

JANUARY NEW YEARS DAY

FIREWORKS PAINTING

- **Make ruffled cuts on one end of a toilet roll**
- **Place black cardstock on an art tray**
- **Let your child dip the toilet roll in vibrant paint colors and make fireworks prints on the night sky**

SPRINKLE SENSORY TRAY

- **Pour colorful sprinkles onto a cookie sheet**
- **Write the year you are welcoming on an index card**
- **Let your child use a paint brush to write the year in the sprinkles**
- **Expand activity by practicing other letters and numbers!**

YEAR COLLAGE

- **Draw the year in block numbers**
- **Provide a variety of craft materials and glue for your child to decorate the numbers**
- **EG: shredded crepe paper, sequins, glitter, crayons**

PARTY BLOWER POMPOM RACE

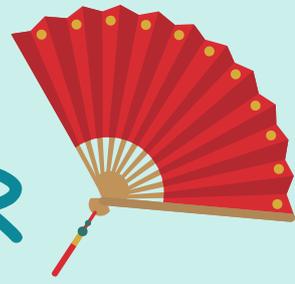
- **Have a pompom race**
- **Use party blowers to move a pompom across the finish line**
- **Race to see who gets there first!**

FIREWORKS IN A JAR

- **Let's explore densities with this fun experiment!**
- **Fill a mason jar $\frac{3}{4}$ full with warm water**
- **Mix 3 tbsp of oil with 4 drops of food coloring colors in a bowl**
- **Slowly pour the mixture into the water and observe what happens**



FEBRUARY CHINESE NEW YEAR



"My First Chinese New Year" Read Aloud

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGghkuEMZI8>

LION DANCE

- **Check out this traditional Lion Dance that is performed every Chinese New Year**
- **<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsOGuUOcUtw>**

FAN ART

- **You will need a sheet of red paper, 2 strips of gold paper, glue stick, and a gold ribbon**
- 1. Glue the gold strips on each end of the red paper**
- 2. Fold the red paper accordion style**
- 3. Fold the fan in half and glue it together in the middle**
- 4. Make a small incision at the bottom of the fan and tie the gold ribbon through**

ANG PAU MATH

- **Prepare red rectangular packets**
- **Write a number on each packet using black marker**
- **Give your child gold coins to count out and place in the packets**

CELEBRATION SENSORY BIN

- **Fill a sensory tub with rice dyed red, chopsticks, soup spoons, mandarins, yellow pompoms, or any other festive materials**
- **Invite your child to a time of free exploration and sensory play!**





FEBRUARY VALENTINES DAY



HEART COUNTS

- Prepare pink heart cutouts
- Write numbers on envelopes
- Practice one-to-one counting as your child identifies the number and counts hearts to place in the envelope

MEND THE HEART LETTERS

- Prepare heart cutouts
- Write an upper and lower case letter (or rhyming words) on each half of the heart and cut it into two
- Let your child "mend the broken heart" by matching the pieces together

VALENTINE SENSORY BIN

- Create a sensory bin that is full of valentine-themed items
- EG: pink rice, heart shaped cookie cutters and cupcake liners, sprinkle bottles, tongs, red feathers and pompoms

MY VALENTINE

- Give your child paper, safety scissors, and a variety of art tools
- Let your child explore their creativity in making a valentine card for someone special

HEART CATAPULT

- Tie a rubberband/hair tie onto a recycled cardboard roll
- Secure a wooden spoon under the cross section
- Place valentine erasers/heart gems/pink manipulatives and launch the catapult!





FEBRUARY MARDI GRAS



WHAT IS MARDI GRAS?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXCucOH4d0A>

HANDPRINT MASKS

- Trace your child's hands on thick art paper and cut them out
- Glue the cutouts together at the palms while the fingers face outwards
- Cut out holes for the eyes
- Let your child paint their mask in vibrant colors and glue sequins and craft feathers
- When it is dry, tape it onto a skewer for a Mardi Gras parade

NECKLACE PATTERNS

- Let your child create their own Mardi Gras necklaces by stringing beads through an elastic necklace cord
- Encourage your child to create and identify patterns on the necklaces

MARDI GRAS KING CAKE

- Go to a bakery and get some King Cake to eat
- Explain the tradition of hiding a baby in the cake
- The baby symbolizes Jesus and whoever finds it in their slice gains luck and prosperity

PURPLE, YELLOW, GREEN BIN

- Fill a sensory bin with Mardi Gras colored items
- Corn kernels for the base, colorful feathers, gems, and scoops
- TIP: throw in some alphabet magnets for your child to dig and sound out!





