

BUILDING BLOCKS

A Newsletter for Teachers Working with Infant, Toddler
and Preschool
Educational Equity For All

December 2019

Winter Books

for Pre-K



prekinders.com

[CHECK HERE FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF BOOKS
ABOUT WINTER](#)



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The Impact of Technology on Child
Sensory and Motor Development

by Cris Rowan, OTR Reminiscing
about growing up in the good old
days is a memory trip well.

www.sensomotorische-integratie.nl

Fantastic *Fun* and *Learning*

PRESCHOOL WINTER THEME ACTIVITIES

These are just some of the concepts kids can learn about
during a winter theme:

- signs of winter outdoors
- changes in temperature
- comparing hot and cold
- investigating what will freeze and what will melt
- appropriate clothing and gear for winter
- hobbies and activities that are popular in winter
- sensory exploration and vocabulary related to snow and cold objects
- animals that live in cold climates
- how animals prepare for winter
- hibernation

You can also use snowflake or snowman manipulatives
for many learning activities to teach math and literacy
concepts. t.ly/we9J5



3 Ways to Make Your Kid's Classroom More Inclusive During the Winter Holidays

Ideas that don't mean more work for teacher
When schools celebrate winter holidays, they almost
always focus on Christmas. But guess what? Not all kids
celebrate Christmas. Maybe they instead recognize
Hanukkah. Or Kwanzaa. Or the Lunar New Year. Or
Yule. Or nothing at all.

- Mention 'mystery readers'
- Think outside the box with a class craft project
- Get creative with party food

t.ly/gyYz3

EDUCATIONAL
EQUITY FOR ALL
..... Giving kids what they need to succeed.

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FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



Sassy Grow Up Cup™

The Sassy Grow Up Cup™ isn't just evolutionary, it's revolutionary—with a patent-pending 360° design that lets your baby or toddler sip from anywhere around the rim with ease. That encourages the kind of muscle coordination that helps children move up to an open cup.

<http://www.sassybaby.com/sassy-grow-up-cup>

Behavior Management in the Preschool Years

Environmental Effect on Behavior

According to Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary Tenth Edition, behavior is "the response of an individual, group or species to its environment."

When we are designing our classroom behavior management plan, we must always be aware of how the environment impacts the children in our care. Our classroom design will have an impact. The physical environment must not be too cluttered, too bright, too noisy, or too stimulating, but must be stimulating enough. The social and emotional environment must be nurturing and respectful of children, their families and their culture.

According to research, behavior is a means of communication. When children exhibit challenging behaviors they are trying to communicate something. They are trying to tell us about an object, a person, or an preschool classroom activity they want or don't want. Our job is to figure out what they are trying to communicate and help them find a better way.

We need to observe and act accordingly. If children are running in your classroom and you feel that the environment is not a contributing factor, redirect the children. This should not be punitive. It is simple.

"Please walk inside. We'll run when we are outside. Let's choose a fun activity to do."

Or you might find that certain toys stimulate some groups of children too much. We had some large dinosaurs in our classroom. Every time I got the dinosaurs out the children were pretty wild. They chased each other, screamed, growled etc. t.ly/1J081

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/holidays/>
<https://thekindergartenconnection.com/free-printables/>
<https://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/seasons/winter-coloring-pages/>



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE PERPETUAL PRESCHOOL WORKSHOPS

ONLINE EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKSHOPS SINCE 1998



- Small Muscle Development
- Celebrate Diversity In Your Classroom
- The Importance of Block Play
- Creative Art For Preschoolers
- Encouraging Positive Self-Concept In Children
- Create Learning Materials For Children
- Language and Literacy Through Storytelling
- Large Motor Development Of Preschoolers

t.ly/RWkpO

Holiday Hacks to Save Your Sanity



HOLIDAY HACKS



1. Cut yourself some slack.
2. Keep it simple.
3. Stay on schedule.
4. Plan backwards.

t.ly/r2zMR