January Lesson Plan

*The Mitten*

**Goal:**  Math skills: Numbers (counting), estimation, comparing sizes

**Montana Early Learning Standards:**

Mathematics and Numeracy

Standard 4.10 Children develop the ability to think and work with numbers to understand their uses, describe numerical relationships through structures and everyday experiences

Standard 4.11 Children develop skills in using measurement instruments to explore and discover measurement relationships, such as length, quantity, volume, distance, weight, area and time.

Science

Standard 4.15 As children seek to understand their environment and test new knowledge they engage in scientific investigations using their senses to observe, manipulate objects, ask questions, make predictions, and develop conclusions and generalizations.

**Family Circle time:**

Story: *The Mitten* by Jan Brett

Nursery Rhymes*: 5 Little Snowmen*and *Three Little Kittens*

Action Rhyme: *Snowflake, Snowflake*

**Children’s Activity and Parent Forum:**

**Family Activities:**

1. How many in the Mitten?
   1. Materials
      1. Large comforter or sleeping (this is the mitten)
      2. Stuffed animals
   2. Question ideas
      1. How many people can we get into the mitten? How many did we get into the mitten?
      2. How many stuffed animals can we get into the mitten?
      3. Do you think we could get real animals into a mitten? Why/ why not?
2. Ice sculptures- build different sculptures out of ice
   1. Materials
      1. Large blanket
      2. Gloves/ mittens
      3. Plastic containers to freeze water in
   2. Question ideas
      1. How does the ice feel?
      2. Is it easy or hard to build with ice?
      3. What else could we build with?
3. Snowman
   1. Materials
      1. Construction paper
      2. Circle patterns (in three sizes)
      3. Scissors
      4. Glue
      5. Crayons and colored pencils
   2. Question ideas
      1. Which circle is the biggest? Smallest?
      2. Name body parts (ie. Head, body, arms, eyes, nose, mouth etc…)
         1. What body parts do snowman have?
         2. Do you have parts that snowmen don’t have (fingers, feet, toes etc…)
      3. Winter clothes (scarf, hat, boots, mittens…)
         1. What would a snowman wear?
         2. What should you wear outside in the winter?

**Other Ideas:**

Matching and patterning with mittens

**Nursery Rhymes:**

Five Little Snowmen

Five little snowmen went out to play

The sun came out and melted one away.

Four little snowmen went out to play

The sun came out an melted one away.

Three little snowmen went out to play

The sun came out and melted one away.

Two little snowmen went out to play

The sun came out and melted one away.

One lonely snowman went out to play

The sun came out and melted him away.

All the snowmen have melted away

But they’ll be back next winters day.

Three Little Kittens

Three little kittens they lost their mittens,  
And they began to cry,  
Oh, mother dear, we sadly fear  
Our mittens we have lost.  
What! lost your mittens, you naughty kittens!  
Then you shall have no pie.  
Mee-ow, mee-ow, mee-ow.  
No, you shall have no pie.  
  
The three little kittens they found their mittens,  
And they began to cry,  
Oh, mother dear, see here, see here,  
Our mittens we have found!  
Put on your mittens, you silly kittens,  
And you shall have some pie.  
Purr-r, purr-r, purr-r,  
Oh, let us have some pie.  
  
The three little kittens put on their mittens,  
And soon ate up the pie;  
Oh, mother dear, we greatly fear  
Our mittens we have soiled.  
What! soiled your mittens, you naughty kittens!  
Then they began to sigh,  
Mee-ow, mee-ow, mee-ow.  
Then they began to sigh.  
  
The three little kittens they washed their mittens,  
And hung them out to dry;  
Oh! mother dear, do you not hear,  
Our mittens we have washed!  
What! washed your mittens, then you’re good kittens,

**Action Rhyme:**

Snowflake, Snowflake

Snowflake, snowflake, turn around

Snowflake, snowflake, touch the ground

Snowflake, snowflake way up high

Snowflake, snowflake in the sky

# Take Home Activities

Make a Calendar

Using the calendar provided, have your child draw pictures and decorate the calendar. Fill in important dates and upcoming activities with your child. Use the calendar to help them with counting down to fun and/or important events. Talk about what comes next, how many days until something happens.

<http://www.calendarlabs.com/>

Matching Mittens

Using the stickers and mittens provided in the take home project have your child create 2 identical mittens. Discussing why they are the same. If they end up different (which is not uncommon) discuss what makes them different.

Other activities:

Put all of the families mittens and gloves into a pile and sort them into different piles:

* Pairs
* Mittens vs gloves
* Different colors
* Patterned vs solid colors
* Kids vs. grown-ups
* Any other attribute that you and your child can think of to sort by

Count the number of mittens/gloves in the different piles; discuss which piles have more, less, or same. Have your child discuss their thinking on how he/she choose to sort the piles.

\*\*\* We purchased the kits from Oriental Trading Company