MARCH ST PATRICK'S DAY



SHAMROCK LETTER HUNT

- Draw a large shamrock on paper
- Write upper and lower case letters on the shamrock
- Call out a letter for your child to find and stamp it with a green dot marker

LUCKY CHARMS SORT

- Pour some 'Lucky Charms' cereal in a bowl
- Let your child sort the cereal and count how many pieces are in each group
- Expand the activity by creating a bar graph based on the results

COUNTING GOLD

- Cut out pots using black cardstock
- Use chalk to write a number on each pot
- Give your child coins to count out and place on the pots of gold

GOLD COIN SENSORY BIN

- Mix rice and green food coloring in a resealable plastic bag and let it dry overnight
- Pour green rice into a sensory bin and bury chocolate gold coins for your child to dig for

SHAMROCK HIDE AND SEEK

- Hide shamrocks around the room
- Play a song and invite your child to find as many shamrocks as they can before the music stops
- Switch things up by hiding the shamrocks in different rooms of your home!





APRIL EASTER



HIDE AND SEEK

- **Use the tops of easter eggs and number them (write the numbers your child is working on)**
- **Place them on a table and hide a toy or object under one of the eggs**
- **Let your child call out a number and lift that egg to see if the toy is under that egg**
- **Repeat this number recognition activity until your child finds the toy**
- **SWITCH IT UP: Place multiple objects under a few eggs, or let your child hide it while you seek**

BUNNY LETTER SOUND MATCH

- **Draw the outline of bunnies on a sheet of paper**
- **Write a letter on each bunny**
- **Call out or sound out a letter and invite your child to place a cotton ball tail on the corresponding bunny**

SENSORY EASTER LETTERS

- **Pour sand on a shallow tray**
- **Hide letters in plastic easter eggs**
- **Let your child crack an egg open, identify the letter and write it in the sand**

EGG CRACKING

- **Here's a great fine motor activity!**
- **Cut out easter eggs on cardstock and write a number on each egg**
- **Identify the number and let your child use a single hole puncher to make holes in the egg**





MAY

CINCO DE MAYO



WHAT IS CINCO DE MAYO?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O20HgELOt8I>

DIY MARACAS

- **Fill mini plastic easter eggs with rice, beans, and seeds**
- **Place a plastic spoon on either side of the egg and wrap masking tape around it several times**
- **Let your child use markers to decorate the tape**
- **Explore how different egg fillers produce different sounds**
- **Turn on some music and shake their maracas to the rhythm**

CACTUS COUNT

- **Cut toothpicks in half**
- **Let your child use green playdough to form a large cactus**
- **Roll a die and identify how many toothpick 'spikes' to stick into the cactus**

SOMBRERO

- **Hot glue gun a solo cup onto a paper plate**
- **Let your child decorate it with bright colored markers, colored tape, and glue pompoms around the edges of the plate**
- **Punch two holes opposite from one another and tie an elastic string onto each hole**

MEXICAN FLAG

- **Locate Mexico on a map and show your child a picture of the Mexican flag**
- **Dab cotton balls in green and red paint, and encourage your child to explore various art techniques as they paint their flag**
- **Lastly, glue the emblem in the middle**



MAY MOTHERS' DAY



QUEEN OF THE DAY

- **Precut a crown out of thick white cardstock**
- **Let your child decorate the crown for Mom using art tools of choice and craft materials**
- **Present it to Mom and be the queen of the day!**

HANDPRINT CARDS

- **Make a card for Mom with a handprint or footprint with the year on it**

SPECIAL PETALS

- **Pre cut parts of a flower out of colored paper**
- **Let your child identify the parts of the flower and glue it on art paper**
- **Write something special about Mom on each petal**

