

Happy New Year! In the month of January we will be welcoming in the New Year and exploring the wonders of winter through Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and of course Art – It is Full STEAM ahead at Kids Klub. 2024 is going to be amazing, fun and full of learning and the theme of friendship will fill each week. Our fully integrated curriculum starts with a lesson introduction in Circle Time and the children get to learn more and more about particular subjects all throughout their days and weeks moving from one learning center to the next. By presenting a particular lesson in many types of teaching ways, through literature, art, science, building with blocks, playing on the playground, during music and movement and even in our theater time, each child has an opportunity to grasp the concept and then fully understand it in the way they learn best. Each child learns differently and at Kids Klub each child has the opportunity to learn in the different learning centers, doing the learning activity that teaches them the best.

Your children will be reviewing the letters Aa-Oo which they learned in the first months of this school year and will be working on the letters Pp, Qq, Rr, and Ss this month for our weekly language arts focus. Letters, phonics and reading skills will be built throughout Kids Klub in library time which happens throughout each day starting at Circle Time as well as before or after each learning experience, at snack time and even lunchtime as well as right before naptime and at the end of the day. This month we will be enhancing pre-reading skills in major ways as we focus on Rhythm, Beat, Tempo, Volume and Melody as the children learn they can make joyful noises with their singing voices, musical instruments and everyday objects that all make their own unique sounds. The children will also build vocabulary and reading skills during our science classes, music and movement time as we incorporate Yoga Stories and poses into our movement lessons and learn rhythm and beat, the precursor to reading, as we listen and move to music. Kitchen creation sessions, Hoppy's Home, Hoppy's General Store and Hoppy's School playtime, all offer many opportunities and experiences for vocabulary building as the children express themselves throughout their activities and as our amazing teachers expand lessons by asking questions that require thought and planning to answer or they create challenges that need to be solved individually or as a group. As the teachers set up the learning scene for each lesson the opportunity for making connections to lessons and concepts this month, tying previous lessons together, building vocabulary through role play emerges. The children will also have an opportunity to set lessons they are learning throughout the center into permanent memory as they pretend to be teachers and re-teach the baby dolls and their friends in the schoolhouse play about all they are learning at Kids Klub. This is a very valuable life-skill that will serve them well all throughout their academic, work and home life far into the future.

We will be reviewing our numbers 1-10 for our 2 year olds, 1-17 learning 18, 19, and 20 for our 3 year olds and advancing to even higher numbers with our 4 year olds classes as we continue with 21, and 22. Our math lessons will continue throughout Kids Klub as your children explore puzzles to build our spatial skills & play with many different types of manipulatives to strengthen our fine motor skills as well as build basic math skills as we sort, stack, pattern, group, add and subtract the manipulative toys throughout our playtime. In Kitchen Creations we continue our math lessons as we talk about measuring, increasing and decreasing the recipe size, fractioning out the snacks or dough we make and designing and building all types of dough creations as well as letters and numbers. Science gives us many opportunities for our math skills to be developed, advanced and used as we count, graph, sort and group whatever we are studying about each week. Measuring, scooping, counting, working with large and small buckets and creating give us math opportunities in the Sandbox and in Blocks and Trains where we are always counting, stacking, adding and subtracting in our learning sessions as we build towers and communities and use our spatial, design and planning skills. The children strengthen their math skills as they shop in the Grocery Store, checking out and "paying" for their chosen food items. They also strengthen their math skills cooking in the kitchen and serving up meals to their friends and family. Pizza and pie is always a favorite and they learn whole, half, quarters and even 6ths and 8ths as they divide the pizza pies into servings. Math is all around us at Kids Klub and we build math skills and knowledge all throughout our day.

The children will be creating wonderful works of art surrounding the theme of winter and the New Year. They will be designing 3 dimensional snowflakes with pipe cleaners and popsicle sticks as well as different types of paper – unique and beautiful each and every way they are formed, snowflakes are a creation of nature filled with patterns, shapes, angles, symmetry and glistening beauty. The children will also be learning about and creating Arctic and Antarctic landscapes along with polar bears, penguins, arctic foxes and other animals that survive and thrive in the harsh environments of the Arctic and Antarctic. Did you know that Polar Bears only live above the equator in the Northern Hemisphere and Penguins only live below the equator in the Southern hemisphere. Friendship quilts will be a focus in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as we learn to all get along together, helping and supporting each other, caring for each other and learning what it means to truly be a friend. Creating their friendship square on paper with lots of details and décor and then lacing it to the rest of the class' squares to form a quilt that then gets joined with the whole school's quilt is quite a beautiful masterpiece. Our art sessions will teach many beautiful lessons and be filled with creativity and self expression while also reinforcing our weekly and monthly themes and learning concepts. When the children experience Kitchen Creation they will be learning and building self confidence that will help them care for themselves as they learn to follow directions, follow a recipe, measure out their own ingredients, mix and make their own playdough and then create glorious polar bears

and penguins, snow cones, igloos and icebergs and more. Art reinforces all that we are learning at Kids Klub each week or month and children that learn best through art find understanding of learning concepts at a deep level as they create.

Our Science focus this month is the Season of Winter; the weather that comes in winter; how to care for our bodies in the cold and studying all about how animals around our world live through the winter months. We will focus both on the Arctic and Antarctic and the Polar Bears and Penguins that live on the ice in these regions of the world. Funny Penguins of the Antarctic that waddle when they walk and the big beautiful Polar Bear that lives on the Arctic ice will fill our science lessons with wonder and amazement as your children learn about the habitats these animals live in; what and why these animals look like; what their babies look like and what sounds they make. We will talk about how we can make a difference here at home to help preserve the beautiful Arctic and Antarctic and all the animals that live there. It is truly a magical month of learning all about the natural world. In addition, this month's science will be full of different hands-on learning experiences and interesting lessons about different types of animals and how they navigate winter weather through hibernation, migration or weathering the cold weather with extra fur, blubber or other means of keeping warm. We will also be introducing the lesson of camouflage and how the coloring of animals helps protect them. We will be heading outside to observe and study pine trees, pine needles and pine cones and learning about how evergreens stay green all year long where other plants and trees turn colors in the Fall and lose their leaves. The end of the month will focus on the animal the Groundhog or Woodchuck and explore through funny stories and historic writings how the groundhog has been instrumental in predicting the coming of Spring. We will study hibernation as well as shadows through the learning about of Groundhog Day and the children will have fun trying see their own shadow, having their shadow traced, creating all kinds of shadows all around Kids Klub using flashlights and even pretending to be someone's shadow in music and movement and theater as they copy the every move of their friend in a miming like activity. Shadow lessons help teach lessons about light and the children will create hard and soft shadows as well as manipulate using light their own shadows from short to tall, skinny to wide and they can make their shadow move, and also watch how their shadow always moves with them. Shadow tag and other games are fun to add to this lesson and integrate shadow learning all throughout the center.

In Social Science Lessons this month the children will also be making Friendship Crafts in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King and learning how to measure and count as they make friendship pasta necklaces. They will be learning about cultural diversity, equality, freedom for all and peace as we read about and honor Dr. Martin Luther King life and the powerful I Have A Dream speech. Just a reminder, Kids Klub will be closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday.

Please take time to review your child's learning experience at Kids Klub and use this information to further the learning experience at home. Ask specific questions about each day and let your child share the exciting day they had at school. We hope you enjoy reading about what your child will be learning each and every day at Kids Klub.

