



BUILDING BLOCKS

A Newsletter for Teachers Working with Preschool Educational Equity For All

December 2017

Winter Holidays: Celebrating Diversity With Clifford

Use read alouds and an art project to teach young students about three different winter holidays: Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa.

GRADES: PreK-K, 1-2

OVERVIEW

Woof! Woof! The focus of this lesson is to teach the value of respect and appreciation of diversity by introducing children to new holiday celebrations, customs, and traditions through reading, language, and art.

[HTTPS://GOO.GL/WZM75N](https://goo.gl/WZM75N)



BEST CHRISTMAS SCIENCE ACTIVITIES AND EXPERIMENTS FOR KIDS { VOLUME 1 }



free printable Christmas STEM challenge cards, check out our 25 Day Christmas STEM Countdown, and see what cool science stocking stuffers we love.

CHRISTMAS SCIENCE ACTIVITIES



- Crystal Candy Canes
 - Magnet Science Christmas Sensory Bin
 - Christmas Tree Slime
- <https://goo.gl/EQ2aNb>



45 Christmas Crafts for 3 Year Olds!



As well, be sure to make these holiday Quiet Bins to keep your little ones calm and having fun this holiday season. There are Quiet Bins in here to keep your little ones playfully learning and calmly in control all year long. [Quiet time is a beautiful thing!](#) [Get the eBook right now!](#) <https://goo.gl/2CwDSC>



Winter Holidays for Kids | Toddler Learning Videos | Preschool Songs
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XII3Pm_KsmM

FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH

Children's Winter Holiday Songs suitable for all Holidays

- [As We Go Round the Sun](#) – W.L.A. Children's Music Choir
- [Festivals of Light](#) – Lauren Mayer
- [Fill the World](#) – W.L.A. Children's Music Choir
- [First Snowfall](#) - Maureen Conlin
- [The Ha! Ha! Holiday Song](#) - W.L.A. Children's Music Choir
- [The Ha Hee Ha Ho Holiday Song](#) - W.L.A. Children's Music Choir
- [Holiday Night](#) - W.L.A. Children's Music Choir
- [Happy Holidays to You](#) - Music with Mar.
- [Holiday Song](#) - Joyce Paultre
- [Holidays Are Fun](#) - Music with Mar.
- [I'm Happy! \(The Holidays Are Coming!\)](#) – W.L.A. Children's Music Choir
- [It's Holiday Time](#) - Pam Donkin and Greta Pedersen



12 Favorite Tips for Teachers BY [KAREN COX](#)

1. Use felt scraps for dry erase lapboard erasers.
2. Remove permanent marker with a dry erase marker.
3. Keep markers upside down. 4. Wet your dried out markers.
5. Dry erase marker caps make perfect game pieces.
6. Keep a pile of roster lists.
7. Keep track of who had a turn.
8. Add Vaseline to your glue caps.
9. Take a playground basket to recess.
10. Use mesh bags for washing manipulatives.
11. Dye your own craft sticks.
12. Put sandwich bags in your paint cups.

<https://www.prekinders.com/favorite-tips-teachers/>



How to Teach Preschoolers
Preschool Games and
Activities

Activities

Keep everything as simple and short as possible.

Songs/Gestures

Students at this age do well with [songs](#) and [gestures](#).

Worksheets

Worksheets for this age group are less common. Unlike worksheets used for older students, preschool worksheets do not need to have any words on them.

Stories

While your students will not be reading much in your class, they may enjoy hearing some stories especially if the lesson is during a quieter part of their day.

<http://busyteacher.org/4087-how-to-teach-preschoolers-preschool-games-and.html>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

- <https://perpetualpreschool.com/>
- <https://goo.gl/dhNa4k>
- http://www.preschoolexpress.com/holiday_station.shtml



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The focus of our conference is on the essential topics & innovative approaches that can help all young children learn & grow well. Our attendees seek practical information that they can use immediately in their work. Topics that will be discussed are social emotional development, literacy, language development, autism, behavior, and other developmental disorders.

<https://youngchildexpo.com/los-angeles-conference/>

CALIFORNIA

Early Childhood Online (CECO)

A Product of California Department of Education

Welcome to California Early Childhood Online

The modules provided on the California Early Childhood Online (CECO) Web site enable teachers to increase content knowledge and ability to provide developmentally appropriate experiences for children in their care. Meeting the developmental needs of young children and their families requires a comprehensive approach. CECO provides access to comprehensive resources and modules in one centralized location to meet the ever-changing needs of the early childhood field. <https://www.caearlychildhoodonline.org/#/english/>