FLOWER POT

- **Let your child paint a small flower pot**
- **Go to a nursery and pick out a flower to plant and gift it to Mom**

HANDPRINT BOWL

- **Check out this link for a really neat craft your child can make!**
- **<https://www.messylittlemonster.com/2016/05/Salt-dough-handprint-bowl-keepsake.html>**





MAY MEMORIAL DAY



TIC TAC TOE

- **Play a classic game of tic tac toe outside using white chalk, and red and blue stones**
- **Encourage your child to engage in critical thinking skills during this game**

NUMBER FLAGS

- **Draw red and blue flags on a sheet of paper**
- **Write a number on each flag**
- **Let your child roll a die and identify the number**
- **Place a mini marshmallow on the corresponding flag**

MEMORIAL DAY SENSORY BIN

- **Pour rice into a sensory bin and add red, white, and blue items**
- **EG: mini American flags, red pompoms, white stars, blue decorative gems**

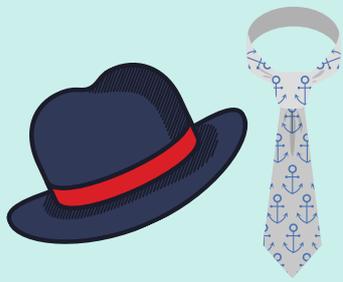
FIZZY COLORS

- **Pour a layer of baking soda on a shallow tray**
- **Drop red and blue food coloring on it**
- **Let your child use a food dropper to drip white vinegar onto the colors and watch what happens!**

RED, WHITE, BLUE BANNER

- **Precut red, white, and blue triangles**
- **Write a letter on each triangle**
- **Tie a length of yarn between two chairs**
- **Sound out a letter for your child to find and use a clothespin to clip the letter on the the yarn**





JUNE FATHERS' DAY

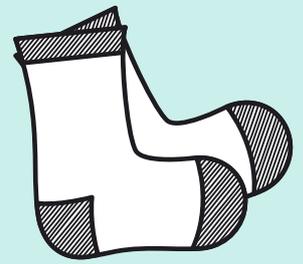


PHOTO COLLAGE

- **Make a sign with your child that says something special; it can be as simple as "I Love You, Daddy"**
- **Have a photo session of your child striking different poses with their sign**
- **Develop the photos and place them in a frame**

DRESS LIKE DAD

- **Engage in dramatic play by letting your child dress up like dad**
- **This might be dad's favorite tie, sweater, hat, or briefcase!**
- **Pretend they are driving a car, going off to work, or making phone calls**
- **Talk to them about dad's important role in the family**

PERSONALIZED MUGS

- **Let your child decorate a white ceramic mug using colorful Sharpie pens**
- **Bake the mug at 350 Fahrenheit for 20 minutes to let the ink set**

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT DAD

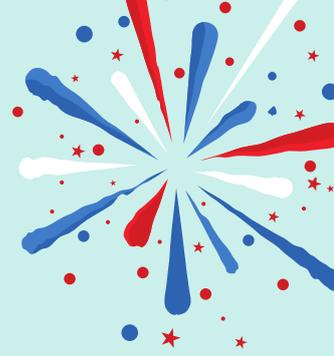
- **Trace your child's hand on poster board and cut it out**
- **Write 5 things your child loves about Dad on each finger**
- **Let your child decorate it with color pencils**

PIN THE TIE ON DAD

- **Draw dad on large butcher paper and tape it to the wall**
- **Cut a tie out of cardstock and pin the tie on dad (blindfolded) using sticky tack!**



JULY FOURTH OF JULY



WHAT IS THE FOURTH OF JULY?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoNIsoqT5s0>

JAR FIREWORKS

- Fill a jar 3/4 full with warm water
- In a separate bowl, use a fork to mix 4 tablespoons of oil with drops of multicolored food coloring
- Pour the mixture into the jar
- Watch the food coloring sink into the water and interact with one another

FIREWORKS PAINTING

- Place black art paper on a tray
- Lay out colorful paints and q-tips
- Let your child paint fireworks by stroking and dabbing the q-tips onto the paper