Bambi Wojciechowski  
Curriculum Director

**Monthly theme: It's a New Year and the Wonders of Winter****WEEK 18** Weekly theme: Winter and Animals in winter

Color: White and Icy Blue

Shape: Snowflake

Letters: Review Aa - Oo Numbers: 18, 1-17 review

Pattern: Review ABAB and this week is AAB, ABB

**Daily Circle Time:** Flag salute (English), Review week -weather, calendar, numbers, letters, fruits/vegetables, seasons, months, colors, shapes, songs, and animals (English and Spanish), The 4 Seasons-comparing and contrasting as we move from Fall into Winter. temperature, hot/cold, thermometer, hat, mittens, snowmen, hibernation, and migration Review Classroom Rules and Expectations, Good Hygiene, Classroom and School Manners, Safety Review

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle	Center Closed for New Year's Day	Center Closed for Holiday	Welcome Back to the New Year! Let's Review All our Letters, Numbers, Colors, Patterns, Shapes, Weather, Calendar, Seasons, Classroom Rules, Manners, Good Hygiene: Hand washing, staying home if we feel sick & top/bottom, over/under & sight words, Introduce Animals in the winter-how do animals protect themselves from the cold? Animal names-what habitats do they live in?	Review sight words and class rules, Good Hygiene, Discussion: What does Hibernation and Migrate mean? What animals hibernate and which animals migrate?	Safety at Kids Klub Review - What do we do in an emergency? What number do we call on the phone to get help? Review 911, Fire, Earthquake, Lockdown Procedures Who are the community helpers that help us in an Emergency?
Math			Review 1-17, Introduce 18 Color 2 worksheets in workbook, catch-up on numbers 1-18 as needed	1-18 dot-to-dot, teddy bear counting, sorting and patterns practice	Shape Practice: Draw circles, squares, triangles and snowflakes
Writing		18 number review and tracing our numbers practice	Aa-Oo dot-to-dot	Journal Writing: My favorite animal in winter is... Draw a picture of the animal you wrote about.	Write 3 sight words
Language		What do we wear in the winter - what do animals wear?	Read an Animals in Winter Storybook and have a discussion about what animals "wear" in winter?	Read sight words and discussion: Temperature-what is it in winter? And How does it change in Summer?	Talk about what we did for the Holidays- The Past & our plans for the weekend - the Future
Art			Shaving cream, glue and glitter "Snow and Iceberg" creations- what does the Arctic & Antarctic look like?	Q-tip painting an igloo square by square. Add snowflakes in the sky and other creations that live in the snow.	Creating a polar bear, snowflakes and snowmen with cotton balls New art media - how creative can we be?
Zoo Phonics			Review Letters Aa - Oo	Review Letters Aa - Oo	Review Letters Aa - Oo

**Pre-K Reminder:** Have the children glue or double sided tape on the memory page the q-tip artwork piece they create on Thursday.

**Note:** If you choose to display this art project then the children can glue/tape it into the memory book on Monday when you change out the art boards.

**PM Art:** Snowflake art using coffee filters and adding glitter to make them sparkly. Finger Paint a Snow Storm using white paint & glitter on icy blue paper. Make a Snowman. Create Paper plate Polar Bears, Winter Art of all kinds. Snowflakes, ice cubes, icebergs, Polar Bears and snowmen - we love winter and all the fun that comes with it.

**Balance & Coordination:** **Winter Wonders Obstacle Course for Large Motor skills and fun exercising of the body:** Crawl through igloo "tunnels" and slide "ice" on your belly, hop in the ring "icebergs" from iceberg to iceberg, balance on the snow-covered balance beams - a fun and crazy winter obstacle courses to go round and round on with my class exercising my body, building up my coordination and strengthening my large muscles. Then - have an "ice cube" in the spoon relay race walking as fast as you can without dropping the "ice".

**Blocks & Lesson 1:** Plan and Build block habitats in the winter weather - snow and ice- "igloos" and warm caves for animals that live there-plan how to stack the blocks to make a cave or an igloo- get out the animals and sort them into those animals that live in the snow and ice. Which animals live in snow and ice all year and which animals live in habitats where the snow and ice come with the Season of Winter?

**Lesson 2:** Build Arctic and Antarctic habitats for the Polar Bear, Penguins and Eskimos-build with your whole class. \*Block Building is a perfect STEAM exercise letting children Think, Plan, Collaborate, Create, Problem Solve and see Cause and Effect first hand. The role of the teacher is to help them have to think- create challenges to overcome and problems to solve.



**Dramatic Play Time:** Hoppy's General Store, Home and School Lessons: Start with a Circle Time Discussion -talk about the Winter Season and how we change how we live when the weather gets colder? Do we change what we wear? Do we change what we eat and drink? What about change inside our homes? Do we turn on our heaters; put warmer sheets on our beds, use blankets and burn wood in a fireplace if we have one? Why do we do this? After this discussion, have fun shopping for ingredients to "cook" a winter meal and caring for the babies by dressing them in winter clothing and wrapping them in a warm blanket. Cook healthy meals with fruits, vegetables, proteins and dairy. Teach the babies all about what you are learning in school and practice your manners when you sit down to "eat" your meals. Clean and use good hygiene and teach the babies how to wash their hands, cover their mouths when they cough and keep everyone healthy and safe. Have fun role modeling, learning life skills, pretending and playing with your friends.

**Kitchen Creation:** The children will wash hands first & then Make "Healthy" Snow cones with ice and fresh fruit juice (experience different colors, flavors and temperatures) & then make a sparkly batch of "snow" dough white with blue glitter. They will talk about measuring and amounts of ingredients needed to make a batch of dough for your class and how much you need if you are making your own batch in your own bowl. What is the recipe? What is a recipe? What are the steps to follow to make your own batch of playdough? Everyone can mix up their own ingredients with their fingers and then have fun creating sparkly snow creations like snowflakes, snowmen, icebergs, igloos and more. The children will let your creations dry and there will be no need to paint before they go home as the dough will be white as snow and the creation they will make are white animals, objects like icebergs, igloos, snowmen and even snowflakes. They will glisten with icy blue glitter. (measuring, fine motor skills, creativity)

**Library Time:** We will be reading lots of Winter Stories, Pine Tree and Forest Books, Animals in winter and other fun Winter stories all throughout the Day -one or two or more at Circle Time and these stories will help connect several of the learning concepts and themes new and old. We will be reading at least one story before each learning lesson as the children rotate around the center and connect it to what is about to take place in the learning center they are at. We will be reading at snack time, lunchtime and right before naptime. And the children's day should end with stories, songs and discussions about what we have learned from all the books and learning centers visited that day and all week long. We will connect our annual themes like Community Helpers and Careers, Animals Kingdoms, Exploration of New Places around the Globe every chance we have as well as connect the month to month themes that transition right into the next lesson. For example Summer, Fall to Winter and Evergreen Trees versus trees that drop their leaves called Deciduous Trees.

**Puzzles & Manipulatives:** Solve Puzzles, practice patterns and counting with linking manipulatives and improve fine motor skills with thistle blocks and other fine motor building creations. Sorting, organizing, grouping are all important parts of the lessons learned in this learning center so the children will be an active part of the clean up process in each learning center - counting, grouping, sorting and putting everything back properly in its place and ready for the next group. Puzzles need to be completely put back together with all pieces in place and the children will learn how to put them back in the puzzle racks or properly stack them on the puzzle shelves. Important life lessons are learned during all of the clean-up times.

**Music & Movement:** Teach/Have the children roll out the yoga mats. Breathe deep and go through all the Poses in one of our Winter & Nature Yoga Books. Then have a dance party on your mats to different types of music. Listen to the music and note the different way the music sounds and your Body moves to the rhythm and beat of each song. Can you copy the beat as you clap your hands, stomp your feet and move your body? This is an important lesson that helps a child learn to read - finding the pattern, hearing it, feeling it is the precursor to reading. Stretch your body to the sky, do your squats down low as your continue to move. Jumping jacks, spin around touch the ground and have some fun.

**Science 1:** Bring your tree rubbing paper and crayons with you. Use 5 Senses going on a Nature Walk Outside to study the Evergreen Trees. How do you know which tree is an evergreen tree? What color is it? Study the leaves on the oak and maple trees and then study the "leaves" or pine needles on the pine trees. How do they differ? What do they feel like? Smush the needles around in your fingers. Now smell the needles and your fingers - what does pine needles smell like? Study with your eyes- what does a pine needle look like? How does a pine needle differ from a leaf? How is it the same? As you are outside using your senses - don't forget to use your ears - what does an evergreen tree sound like? Now compare the shape of the trees, what shape do you see an evergreen tree to be? Step back so you can see the whole tree. How does this shape differ from other types of trees in the yard? Now touch the tree - feel the bark on the trunk of the tree? What does the bark feel and look like? What color is it? Is it rough or smooth? Use your paper and crayons to do a bark rubbing on different types of trees. How does one trees bark rubbing differ from another tree? Rough and Smooth are concepts to discuss. Look at the branches and what other items are parts of the tree like pinecones? What is a pinecone? Why do evergreen trees make pinecones? What things do other types of trees make when they form their seeds? Now talk about what animals may live in our Kids Klub trees? Can you find signs of where animals live in our trees? Are there still leaves on some of the trees? Do all trees lose their leaves? Does Kids Klub have Evergreen trees in their yard? How do you know? Which trees are deciduous trees and which are evergreen?

