Next steps:

Rudolph the red nose reindeer live (Manging feelings and behaviour/ waiting for turns)

Bouncing presents (Playing cooperatively)

Playing outdoors/ scooters and swings (turn taking)

What is Christmas? (circle time)

Stars

Pepper mint sticks poem

Five little bells poem

Gingerbread Man story book

.

**PSED**

**C&L**

Child interest: books/water play/Group games

Next step:

Jingle Bell Freeze dance

Christmas lunch event!

Listening and dancing to

Christmas songs

The very snowy Christmas

story book

Stack the presents (block play)

in the garden (Thinking of ideas)

Put the present in the

box relay (Being willing to have a go)

bouncing presents

**Week**

**29 / 11/2021**

**06/12/2021**

**Christmas**

**Jupiter/ Neptune**

Christmas Tree (Monday 1)

Ginger bread stick pupes (Tuesday 1)

Rudolph Antlers (Wednesday 1)

Christmas Cards (Thursday 1)

Gift wrap station (Thursday 2)

(Friday 1,2) Free colouring and drawing

Christmas wish list collage (Monday 2)

Red and green Playdough (Tuesday 2)

Christmas stars (Wednesday 2)

**KDW**

Five little bells poem

What time is it Mr Wolf

Spindle box

Number an counters

Inset for design

Christmas cards

Station

Candy can patterns

Letter boxes G

“for ginger man

R is for reindeer”

**EAD**

**Literacy**

Christmas TREES

Materials Needed: pre-cut Christmas trees (from green paper); miscellaneous items to decorate--sequins, glitter, yarn and fabric scraps, glue, scissors. Hole punch the top of the tree so that you can hang the trees in your classroom when complete.

The children decorate the trees--BOTH SIDES!--with the materials you have provided!

**GINGERBREAD STICK PUPPETS**

Materials Needed: Gingerbread people shapes; small pieces of fabric and ribbon, buttons, sequins, pasta--any items you want to use for decorating!; large craft sticks, glue

Encourage children to print their name on the large craft stick with a marker. Allow them to decorate their gingerbread person any way they want! Glue stick onto back. Let dry.

EXTENSION: Children can use these when you read the story Gingerbread Man . They can repeat the refrain phrase of "You can't catch me!".

**RUDOLPH ANTLERS**

Materials Needed: Long, brown, wide (about 3" wide) paper for headbands; 1 piece of brown construction paper per child; glue sticks.

Encourage children to print their name on their headband strip. Help children to fold their paper in half and trace their own hand. Encourage them to cut out their hand print as best they can! They should glue their hand print antlers to their headband. Play the song Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer while they work on their antlers.

EXTENSION: Use their antlers to act out the song at circle time!

**WISH LIST COLLAGE**

Provide Christmas catalogs and sales papers from newspapers for the children to cut out and glue onto their wish list collage to bring home!

**STACK THE PRESENTS (Block play)**

Wrap some of your blocks with Christmas wrapping paper and place them in the block area. Stack the presents! Be sure to encourage counting, sorting by colour, type, size, etc.

TIP: I recommend wrapping one of the blocks with the children so that they KNOW that they are not actual presents! We have tried just placing them in the block area and telling them that they are just the blocks wrapped up, but- preschoolers are curious! Be sure to have additional paper and tape available for the times when the blocks do get unwrapped anyways!

Extension: Provide tape and paper and let the children try wrapping blocks!

Extension: When you are ready to change out your block area with different blocks, have an "unwrap the block party" by letting the children unwrap all the blocks!

**GIFT WRAP STATION**

Materials Needed: Table; tape; wrapping paper; bows and ribbon; boxes (cereal boxes, empty boxes of different sizes--you can even use blocks from your block area!).

Help children to wrap "present" boxes!

**WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?**

Materials Needed: White board, marker

Expect a lot of excitement over this discussion! Once you ask them "What special holiday happens this month, in December?"! Because of the excitement this will produce, you may want to restate your circle time rules about listening. We use the following:

"Eyes are on the teacher."

"Ears are listening."

"Voices are quiet."

"Your hand is up like this when you want a turn to talk."