AMERICAN FLAG

- Prepare the American flag template
- Let your child learn the colors of the flag by coloring it using art tool of choice
- Tape the flag onto a wooden skewer and parade around the house

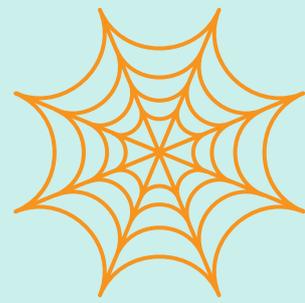
STAR ART

- Cut star shapes out of paper towels
- Let your child use red and blue markers to color them
- Use a food dropper to drop water onto the stars
- Observe what happens; what color forms when you mix blue and red?





OCTOBER HALLOWEEN



SLIMEY SPAGHETTI

- **Boil spaghetti and place them in two resealable plastic bags**
- **Add 20 drops of black food coloring in one bag and orange food coloring to the other bag and 2 tbps water in each**
- **Let it sit for a minute and rinse it under cold water**
- **Place the spaghetti in a sensory bin and add plastic spiders, tongs, scissors, and cups for open ended sensory play**

GHOST BOWLING

- **Draw ghost faces on white paper cups and stack them in a pyramid**
- **Use a mini pumpkin to knock down all the ghosts!**

HALLOWEEN WRITING

- **Prepare a set of letter flash cards**
- **Let your child draw a card from the deck and use orange playdough to form the letter**
- **Place googly eyes all over the letter**

CANDY CORN GRAPHING

- **Prepare sets of numbers**
- **Invite your child to graph them using candy corn and compare quantities**
- **Identify which less vs. more**

SPOOKY SCAVENGER HUNT

- **Hide Halloween-themed items around the house**
- **Play spooky music and engage your child in a scavenger hunt!**



NOVEMBER THANKSGIVING



WHAT IS THANKSGIVING?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvzMp5WUjls>

FEATHER LETTERS

- Invite your child to color a paper plate brown and add some eyes
- Write your child's name (or sight words) along the edges of the paper plate and a matching set on clothespins
- Let your child use their fine motor skills to clip on the clothespin 'feathers' onto the turkey by matching the letters/words

PLAYDOUGH TURKEYS

- Lay out brown playdough, feathers, googly eyes, and short pipe cleaners
- Invite your child to create their own turkeys!
- Discuss the parts of a turkey (eg: beak, snood, wattle)

GRATITUDE FEATHERS

- Tape contact paper on a window, sticky side up
- Precut a turkey face using colored paper and place it on the contact paper
- Each day, write something you are thankful for on a feather cut out and add it on the Turkey until Thanksgiving. Make it a family activity!

HUNGRY TURKEY

- Stick paper feathers, eyes, a beak, and wattle on a plastic bottle
- Invite your child to use tongs to drop pompom (food) into the bottle to feed the hungry turkey



DECEMBER CHRISTMAS



DIY SNOWGLOBE

You'll need:

- **A plastic jar**
- **Christmas figurine**
- **Baby oil**
- **White paint**
- **Water**
- **Glitter**
- **Snowflakes**
- **Hot glue gun**

- 1. Superglue your figurine onto the lid of your jar**
- 2. Fill the jar 3/4 full with baby oil**
- 3. Add a pinch of glitter and snowflake confetti**
- 4. Mix water with a teaspoon of white paint and add it to the jar just until it is almost full**
- 5. Close your jar and shake your snow globe!**

TREE LETTERS

- **Cut a Christmas tree out of green cardstock**
- **Write upper and lower case letters on the tree**
- **Ask your child to find a letter and place a pompom ornament on it**
(Alternative: use dot stickers)

GIFT NUMBERS

- **Cut out square gifts using cardstock and write a number on each square**
- **Let your child roll a die and identify the number**
- **Place a bow on the corresponding gift**

EASY 'SNOW' SENSORY

- **Fill a bin with fine salt and Christmas-themed items (eg: figurines, candy canes, empty ornament balls, and 'marshmallow snowballs' and engage in open-ended play!**