**Science 2:** Animals in Winter Science Video - 1<sup>st</sup> read one of the Animals in Winter books with your children and then start the science video so the children can see the actual animals they are learning about. Learn about animals that live in the harsh habitat of ice and snow and really cold temperatures. Learn the names of the animals and which animals go on living each day in the snow while other animals decide to leave the snow and "migrate" to warmer temperatures while other animals go into caves or dens and hibernate through the many cold months. What does Migrate and Hibernate mean?

**Theater:** Time to act out all the animals that live in the snow - take turns and see if your classmates can guess which animal you are acting out. Does your animal hibernate? Migrate? Or find ways to stay warm as they live in the snow year around? Next pick your favorite animal and pretend to play in the snow. How does it walk in the snow? Can it climb mountains? Trees? (build self confidence -practice dressing/undressing)

**Monthly theme:** It's a New Year and the Wonders of Winter

**WEEK 19** **Weekly theme:** Penguins are funny! **Letter:** Pp is for Penguin **Number:** 19, 1-18 review **Shape:** Oval  
**Color:** Black and White (review and contrast) **Pattern:** Review ABAB and AAB, AAB with different objects

**Daily Circle:** Flag salute (English), calendar, Letters, numbers, fruits/vegetables, seasons, months, weather, colors, shapes, songs, and animals (English and Spanish), Zoo Phonics, Review Classroom Rules, Manners and Expectations throughout your day, Introduce Penguins and their Habitat- only live below the equator in the Southern Hemisphere, Most Penguins live in Antarctica, Continue Animals in Winter

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Circle</b>	Introduce number 19, letter Pp and our new sight words. Let's also continue our review of all our Letters, Numbers, Colors, Patterns, Shapes, Weather, Calendar, Seasons, Classroom Rules, Good Hygiene, Manners	Penguins are Birds that can't fly & live in the Southern Hemisphere. Let's review weather, seasons, snow/ice and hot/cold. Let's talk about habitats - what kinds of habitats do Farm Animals, Creepy Crawlies, Birds and Penguins live in? How are they different? Same?	Review sight words and have discussion on opposites & comparing and contrasting: Black/White, Hot/Cold, Old/new, Antarctic Ice & Snow/Desert Sand, Fast/Slow, Waddle/Run, Penguins Waddling/ Penguins Swimming	Review numbers 1-19 and all the sight words learned so far. Discuss Animals in Winter, Hibernation, Migration, Food Gathering for Winter, Building Blubber, Growing more Fur - Harsh Weather	Safety Friday - Review fire drill, Earthquake drill - compare and contrast these drills and talk about the Why when talking about what is the same and what is different in the protocols we follow. What other safety rules do we follow at school? Continue discussions on Animals in Winter and Habitats
<b>Math</b>	Counting, Sorting with object around the room Number 19 in workbook Pattern Review	Trace 1-19 worksheet, practice writing 1-19 Practice Patterns	Trace then Write numbers 1-19 on ruled paper Penguin Counting and Sorting Fun	Have fun doing 2 worksheets in your Math workbook - then play a Penguin math game	Draw 19 ovals - some small, some large and make ABAB, AAB, AAAAB patterns with large and small ovals
<b>Writing</b>	Letter Pp in workbook Practice Aa-Pp	Aa -Pp dot-to-dot and Practice our Name	Practice our First and Last Name	Journal Writing: Penguins are... and create a Penguin picture to go with your writing	Write name on ruled paper and Letters, Numbers, Shapes
<b>Language</b>	Discussion: Where do penguins live? Why do you think they only live below the equator in the Southern Hemisphere? Not the Arctic regions above the equator where Polar Bears live?	Read a Penguin or Polar Bear Book and Discuss details of the book, study the pictures, look at the landscape, the habitat these animals live in	Read a Penguin or Polar Bear Book & Discuss - what do they need to live there? Where do they sleep, eat, have their babies?	Practice Reading sight words and using them in a sentence. Read Letters, Numbers, Colors and Shapes too	Discussion: Talk about our favorite toy. When did we get it? Where did we get it from? How do you play with it? Is it soft or hard, electronic or not? Etc..
<b>Art</b>	Cut out black, white & orange ovals, triangles, circles and other shapes in different sizes make a paper bag penguin puppet	Make a penguin crown, headband or hat. Add glitter, sparkles, jewels like the ice and icebergs sparkle in the Arctic and Antarctic icy Habitat	Draw a penguin on paper and then turn it into a puzzle by cutting it into 19 pieces. Number the pieces on the back. Try putting it together	Make Stuffed paper bag penguin that stands up. Dress him up with a hat and a scarf	Create a penguin habitat with shaving cream, glue and glitter. Let this dry over the weekend so we can add penguin & other Antarctic animals on the ice and in the sea.
<b>Zoo Phonics</b>	Pp is for PeeWee Penguin Letters Aa - Pp	Pp is for PeeWee Penguin Letters Aa - Pp	Pp is for PeeWee Penguin Letters Aa - Pp	Pp is for PeeWee Penguin Letters Aa - Pp	Pp is for PeeWee Penguin Letters Aa - Pp

**Pre-K Reminder:** Have the children glue or double sided tape on the memory page one of the penguin artwork they create this week into their memory books- their choice.

Note: If you choose to display this art project then the children can glue/tape it into the memory book on Monday when you change out the art boards.

**PM Art: Easel Painting a Winter Scene. Drawing and creating a picture of you doing some of your favorite winter activities, Dot Art**

**Balance & Coordination:** Outside if Weather Permits - We are a Penguin - Let's try to carry "eggs" on our feet. Practice and then have a relay race- if you drop the egg pick it up and go to the back of the line and try again. Have fun. Next we can only waddle when we walk like a penguin everywhere we go. Make a path and waddle all around it. How fast can you go without falling down? How do other animals walk? Pretend to be other animals and walk on the path? On two feet? On four feet? Pretend Flying? Swimming? Pick your favorite animal and have a relay race once you have practiced these skills.

**Blocks & Trains: Lesson 1:** Block Building is a perfect STEAM exercise letting children Think, Plan, Collaborate, Create, Problem Solve and see Cause and Effect first hand. Read a Antarctic Book to inspire them and then let them Create an Antarctic Habitat with blocks of all kinds. Let them know that Scientists are always living in Science Stations in this region studying the ice, weather and animals (Penguins, Seals and Whales) that live there. Have them add a Science Station for them to stay at during their visit. Add Vehicles to help the Scientists get around on the ice and in the water and of course add some Animals too. Sort out all of the polar animals -talk about what animals you have and where they all live and why (Safari, Rainforest, Jungle, Desert, Ocean, Pond and do they live up in the Tree, Down in the Dirt - in other words what is their Biome or region of the planet earth they usually live and what is their local habitat like if they were not visiting the Antarctic today. Have fun with the children pretending to be on an expedition to study the animals of these regions of our world. (Sharing and cooperative play)

**Lesson 2:** Blocks and Polar Animals - let the children use their imagination and all that they are learning to build on their own the Arctic and Antarctic imagination and create ways for the animals to get from one iceberg to the next -plan, create, problem solve with your friends.



**Dramatic Play Time:** Happy's General Store, Home and School Lessons: **Circle Time Discussion:** Continue our lessons about the Winter Season and how we change how we live when the weather gets colder? Do we change what we wear? Do we change what we eat and drink? What about change inside our homes? Do we turn on our heaters; put warmer sheets on our beds, use blankets and burn wood in a fireplace if we have one? Why do we do this? After this discussion, have fun shopping for ingredients to "cook" a winter meal and caring for the babies by dressing them in winter clothing and wrapping them in a warm blanket. Cook healthy meals with fruits, vegetables, proteins and dairy. Teach the babies all about what you are learning in school and practice your manners when you sit down to "eat" your meals. Have fun role modeling, learning life skills, pretending and playing with your friends.

