

Sample Weekly Theme Map

Theme <i>Wonderful Winter</i>	Song “Once There was a Snowman,” “My Snowman’s Getting Big”
Graph <i>Winter Weather—graph snow, sun, fog, clouds</i>	Observation/Exploration <i>Snow in trough to mold and shape. Toys to make tracks, guess which toy made track? Fill cups with snow, predict how much water it will make. Draw lines on cups, see whose estimation is the closest. Ice cubes, chunks of ice from playground, icicles. Will ice melt faster in water or on a tray in the classroom? Will it float or sink? If we put water outside today would it freeze? In the shade? In the sun? Fill cup completely full of water, then place in a pie tin and set outside to freeze. What happens? What if we put it in a jar with a lid on?</i>
Creative Dramas <i>The Mitten</i> (headbands from Jan Brett website and giant mitten)	Art <i>Shaving cream at easel—plastic sheet with black paper behind it, or use whipped soap flakes.</i>
Homework <i>Your family’s favorite thing to do in winter.</i>	Video/Technology
Journal Entry <i>I like to _____ in the snow.</i>	
Poem <i>Snowballs</i> <i>I made myself a snowball, as perfect as can be, I thought I’d keep it as a pet and let it sleep with me. I made it some pajamas and a pillow for its head, Then last night it ran away, But first it wet the bed!</i>	
Monday Message <i>We will learn about winter.</i> Unit: <i>Word web—words describing winter. Read “How Do You Know it is Winter?”</i> Reading: <i>Song Writing (Farmer in the Dell tune)</i> Math: <i>Mix 1 cup soap flakes, water, 6 T liquid starch, and 1/4 cut tempera paint. Mix with eggbeater until thick paste. Make small, medium, and large balls. Decorate like a snowman with paper scraps for trim.</i> Writing: <i>Add four winter words to your word book.</i>	Tuesday Message <i>We will feel and draw a winter day.</i> Unit: <i>Go outside, observe plants, animals, people, weather. Take notes on clipboard to help with poem and picture.</i> Reading: <i>Color a picture that matches the words to your poem. Paint it with a mixture of 1/2 cup hot water, and 1/2 cup Epsom salts.</i> Writing: <i>Write a winter poem to go with picture. What does winter look like? How do plant, animals, or people look? What does it feel like? What do you like to do in winter?</i>

<u>Wednesday</u> Message We will act out <u>The Mitten</u>. Unit: Read, then act out <u>The Mitten</u>. Use Jan Brett website headbands. Reading: Tell child which letter sound or color word at which to throw a styrofoam snowball. Math: Lay out numbered mittens. Child stacks up the correct number of cubes on each mitten then says “aachoo!” and knocks them all down. Writing: Color and cut out the characters in <u>The Mitten</u>. Sequence them by size, then tell story to a friend and place them in a wallpaper mitten.	<u>Thursday</u> Message We will learn about snow. Unit: Snowflakes start out as tiny specks of dust in the clouds. The specks of dust collect water out of the air. When the air is cold, the water freezes and makes snowflakes. Reading: Make three-piece snowmen with letter on hat, and corresponding pictures on balls to match letter/sound. Math: Use number sand molds in snow trough. Make 1-10 and correct number of snowballs to match each number. Science: Catch snowflakes on square of black paper. Use hand lenses to observe.
<u>Friday</u> Message We will talk about snow fun. Unit: Recreation in snow. List ways to have fun in winter. Write them on a chart with a small illustration. Reading: Make compound words (snowball, snowman, snowflake). Math: Make three circles – small, medium, and large snowflakes. Decorate snowmen with fabric scarves, pompoms, etc. Hang in hall. Writing: “Winter is fun” mural. Color or paint a way to have fun. Cut out, and place on mural. Use blue butcher paper background, chalk to make snow, and cut snowflakes.	Books: <u>The Mitten</u> <u>The Snow Day</u> <u>When Winter Comes</u> <u>The Tiny Woman’s Coat</u> <u>Snowball War!</u> <u>Snowballs</u> by Ehlert <u>How Do You Know It Is Winter?</u> Essential Language: winter snow ice freeze snowball snowflakes snowman mitten