Remind them that we all need to be patient--wait quietly--for our turn to talk so that EVERYONE has a chance to say what they want to say!

Ask the children what they think Christmas is?

List ALL of their answers. The typical ones that you can expect are "Santa comes." "We get presents." "I want a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_."

After their list, make your own suggestions to go past the present stage! Some suggestions are:

Giving gifts to others; making and mailing cards; cooking special foods (such as cookies, cakes, breads, etc.).

We also, after all the excitement, tell the children that Christmas is the time of year that we think more about helping others and doing things for others.

**RUDOLPH THE RED NOSE REINDEER-LIVE!**

Materials needed: Reindeer Antlers (their hand made antlers from the art activity above); red and white Santa hat and a red clown nose; your favourite version of the Rudolph song; bell instruments (optional).

Play the song as the children come to circle time wearing their antlers. Choose one child to wear the Santa hat and several children (4 or 5) to be the "other reindeer". Tell them they are going to "act out" the song. Assure the children that you will all sing it another time so that ALL the children have a turn to be in the play! The children not chosen to be reindeer each time could be given bell instruments to shake while they sing along.

**STARS**

Materials needed: large, yellow star made in advance. Pass the star around as you sing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Christmas Star". Just replace the word "little" in the traditional song with the word Christmas.

**PUT THE PRESENT IN THE BOX RELAY**

Materials needed: Different size boxes, toys from the classroom.

Keep this activity as a supportive activity, not competitive. Do this by having the children encourage the person whose turn it is.

The children start at one side of the room. They choose a toy and run to the other side of the room where you have the different size boxes. They find a box that best fits their toy, places the toy in and brings the box back to the beginning. Then the next child does the same.

**BOUNCING PRESENTS**

Materials needed: Parachute or large blanket; soft blocks

Children hold parachute or blanket. Work with them to show them how to move the chute up and down together. Place soft blocks in the middle of the chute. Encourage the children to Bounce the Presents off!

Parachute play is a great time to make up stories while you move and shake it! Example: "We are all walking in the store and shopping for Christmas presents. (moving chute slowly). But, the store is closing soon so we have to hurry! (move chute fast up and down). Phew, we are done shopping. (move chute slowly) Now we have to wrap the presents quickly so we can deliver them! Hurry, wrap, wrap, wrap! (move chute fast). Wow, we got a lot done! (Move chute slowly). Let's see how many we have! (stop moving chute and hold still). Let's count (count with children as you toss the blocks onto the chute). Now, it's time to deliver them all! Let's bounce the Christmas presents off until they are all gone and delivered! Ready....GO!

NOTE: We find that when we bounce anything off the parachute, children stop using the chute and chase after the items. To avoid them all running after them, tell them that 3 of them will be the Elves to collect the presents AFTER they are all off the chute! When they are all off the chute, tell them to freeze! Say "Elf Jimmy, Elf Sarah, Elf Owen--please find our presents!" They collect them and put them back on the chute. "Deliver" them again and assign new elves!

**CANDY CANE PATTERNS**

Materials Needed: Candy Cane shape drawn on construction paper with one bold marker line; red and white construction paper squares; glue sticks; marker

Encourage children to print their name on the paper. Encourage them to make an AB pattern with the white and red squares by gluing them, in an AB pattern, onto the bold line to make a candy cane.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **PEPPERMINT STICK**  I took a lick of my peppermint stick (Hold candy cane and pretend to lick).  I thought it tasted yummy (Rub belly)  It used to hang on my Christmas Tree (Pretend to hang on tree)  But I like it better in my tummy! (Rub belly again). | **FIVE LITTLE BELLS**  Five little bells all hanging in a row (Wave one hand with fingers extended)  The first one said "Ring me slow" (Wiggle thumb)  The second one said "Ring me fast" (Move pointer finger fast)  The third one said "Ring me last" (Move Middle finger).  The fourth one said "Ring me like a chime" (Move ring finger)  The fifth one said "It's Christmas Time" (Move pinky finger) | **This is Christmas** (sung to Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star)  What is Christmas?  We'll tell you.  It's putting love in all you do.  In our work and in our play.  In everything we do each day.  It is showing love for others,  Mother, Father, Sisters, Brothers. |