**Kitchen Creation** Wash hands first & then it is Playdough mixing time - Lets make a batch of dough. Talk about measuring and amounts of ingredients needed to make a batch of dough for your class and how much do you need if you are making your own batch in your own bowl. Everyone can mix up their own ingredients with their fingers and then have fun creating some animals that live in the Antarctic. Make a Penguin. Let your creations dry and paint them during afternoon art. We will be adding them to our sparkly shaving cream Antarctic and Arctic Creations. (Math, Art and Science lessons combined)

**Library Time:** Kids Klub is filled with books everywhere in every learning center. Continue to Read Winter Stories, Pine Tree and Forest Books, Animals in winter and add in specific books about the Antarctic this week and compare and contrast what you are reading about different animals, weather, how the animals and people adapt to the winter weather and what the landscape looks like. Enjoy these reading times and discussions all throughout your day incorporating the lessons and themes into everything the children are doing from making playdough to building with blocks - these are all opportunities to teach and make connections in all types of learner. Read at Circle Time, before each learning lesson, at snack time, lunchtime & right before naptime. End your day with stories and discuss about what you have learned from all the books you have read during each day. Build on & connect themes from week to week.

**Puzzles & Manipulatives:** Manipulatives are meant to be touched, moved, and handled to allow children to build math skills and solidify understanding. Young children need very concrete real objects to learn from and using more than one object/manipulative set helps your children understand the concept more deeply. Teach the children weight lessons using our Penguin Scale - the weight of the numbers added up will balance on the other side with the correct answer. Have fun weighing and doing addition and subtraction lessons. Also use the Penguin balancing figurines and other polar region toys we have to connect our polar lessons with all that we are learning. Counting, sorting, patterning, adding and subtracting all come to life with manipulatives. Let children explore and play with the manipulatives first then give them a problem to solve or pattern to build. This week Solve Puzzles to build spatial and problem solving skills - with the older children - mix two sets of pieces from 2 different puzzles and have them solve both puzzles at the same time to add extra challenge to their problem solving and spatial skills, practice patterns with multiple teaching toys, work on counting as you build the patterns with them.

**Music & Movement:** Outside if weather permits - bring the basket of yoga mats - with all this stress in our world - let's relax first by reading a Yoga Story with everyone on their own yoga mat. Breathe slow and deep and Go through all the Poses in the Yoga Story or two you have chosen. Then, have each child try to roll their own mat up - this is good motor skill building and teaches them to clean-up and care for their things. Then it is arctic fun time as the children take turns aiming the balls to knock down the "Ice Cubes and Ice Blocks with the barrels of fish and the cute little penguins on top. 2 tries and then have that child set it all up again however they wish and let the next child take 2 throws to try and knock it down. If they get it on first try, have them toss the ball the second time and practice aiming at something they choose. Coordination building at its fun-est! Then it is follow the leader time around the yard or room - each child gets to lead the group for a few minutes then have them head to the back of the line and the next child leads the line. No stopping - it keeps going and going until it is time to move on your next lesson. The children can lead around the yard over and under things, in fun dance moves, stop to do exercise moves like jumping jacks or even sit-ups or whatever their imagination wants them to do and have their friends do along with them during their turn. Teachers lead the way and show them a bunch of fun and funny options. Role modeling at its finest the sillier you are the better this lesson will become.

**Science 1:** Penguins are Funny! Today you will be learning all about Penguins and pretending to be one, You will learn about their habitat, what they eat, how they build nests, care for their eggs, where they live and find food and more. You will learn about the Southern Hemisphere or bottom half of the earth and what the Weather is like there. Some Penguins live in the harshest weather location on the whole planet all the way down on the bottom of the earth on the continent of Antarctica where it is really cold but some Penguins live in the tropical Galapagos islands where it is warm. Penguins come in all sorts of shapes, sizes and colors - there are 18 different kinds of Penguins with the smallest Penguin only 10 inches tall and weighing only 2 pounds to the largest Penguin growing to almost 4 feet tall and weighing as much as 90 pounds. Watching Penguins is so fun. Penguins don't fly in the air like other birds even though they have wings and feathers like other birds but they sure do "fly" in the water. They are so fast as they swim and hunt for food. Have fun waddling like a penguin, seeing how many fish you can catch just like they do in the ocean, and can you carry an egg on your feet just like Penguins do - we will see in your relay race during Science.

**Science 2: Penguins are Funny! :** Learn about animals that live in the harsh habitat of ice and snow and really cold temperatures, have their babies on the ice and walk long distances to jump in the ocean and fish for food. Some Penguins live like this and other Penguins like the warmer climate but all Penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere. Build Vocabulary, See photography of real animals and watch how they live, listen to them communicate, and learn all about the way they live. I sure wish we could bring a live Penguin into Kids Klub but that is not possible so thank goodness for educational science videos that let us learn with our eyes and ears. We will be stopping the science video along the way if the children have questions or we want to reinforce a concept.

**Theater:** Practice your penguin walk, can you waddle, carry an egg on your feet and dance like Mumble in the movie Happy Feet? Put on a Penguin Show with each child being the "star" on the "stage" for a moment showing off their Happy Feet moves. Have the class then try their moves. Have a Penguin Dance Party and then dance like your favorite animals that you have been learning about. (Self-esteem building and solidifying learning themes all in the course of a few dance moves)

Monthly theme: It's a New Year and the Wonders of Winter

**WEEK 20**

Weekly theme: "I Have a Dream"

Letter: Qq and Aa-Qq review


Number: 20, 1-19 review

Shape: Circles and Oval (compare and contrast)

Color: Metallic Colors, Gold

Pattern: AABBC, AABBC

**Circle Time:** Flag salute (English), calendar, letters, numbers, colors, patterns, shapes, months, seasons, fruits/vegetables, songs, and animals (English and Spanish), sight words, Zoo Phonics, calendar, colors, shapes, names, numbers, ABC's, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, Arctic and Antarctic animals, camouflage, evergreen trees, polar bears, hot and cold, snow and ice, silver and gold

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Additional Circle Time</b>	Martin Luther	Introduce letter Qq, number 20 and introduce our new sight words. Continue review of all our Classroom Rules, Good Hygiene, Manners and Continue Positive Reinforcement and Review Expectations during Circle Time	Review sight words and discussion: What does Camouflage mean? What animals blend into their environment so they are hard to see?	Review Evergreen trees, pine cones & pine needles. How do they differ from other trees with leaves. Discuss Polar Regions - compare and contrast both habitats Review sight words	Review sight words, then review Hibernation, Migration, Camouflage, Polar Regions- Arctic and Antarctic - what animals live here? How do they survive the harsh Winter weather?
<b>Math Time</b>	King Jr. Day	Counting, Sorting, Categorizing with toys and objects around the room, Number 20 in workbook	Patterns Practicing - review ABA, AAB, and AABBC patterns w/ different objects, letters, numbers to show patterns exist and in everything	Numbers 1-20 review and practice - cut out 20 circles 10 big and 10 little and create patterns as you count.	Practice Counting from 1-20 in English and in Spanish. Color 2 worksheets in workbook. Use your big and little circles to practice counting, sorting, categorizing, patterning
<b>Writing Skills</b>		Practice Holding Pencil Properly. Practice Letter Qq in workbook.	Journals Writing: I have a dream... and create a picture of your dream	Letter Qq worksheet - dot-to-dot Practice our name in Metallic markers	Write name, draw circles, write letters and sight words
<b>Language Development</b>	No school	Read about Martin Luther King Jr. Discussion: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Who was he? What is a hero? What does it mean to be brave? He cared for all people and wanted acceptance and peace for everyone.	Read a Martin Luther King Jr. story. Have a Discussion: I have a dream about... share your dream with your class.	Discussion: Why do you think animals want to camouflage? What would be the benefit of blending into their environment?	Review letters and then sight words and continue on to discuss Martin Luther King Jr. and changing the world, being brave and being a hero. Who is your hero in your life? Who do you want to be like when you grow up?
<b>Creative Art</b>		Peaceful painting with Watercolors - paint something that makes you feel safe and at peace. Paint a picture for one of your friends. Share, support one another, care about all your friends. Start Friendship Paper Square Art for Quilt w/ your class.	In Honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Friendship (paper) Quilts with your class and whole school & Easel painting a picture together with a friend - **make 2 so each child can take one home,	Begin Yarn Lacing the Friendship Quilts with my class and put together with whole school.	Polar Bear Creations with different types of materials. paper plates, tissue paper squares, torn paper pieces, Cotton Balls, and pompoms. How many different bears can you make? Friendship Quilts Completion
<b>Zoo Phonics</b>		Qq is for Queeny Quail Letters Aa - Qq, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Qq is for Queeny Quail Letters Aa - Qq, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Qq is for Queeny Quail Letters Aa - Qq, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Qq is for Queeny Quail Letters Aa - Qq, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.

