirit. The introduction of letters J and K. The introduction to numbers 10 and 11. Reintroduce counting and writing numbers 1 through 11. Exploration of hibernation, acquiring knowledge on what animals do in the winter (specifically bears). Continued learning about Winter and all the wonderful things that come with it (snow, snowman, type of clothing, snowflakes, trees, etc.). Continued learning on what family means to us.

**READ ALOUD:** Books will be read according to the theme of that day. Topics on Holidays in December, letters J and K, family, and books that influence creativity.

**Fluency & Comprehension:** Reading daily provides students with expressive reading. Becoming familiar with a story by understanding the main idea, key detail(s) and character(s). Learning how to articulate expression through pitch, word recognition, faces and pictures, introduces tone and fluency for the Unit.

**VOCABULARY:** Candles, Candy Canes, Community, Christmas, December, Decoration, Den, Dreidel, Elves, Eve, Family, Gelt, Gingerbread, Hanukkah, Hibernation, Holiday, Jingle Bells, Jolly, Joy, Kwanzaa, List, Menorah, Mittens, New Years, North Pole, Ornaments, Principles, Trees, Reindeer, Santa Claus, Seasons, Snowflakes, Sleigh, Stockings, Winter, Wreath.

**COLORS:** Comprehension of the colors associated with December which are red, blue and green. We will learn the different shades of each of these colors.

**LETTER OF THE WEEK:** Capital letters J & K and lowercase letters j & k.

**MATH:** Continue to learn/comprehend simple addition through worksheets and hands on learning activities. This will include hot chocolate/marshmallow counting and snowball/snowman sensory tray. Shape of the week, the star. The re-introduction to numbers 1 through 11 and word recognition of numbers one through ten. Intro to 10(ten) and 11(eleven). Counting and pattern recognition with worksheets and activities. Hands on gingerbread man, snowman, and bear cave counting activities.

**LANGUAGE and LITERACY:** Read Aloud and storytelling daily. Mitten tracing worksheets will help students work on pencil grip, writing strokes, and fine motor

skills. Mystery mitten letter sound game. This fun game helps build phonetic awareness by addressing beginning sounds and matching sounds with letters. Holiday story sequencing and vocabulary flashcards (make sentences with the new words we learn). December/winter themed rhyming and expansion on their sight word vocabulary. Christmas alphabet playdough and rainbow letter writing. Scavenger hunt for every new letter we learn in class. We will be doing a lot of hands-on winter learning activities.

**CENTERS & ENRICHMENTS:** Morning Circle Time daily to create basic learning of the days, months, and year, seasons and weather. Build on a child's social skills and emotional well-being and encourage full participation. Comprehension of everything that makes December and the holidays. This includes hands-on learning, activities, and worksheets. We will be doing many fun activities and making reindeer food together. Winter tree crafting, holiday wish list, ornament making, chain link holiday craft, gingerbread man collage art, holiday/winter painting, candy cane creation, and popsicle stick/macaroni art. Doing these activities strengthens not only our fine motor skills but our friendships as well. Bear measure class activity.

**PHONICS:** Learning about uppercase and lowercase letters Jj and Kk, and the sounds they make. Continued learning about digraphs which are 2 letters that create a sound. This unit plan will focus on "CH" sound and occurrence (example: Christmas, cheer, chimney and chestnut).

**SCIENCE:** Through explanation and discourse, students will learn that science is and always has been a part of their lives. As beginners the students will gain an understanding of the scientific method, learning what a hypothesis is and how to develop one, record data and compare data. Experiments will be conducted in the classroom and in science class within class activities and worksheets. Students have weekly science class with Ms. Kathy.

**MUSIC:** During class we will listen to various kid friendly and age-appropriate music. Learning songs, sing-a-longs, and musical poems on the Units theme(s). Continue to learn days of the week and months of the year song. We will be focused on learning Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas songs throughout the month of December.