**Pre-K Reminder:** Take and Print out a picture of each child with some of their friends for Memory Book. Have the children glue or double sided tape on the memory page the friendship picture and leave space for the Friendship Quilt Square they will be adding in at a later time. If there is time to make 2 squares then one can go in right away and the other laced into the class quilt and then the class quilt joined with all the classes to make the center friendship quilt.

**PM Art:** Continue Friendship Quilt Individual art "squares" - have each child make 2 if possible -one to take home and one that goes into the quilt that will be displayed at the center. Then work on Friendship pasta necklaces using lots of colored pasta and yarn-practice patterns through creation and then other friendship art.

**Balance & Coordination:** Martin Luther King Jr. wanted peace and acceptance for all. In his honor we are going to enjoy a cooperation activity where we have to all work together for it to work well and for all to have fun. Parachute play and fun with my class - Outside if Weather Permits - Discuss what a parachute is & what parachutes are used for in real life. Parachutes are soft cloth usually made of nylon and when lifted up and then lowered the underneath fills with air and the parachute billows and slowly descends. Parachutes enhance so many areas of early childhood development starting with cooperative play, social interaction, gross and fine motor skill development, coordination skills, language and vocabulary development, following directions, 1, 2 and 3 step sets of directions, problem solving skills, and Science lessons that include predicting what will happen, wind movement & lift. Lift up, lower down, add objects to the middle like a ball, stuffed animal and see how long the children can keep the object on the parachute. Can we work together to toss the object into the air? Give each child a number or letter and then call out a letter or 2 or more and those children get to run under when the parachute is in the air. Use bean bags or balls - toss 1 then 2 and so on and predict what will happen as you add more and more and try to toss them in the air. There will also be partner parachutes to be played with by 2 children to try to do things they want to cooperate and do with the parachute. Get creative with the parachutes and have fun with Parachute Cooperative Play in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. and his special Dream that changed the world.

**Blocks & Trains: Lesson 1:** Block Building is a perfect STEAM exercise letting children Think, Plan, Collaborate, Create, Problem Solve and see Cause and Effect first hand. Read a Martin Luther King Jr. Book and let the children discuss how they will work together, share and create a special peaceful community where all people can live. Create STEM style problems for example -these people want to visit the family on the other side of the river that runs right through the middle of your town. How can they



get across the river? How can you build a bridge for them? a boat? What other options are there for this family and that family to visit each other? Have a special parade in the community they build to celebrate cooperation, and friendship. Get out the people and vehicles to make your community complete.

**Lesson 2: Blocks and Polar Animals** – let the children use their imagination and all that they are learning to build on their own the Arctic habitat. Talk about the icebergs and the floating ice that the Polar Bears hunt from. Encourage the children to use their imagination and create ways for the animals to get from one iceberg to the next – plan, create, problem solve.

**Dramatic Play Time: Happy's General Store, Happy's Home and School Lessons:** Continue our lessons about the Winter Season and how we change how we live when the weather gets colder? Do we change what we wear? Do we change what we eat and drink? What about change inside our homes? Do we turn on our heaters; put warmer sheets on our beds, use blankets and burn wood in a fireplace if we have one? Why do we do this? After this discussion, have fun shopping for ingredients to “cook” a winter meal and caring for the babies by dressing them in winter clothing and wrapping them in a warm blanket. Cook healthy meals with fruits, vegetables, proteins and dairy. Teach the babies all about what you are learning in school and practice your manners when you sit down to “eat” your meals. Have fun role modeling, learning life skills, pretending and playing with your friends.

**Kitchen Creation:** Wash hands first & Make friendship cookies (learning to measure and follow directions) & while the cookies are baking – it is Playdough mixing time – Lets make a batch of dough with Gold Glitter in it. Talk about measuring and amounts of ingredients needed to make a batch of dough for your class and how much do you need if you are making your own batch in your own bowl. Everyone can mix up their own ingredients with their fingers and then have fun creating a special creation for your family – what about an animals that live in the arctic. Talk about camouflage while you create. Will this white sparkly dough help the arctic animals blend into their environment so they are hard to see them? Put all of your creations together with your friends to create a special scene to put on display at Kids Klub. Let your creations dry so you can take them home.

**Library Time:** Kids Klub is filled with books everywhere in every learning center. Continue to Read Winter Stories, Pine Tree and Forest Books, Animals in winter, Antarctic and add back in specific books about the Arctic this week and compare and contrast what you are reading about different animals, weather, how the animals and people adapt to the winter weather and what the landscape looks like. Also read books about Martin Luther King Jr. and link learning to these special themes like Making New Friends and I am Unique and Special that we learned about in September and Sharing and Giving Theme from December. Enjoy these reading times and discussions all throughout your day incorporating the lessons and themes into everything the children are doing from making playdough to building with blocks – these are all opportunities to teach and make connections in all types of learner. Read at Circle Time, before each learning lesson, at snack time, lunchtime & right before naptime. End your day with stories and discuss about what you have learned from all the books you have read during each day. Build on & connect themes from week to week and month to month.

**Puzzles & Manipulatives:** Manipulatives are meant to be touched, moved, and handled to allow children to build math skills and solidify understanding. Young children need very concrete real objects to learn from and using more than one object/manipulative set helps your children understand the concept more deeply. Counting, sorting, patterning, adding and subtracting all come to life with manipulatives. Let children explore and play with the manipulatives first then give them a problem to solve or pattern to build. Use the shape puzzles to talk about and reinforce shape skills. Use the linking toys to create ABAB, AAB, AAAABBBCCC patterns. Count to 20 as you build patterns with links, pegs, whatever your favorites are. This week Solve Puzzles to build spatial and problem solving skills – with the older children – mix two sets of pieces from 2 different puzzles and have them solve both puzzles at the same time to add extra challenge to their problem solving and spatial skills, practice patterns with multiple teaching toys like linking toys and work on counting as you build the patterns with them. Most of all make math learning fun!

**Music & Movement:** Outside if weather permits – with all this stress in our world – let's relax first by reading a Yoga Story with everyone on their own socially distanced yoga mat. Breathe slow and deep-and Go through all the Poses in the Yoga Story or two you have chosen. Have each child try to roll their own mat up – this is good motor skill building and teaches them to clean-up and care for their things. Next turn on some music and use the musical instruments like tambourines and the movement scarves, form a circle and one child goes in the middle of the circle and leads the group in movements –then follow the leader around the yard or room with the instruments and scarves– each child gets to lead the group for a few minutes then have them head to the back of the line and the next child leads the line. Teachers lead the way first and show them a bunch of fun and funny options. Role modeling at its finest the sillier you are the better this lesson will become. Self esteem, confidence and leadership building continues this week in a fun and low stress way. Remember to have the children help you properly sanitize the instruments with wipes and properly put away for the next class.

**Science 1:** Martin Luther King Jr. Had a Dream and was able to change the world with his dream and the actions he took to make his dream a reality. Read Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Stories and talk with the class about dreams they have and how they can make them happen. Then head out with your friends on a special friendship walk to explore Winter Time outside in the yard if weather permits to look for signs of winter and talk about the changing of the season, animals that live in different environments and how they adapt for the changing weather of each of the 4 seasons. Use your Senses independently to analyze the changes that have taken place. We have done this exploration walk in the end of Summer, in Fall and now in Winter – Use your eyes to take note of how the trees and bushes have changed? Smell with your nose the different smell of the landscape, cold air etc.. Feel with your hands and with your being what the air feels like in winter – is it hot or cold, wet feeling or dry feeling? Feel the bushes, the tree trunks, the play houses, the toys, the ground. Close your eyes and listen to the sound of the play-yard in winter – does it sound different? Can you hear more or less noises from objects/animals in our environment? What objects can you hear? Now open your eyes and see if you are right? Experience winter with all your senses and find the beauty in it. Which season do you like best? Why? Is it the Fall Leaves and all the colors?

**Science 2: Really Wild Animals: Polar Prowl** Science Video by National Geographic–made just for young children. Sure wish we could bring a Polar Bear to class but we can't but this science video will help us learn about these majestic animals that live in the harsh habitat of ice and snow and really cold temperatures, have their babies buried in the snow and hunt for food on icebergs floating in the ocean. Polar Bears live in the Northern Hemisphere of our planet Earth with most Polar Bears in the Arctic Region.

**Theater: Polar Charades and Mime Time** – Practice your polar animals and get ready to act out the animal you are given to see if your class can guess what animal you are. Next pair up at a distance and face each other and with no talking slowly move and follow your partners move exactly. Then have a staring contest without laughing– face your friend eyes open stare at each other and see how long you can stay still, staring into each other eyes without laughing and breaking the stare. Have fun because this contest always ends in laughing. So much fun and great practice for sitting still and focusing.



**Monthly theme: It's a New Year and the Wonders of Winter****WEEK 21** Weekly theme: I can make a Joyful Sound Letter: Introduce Rr is for Robby Rabbit, Rhythm & Ring the bells Numbers: 21, review 1-20

Color: Review all the colors we have learned so far this year Shapes: Review all shapes Pattern: ABB, ABB Remember a pattern only exists if it is repeated at least twice.

**Daily Circle Time:** Our Flag-Pledge of Allegiance, Calendar, Months, Days of the week, Weather, Season, Letters, Numbers, Shapes, Patterns, Our Names, Animals, Vegetables, Fruits – English and Spanish. **Weekly Vocabulary and Learning Concepts throughout the center:** Sound, Music, Rhythm: Pattern of beat, Beat: long or short pulses, Tempo: Slow & Fast, Volume: Loud and Soft, Pitch: High and Low, continue Winter, Migration, Hibernation

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Addition of Circle</b>	Introduce letter Rr, review sight words and introduce new sight words, introduce 21, continue review of good hygiene, manners in the classroom and at the snack and meal times, expectations, positive reinforcement (& optional) take homework packet home	Continue to practice left to right in reading and writing, sounding out sight words—using our Zoo Phonics letter sounds - Discussion: What is a whale? Do whales hibernate, migrate or stay in place if so how do they deal with harsh weather of winter?	Practice and Review sight words, Review Camouflage and migrate. What types of sea animals camouflage? How do they blend into their environment? What animals travel long distances in winter?	Review sight words, discussion: Do you like listening to music? Do you like silence?	Safety Friday – Review what we do in different types of emergencies. Review Letters Aa-Ss, sound out sight words, turn in homework
<b>Math</b>	Counting 1-21, sorting, categorizing with counting toys and objects around the room. Complete 2 worksheets in the Math workbook	Count 1 – 21 in English and in Spanish, Using different toys and objects –make ABB, ABB patterns. Review Shapes and introduce new shapes	Numbers, Colors, Shapes, Fine Motor Skill Session: See if you can draw 21 dark blue whales and 21 light blue starfish and count as you go.	Cutting out some of your 21 whales and 21 starfish & sort into piles of 2, 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 Use the shapes to practice patterns.	Review Numbers 1-21, All Shapes, All Patterns, Complete 2 worksheets in workbook
<b>Writing</b>	Letter Rr in workbook as we practice holding a pencil properly, sitting properly when we write.	Journal Writing: I can make a joyful sound... and draw a picture of what you wrote about.	Letter Rr dot –to-dot worksheet, Practice writing all shapes.	Write Numbers 1-21 in Blue	Write our first and last names on ruled paper
<b>Language</b>	Story and discussion: What is a Mammal? Mammals have hair, warm blood, breathe air, give birth to live babies and then care for them for a period of time feeding them milk.	Discussion: Sound is important for many reasons. Talk about loud sounds and what makes them and then quiet sounds. Indoor voices vs Outdoor voices. What message does screaming give us? Emergency	What are some things that start with the Letter Tt? (Whale Tail, Toys, Teacher, Table) Write them on the board. See how many have more than one Tt in them? Sound the words out.	Discussion: How can I make a joyful sound? What can I use to make this joyful sound? What is my favorite musical instrument?	Discussion: Review Mammal vs Fish facts- hair, blood, breathe air, live babies, care for babies and feed milk, move tails a different direction than fish
<b>Art</b>	Outside art time is possible - Let's make a messy and fun drumstick painting – what we need is paper, paint, 8 inch popsicle sticks and some great music to drum away in the paint to. What does your drumming painting look like? Have fun, use lots of colors and remember there is no right way to do art so let free expression flow.	Musical Instrument: A Jingle Stick using a couple large Jingle Bells threaded on pipe cleaner and wrapped around a wavy popsicle stick – supplies have been ordered. Let's make beautiful sounds with our jingle sticks.	Let's make a colorful decorated cardboard spin drum or also called hand drum. Supplies needed – a large cardboard box to cut out small rounds- one round per child, two pieces of twine per round, couple of pony lacing beads for each twine and a clipped point skewer stick that will slide into the middle part of the cardboard through the edge of the round. Use markers to decorate.	Nature's and the city's music -Outdoor easel painting – go outside, listen to all the sounds you can hear and then paint a picture of what you are hearing. Light Blue and Dark Blue and all the other colors you wish to use.	Let's make colorful tube maracas with pony beads inside –tape ends closed duct tape and decorated with pieces of colorful crafting tape or wrapped with colorful yarn. Then shake away to make a joyful noise.
<b>Zoo Phonics</b>	Rr is for Robby Rabbit, Letters Aa – Rr, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Rr is for Robby Rabbit, Letters Aa – Rr, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Rr is for Robby Rabbit, Letters Aa – Rr, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Rr is for Robby Rabbit, Letters Aa – Rr, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Rr is for Robby Rabbit, Letters Aa – Rr, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.

**Pre-K Reminder:** Have the children glue or double sided tape on the memory page one of the music inspired artwork pieces or any other January artwork they would like to include in their memory book- their choice. Note: If you choose to display this art project then the children can glue/tape it into the memory book on Monday when you change out the art boards.

**PM Art:** Musical or Winter Inspired art projects – teacher's choice. From crayons, markers, watercolors, easel painting, glitter and spangles, gluing, cutting, creating, 1 dimensional, 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional art project- all children's art is beautiful – it is about the process not the product and what they learn and feel along the way that makes it one amazing teaching experience. Most of all, have fun.

**Balance & Coordination:** Outside if weather permits: Hopping on 1 foot, then the other, then on both feet and repeat. How many times can you do this-count. Then have a spoon races carrying something in a plastic spoon from one end of the yard/classroom to the other and back. Now change the way they have to go across the yard/classroom: Backwards, Sideways, Spinning in circles, Crawling, you get the picture- coordination training at its finest. Next, set

up a line of items that everyone has to weave in and out of. Can they do it with the spoon in their hand? Hand and eye coordination as you weave through is quite a challenge but they will have fun trying. Then pick your favorite Yoga poses and see how long you can hold a pose? Become a statue and balance on 1 foot then the other. You can set up an Obstacle Course to achieve these skill practices or enjoy them one by one. Most of all have lots of fun and laughs as we build our gross motor skills.

**Blocks & Trains:** Lesson 1: 21 stacking blocks, count as you go and see if you can get them all stacked up before they fall over. If it falls over before you reach 21 figure out what you can do differently to get more blocks stacked up before it topples. Then have fun knocking them down and building them up again. Then create whatever you wish with the blocks you are using. Lesson 2: Domino fun – let's line up dominoes and blocks and see if we can cause a chain reaction if we knock the first one over. What do we need to do to make this process happen? How close do we need to put the blocks or dominoes? What designs can we make with our blocks and still cause the chain reaction. Have fun trying all kinds of ideas and designs. Discuss what happens, what went right and what went wrong and then problem solve to make it better and better.

**Kitchen Creation:** Make healthy raspberry ice cube pops as we learn about the Arctic and Antarctic and the season of Winter (learn to measure and mix & healthy snack choices) & Mix up a batch of playdough and let the children have a relaxing sensory experience as they create something fun.

**Library Time:** Kids Klub is filled with books everywhere in every learning center. Read stories about Music and Friendship, Winter, the Arctic and Antarctic regions of our planet along with all the other themed books we have– stop along the way to review vocabulary and ask questions. Enjoy these reading times and discussions all throughout your day incorporating the lessons and themes into everything the children are doing from making playdough to building with blocks – these are all opportunities to teach and make connections in all types of learner. Read at Circle Time, before each learning lesson, at snack time, lunchtime & right before naptime. End your day with stories and discuss about what you have learned from all the books you have read during each day. Build on & connect themes from week to week. As our Winter Season continues with colder weather, we continue our lessons about the present, connect it to the past and look forward to the future and the coming of Spring and the special magic that comes with the warmth.

**Puzzles & Manipulatives:** Manipulatives are meant to be touched, moved, and handled to allow children to build math skills and solidify understanding. Young children need very concrete real objects to learn from and using more than one object/manipulative set helps your children understand the concept more deeply. Counting, sorting, patterning, adding and subtracting all come to life with manipulatives. Let children explore and play with the manipulatives first then give them a problem to solve or pattern to build. This week we will be using Linking and stacking small motor skill toys of all kinds. Play, sorting, counting and pattern making will be connected. We will also be using our puzzles for problem solving, spatial skill building as well as themed concepts based on each puzzle. Help the children identify what is on their puzzles. This builds new vocabulary as they problem solve the puzzle. For greater challenge, mix up more than one puzzle pieces and have the children figure out which pieces go with what puzzle. Lots of brain development of the “math” connection kind will surely be happening. Most of all-math learning will be fun!

**Music & Movement:** This week is all about the music and making sounds with any and all objects around them. Turn on some music, play the instruments, use rhythm sticks and turn ordinary objects into instruments. First, work on the concept of volume– turn the music up high and down low, have them play and sing both loud and soft. Next–Have the children listen for the beat or pulse of the music. Have them tap their feet or hands to the beat. Then have them play their “instrument” to the beat of the music. Can you find a pattern in the beats? Beats come in long or short patterns and this pattern is what makes up a rhythm. Stop the music and have them tap to the beat – can the children remember the beat? Next have them work on Tempo and the concepts of slow and fast. All of this contributes to the Melody of a song. Change songs and work on the same concepts – choose different songs, some with fast tempos and others with slow so the children can hear and learn to appreciate all of the concepts within each song. Dance to the beat, wiggle and sway to the beat and rhythm. Have fun and remember – moving our bodies to the music is fun and important for healthy bodies AND it is a part of teaching the children how to read as well!

**Science 1:** I can make a Joyful Sound Continues in Science with the Music Discovery box. This box is filled with ordinary object along with musical instruments and they will learn that everything has a sound and the sound is different depending on the type of material it is made of. From paper plate drums to cup rattles, they will have fun banging their way through science this week. Let the cup, plate and tin can band make joyful noises.

**Science 2:** I can Make a Joyous Sound – Sesame Street Special Guests Music Video– Put on your listening ears, have a seat, learn all about sound, making music and when the music and dancing starts, hop up and watch and dance along. Everything around us makes a sound and this demonstration will allow you to hear the creative way we can make music in everything we do, touch and play with. Have fun.

**Dramatic Play Time: Hoppy's General Store, Home and School Lessons:** Let's cook dinner and clean the house. Head over to Hoppy's General Store to shop for healthy foods to keep your body healthy and strong. Share what you are shopping for. Set the table – where do the plate, bowl, glass and silverware go? How are you going to cook the food you picked out at the market? Cook the food and serve it to our friends. Have a group sitting at the dining table as you serve the food and sit and enjoy together. Review, Practice and Use your manners and have fun cooking, cleaning and caring for the babies. What season is it now? Winter comes with colder weather so dress the babies in warm clothing and wrap them in blankets and have fun playing with them. Take them on a stroller ride. Hoppy's Home, General Store and School House are a place to learn about and then practice role playing, learning life skills, pretending and playing with your friends. Have fun and please remember– clean up time is as important as play time and also teaches very important sort, organizing, grouping, matching and more Math skills as well as everyday needed skills for keeping up their own rooms and helping at home.

**Theater:** We will continue our lessons on Beat, Rhythm, Melody, Tempo and Volume in Theater. Put on the music and dance, dance, dance – use the scarves and tambourines to better express yourself as you move to the music. Move fast, slow, freeze, swirl around, stand up, sit down, slow down, freeze and keep moving to the beat of the songs you are listening to. Change up the songs so that these features in each piece of music change. The children can adapt to the new beat, tempo, rhythm etc.. all while exercising their bodies and having a lot of fun with their friends. Also-rhythm, beat and tempo help children learn to read, so the more moving the rhythm the better!



**Monthly theme: It's a New Year and the Wonders of Winter**

**WEEK 22 Weekly Theme:** Groundhogs Love Shadows **Letter:** Ss, Aa-Rr Review Ss is for Snake and Shadow **Numbers:** 22, 1 – 21 review  
**Color:** Brown and Black **Shapes:** Triangles and Rectangles (Compare & Contrast) **Pattern:** AABBCDD, AABBCDD

**Daily Circle Time:** Flag Salute-Pledge of Allegiance, Calendar, Months, Days of the week, Letters, Numbers, Shapes, Patterns, Names, and Animals  
**Vocabulary and Learning Concepts:** groundhogs, hibernation, seasons, wintertime, springtime, shadows, dark/light, sea animals, mammals, whales

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Circle</b>	Introduce letter Ss, review sight words and introduce new sight words, introduce 22, continue review of good hygiene, manners in the classroom and at the snack and meal times, expectations, positive reinforcement & (optional) take homework packet home	Review left to right in reading and writing, sight words- using our Zoo Phonics - sound them out? Discussion: What does hibernate mean? Do we hibernate? Do we take long naps in winter?	Practice and Review sight words, Review Migrate, Camouflage, Hibernate, What animals takes long naps in winter? What animals travel long distances in winter? What animals blend into their habitat?	Review sight words, discussion: Season change from Winter into Spring, Review Summer and Fall, what happens to the temperature? The amount of sun? The weather? The plants? The animals?	Safety Friday - Review what we do in different types of emergencies. Review Letters Aa-Ss, sound out sight words, turn in homework
<b>Math</b>	Counting 1-21, sorting, categorizing with counting toys and objects around the room. Complete 2 worksheets in the Math workbook	Count 1 – 21 in English and in Spanish. Using different toys and objects -Pattern Review ABBB, ABBBAABB, AABBCCAAABBC, AABBCDDAABBCDD	Numbers, Colors, Shapes, Fine Motor Skill Session: Draw 21 black rectangles and 21 brown Triangles & count as you draw and start cutting them out.	Continue cutting out your 21 Rectangles and 21 triangles, sort into piles of 2, 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 When done, use the shapes to practice patterns.	Review Numbers 1-21, Shapes, Patterns, Complete 2 worksheets in workbook
<b>Writing</b>	Letter Ss workbook as we practice holding a pencil properly, sitting properly when we write.	Letter Ss dot -to-dot worksheet, Practice shapes.	Journal Writing: Shadows are everywhere... Draw a picture of what you wrote about.	Write Numbers 1-21 and you name in Brown	Write our first and last names on ruled paper
<b>Language</b>	Story and discussion: What is Groundhog Day? When and where did this tradition start? 1887 in Punxsutawney Pennsylvania with a Groundhog name Phil	Discussion: Groundhogs-where do they live -Habitat? What is the weather like in their habitat? How do they survive the harsh winter? Can they really predict the weather?	What are some things that start with the Letter Ss? Name as many as you can. Write them on the board. How many things have more than one Ss in them? Sound the words out.	Discussion: Shadows, what makes shadows? What does the groundhog need so he can see his shadow? In Science this week you will get to see your shadow.	Discussion: Other animals who burrow in a hole/cave and take a long winter nap - hibernate for winter?
<b>Art</b>	Groundhog paper bag puppet- using black and brown shapes and then use your puppet to tell the groundhog story with it. Use your puppet all week to read stories, have a puppet show during Theater Time	Marble painting-A steam tray, paper, marbles (golf balls for younger artists), paint and have fun creating & using different art medium to create art	Finger painting outside - sensory art-describes what it feels like and share what you are painting. Add an element from Nature - Look around the play-yard to find your perfect natural object and add it to your piece of art.	Brown & Black easel painting a groundhog-dark colors. Then paint the groundhogs habitat around him. Paint his cave where he hibernates or where he lives when he is not sleeping. Paint his shadow.	Cut and paste brown & black triangles and rectangles -create patterns and shapes and objects using these shapes. Can you create a robot? A house? A groundhog?
<b>Zoo Phonics</b>	Ss is for Sammy Snake, Review Letters Aa - Ss, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Ss is for Sammy Snake, Review Letters Aa - Ss, Sounds, Movements, Talk about things that start with each letter.	Ss is for Sammy Snake, Review Letters Aa - Ss, Sounds & Movements	Ss is for Sammy Snake, Review Letters Aa - Ss, Sounds & Movements	Ss is for Sammy Snake, Review Letters Aa - Ss, Sounds & Movements

**Pre-K Reminder:** Have the children glue or double sided tape on the memory page one of their Math or Science projects this week- their choice. Note: If you choose to display this Math or Science project then the children can glue/tape it into the memory book on Monday when you change out the boards.

**PM Art:** Go outside w/ a long piece of butcher paper- have fun w/ your class doing shadow tracings using all kinds of objects and sunlight. Next: Shape review through creations: Use different shapes to create objects-what can you create with triangles, rectangles, circles, squares and more...? Create a Winter Nature Collage.

**Balance & Coordination:** Outside if weather permits: Read a Groundhog book, talk about what type of habitat groundhogs live and then as a class -Set up a "Groundhog Habitat" maze and obstacle course. "Burrow" through groundhog tunnels, carefully balance on "Logs" beam, jump through hoops, duck and crawl under "branch" poles in the woodland habitat. How fast can you go through the maze? How slow can you go through the maze? Change it up and do it again. What kind of crazy Groundhog mazes can you make? (develop large motor skills, enhancing science lesson and the joy of physical exercise)

**Blocks & Trains:** Lesson 1: Plan and Create a maze of roads and tracks kind of like groundhog tunnels. Use the vehicles and animals to travel on the maze around and around. Have your classmates build their burrow (home) along the maze and then travel around to visit each other. Lesson 2: Do Blocks make shadows? Use a flashlight to try to make block shadows - how high do you have to stack them to see a shadow? Then Attempt to stack 22 blocks with your friends. How high can you go? What could you do differently to fix the stack from falling (plan, create, build, discuss, problem solve)

**Dramatic Play Time: Hoppy's General Store, Home and School Lessons:** Continue our lessons about the Winter Season and how we change how we live when the weather gets colder? Do we change what we wear? Do we change what we eat and drink? What about change inside our homes? Do we turn on our heaters; put warmer sheets on our beds, use blankets and burn wood in a fireplace if we have one? Why do we do this? After this discussion, have fun shopping for ingredients to "cook" a winter meal and caring for the babies by dressing them in winter clothing and wrapping them in a warm blanket. Cook warm healthy meals with fruits, vegetables, proteins and dairy. Teach the babies all about what you are learning in school and practice your manners when



you sit down to “eat” your meals. Have fun role modeling, learning life skills, pretending and playing with your friends.

**Kitchen Creation:** Make healthy organic fruit smoothies and talk about what groundhogs eat (sequencing, directions, build verbal language) & then it is play dough mixing time if time permits. Talk about measuring and amounts of ingredients needed to make a batch of dough for your class and how much do you need if you are making your own batch in your own bowl. Everyone can mix up their own ingredients with their fingers and then have fun creating a special creation in honor of Groundhog’s Day. Talk about groundhogs, what do they look like? What is their body shaped like? Do they have 4 legs? Talk about hibernation – what does it mean. How do groundhogs know it is time to wake up from their long winter’s nap? Let your creation dry and then use paint to paint them. Make as many as you have time to make. Put all of your creations together with your friends to create a special scene to put on display at Kids Klub.

**Library Time:** Kids Klub is filled with books everywhere in every learning center. Continue to Read Winter Stories, Pine Tree and Forest Books, Animals in winter, Antarctic, Arctic, Martin Luther King, Jr., Friendship, and add in Groundhog books of all kinds. Enjoy these reading times and discussions all throughout your day incorporating the lessons and themes into everything the children are doing from making playdough to building with blocks – these are all opportunities to teach and make connections in all types of learner. Read at Circle Time, before each learning lesson, at snack time, lunchtime & right before naptime. End your day with stories and discuss about what you have learned from all the books you have read during each day. Build on & connect themes from week to week. As our Winter Season continues with colder weather, we continue our lessons about the magic of snow and ice and look forward to the coming of Spring and the special magic that comes with the thawing of the snow and ice. Enjoy all the books about the seasons and inspire wonder.

**Puzzles & Manipulatives:** Counting, sorting, patterning, adding and subtracting all come to life with manipulatives. Let children explore and play with the manipulatives first then give them a problem to solve or pattern to build. This week we will be using Mr. Potato Heads where the children will build fine motor skills by changing and rearranging the pieces. They will be counting how many different arrangements they can make and how many pieces they can add. We will also be using our new puzzles for spatial skill building as well as themed concepts based on each puzzle. Help the children identify what is on their puzzles building new vocabulary as they problem solve the puzzle. We will also get to enjoy our Penguin stacking game where the children will try very hard building fine motor skills to line up and stack penguins. They will also play and learn with our Penguin number scale where the children will learn the concepts of weight and balance together with math using the little penguins and the number that correlates to balance the scale. Using the cards included, there will be scale balancing with numbers, adding and subtracting challenges and just pure fun trying to balance the scale using numbers and penguins. Problem solving will take place during this learning time and lots of brain development of the “math” connection kind will surely be happening. Most of all-math learning is fun!

**Music & Movement:** Lights off so it is kind of dark in the movement area – turn on the flashlights it is time to do a flashlights and shadows dance. Play some fun dance music and dance dance dance. Be careful not to shine the lights in anyone’s eyes and have fun dancing with your flashlight and watching your shadow from other’s light dance around with you. The teachers will be using light to help create shadows for the children and movement has never been so fun! Before moving on to your next lesson, calm everyone’s body down and get them ready to focus on their next lesson with a Yoga Story with everyone on their own yoga mat. Stand still, breathe slow and deep-and go through all the Poses in the Yoga Story or two you have chosen. Then have each child try to roll their own mat up – this is good motor skill building and teaches them to clean-up and care for their things.

**Science 1:** Groundhogs and their Shadows: Today you will be learning all about an animal called a Groundhog or Woodchuck that helps us predict the weather each year. Sometimes he is right and sometimes he is wrong. He does this by waking up from his long winter’s nap, called hibernation and goes outside his den. If the sun is shining then his body makes a shadow that he sees. If the sun is not shining then he will not see his shadow. Over the years, if he sees his shadow he goes back into his burrow and goes back to sleep for 6 more weeks because winter is going to last for 6 more weeks and there will not be enough sunlight to grow the vegetation he needs to eat. If he does not see his shadow on February 2<sup>nd</sup> then he believes that springtime is coming soon and so it is time to wake up and get ready for springtime eating. Follow the Science Instruction Sheet and have fun tracing shadows and creating shadow fun.

**Science 2:** Whales are Wonderful: Our introduction to Whales will be through a gorgeous real life Science Video – Sure wish we could bring a giant gentle beautiful Humpback or Orca whale to Kids Klub but we can’t so let’s watch them in their natural environment and learn about what they look like, how they move, what they eat, what sounds they make and what their babies look like. Whales live all over our earth in all the oceans around the world. Whales come in all sizes and colors and some have teeth and some have baleen instead of teeth. Some whales eat tiny things called krill while others eat fish, seals, stingrays, sharks and many other things in the sea. Whales make beautiful sounds when they communicate with each other and look for food and we will get to hear these whale words and songs during our lesson. We will also get to see other sea mammals and animals that live in the oceans with the whales. We will see how important their habitat is and we will start to learn some important ways we can keep their habitat clean and safe because the things we do at home on land can affect our oceans in major ways. So let’s learn all about these animals and their habitat and learn to love them so much that we try really hard in our lives to keep our oceans clean and safe for these animals.

**Theater:** Shadow Games – In honor of our Groundhog named Phil, we are going to have fun shadowing our teacher first, then pairing up with a friend and shadowing each other, switch lead and then switch partners. Try to copy exactly what they do – the pose they are in, the slow or fast movements they make. How long can you stand still shadowing your friend? How fast can you move as your friends shadow keeping up with their movements? There is no running, just poses, actions, acting out animals activities and the shadow follows right along. After everyone has been a shadow for a while, let’s move like groundhog and then other animals we love. What does it look like to hibernate? Can your class guess what animal you are acting out? Put on some music and have fun shadow dancing with your teacher and friends. You can add flashlights to the dance if you wish to make it just that much more fun!