



Holiday Theme - PreK and Kindergarten

This theme is designed to begin teaching children independent living skills. Please see the resource page at the end of this document to find related activities on abcteach.

Subject	Activities
<p>Math & Science</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Help bake cookies. Count the number of ingredients and learn to follow order of a recipe <input type="checkbox"/> Identify cooking tools: measuring cups & spoons, mixer, whisk, pans, scale, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about a dozen and ½ dozen: practice counting items and identify groups of 6 and 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Help package cookies for a family member or friend. <input type="checkbox"/> Using a December calendar, count down the days until your favorite December holiday.
<p>Social Studies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss your family holiday traditions. Try to remember one from last year! <input type="checkbox"/> Name and learn relationship of family members who participate in holiday gatherings. <input type="checkbox"/> Locate the “North Pole” on a map or globe. Learn about weather and animals from the region. <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about holiday traditions of other cultures. Draw a picture of how children in that culture might celebrate the holiday season.
<p>Reading & Writing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tell a story about your best holiday memory. Have a parent or sibling write it down. Draw a picture to go with the story. <input type="checkbox"/> Create a holiday card. Listen to some “sentiments” from other cards, then dictate one for your card. <input type="checkbox"/> Read holiday stories. Retell your favorite story to a parent or sibling. <input type="checkbox"/> Create a picture book of your favorite things to do during the holidays.
<p>Holiday Activities & Games</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> “Snowball ” Catch: Stand opposite your partner – about 2 feet away. Using an underhand toss, pass the “snowball” back and forth. With each successful pass take one step backwards. For indoor fun, toss white sock bundles or yarn balls. <input type="checkbox"/> “Snowball” Shuttle: Using a spatula, transport your “snowball” from a large “snowball” pile to another pile about 10 feet away. <input type="checkbox"/> Winter art: Use food coloring and water to create ‘paint’. Using a spray bottle or similar plastic bottle, create winter artwork in the snow.



Holiday Theme - Primary (Grades 1-3)

This theme is designed to begin teaching children independent living skills. Please see the resource page at the end of this document to find related activities on abcteach.

Subject	Activities
<p>Math & Science</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Help make holiday candy. Learn how to follow a recipe. <input type="checkbox"/> Learn to use a measuring cup and measuring spoons to measure dry ingredients. <input type="checkbox"/> Beginning time management skills: Practice sequencing holiday activities to be sure you can accomplish everything that is important to you! <input type="checkbox"/> Color and decorate a December calendar. Count down the days until your favorite December holiday. <input type="checkbox"/> Pine cone bird feeders: Spread pine cones with peanut butter and roll in bird seed. Hang from trees with ribbons or string.
<p>Social Studies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Interview a Grandparent or parent. Learn about their childhood holiday experiences. <input type="checkbox"/> Make a list and compare your current traditions to those that you learned about in your interview. <input type="checkbox"/> Locate on a map where your grandparents and ancestors were from. Learn something about the region. <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about how other cultures celebrate the holiday. Learn a song or write a story about how they celebrate.
<p>Reading & Writing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Go the library to find books about a holiday different than the one celebrated by your family. <input type="checkbox"/> Read the book(s) and share what you learn with a friend or family member. <input type="checkbox"/> Read holiday stories. For family or friends, recite or act out the story. <input type="checkbox"/> Photograph family and friends as you celebrate the holiday. Create a memory scrapbook. <input type="checkbox"/> New Years Resolution: Think about what you would like to do better in the coming year and write about it.
<p>Holiday Activities & Games</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> "Snowball" Throw: Designate a starting line. Throw a "snowball" as far as you can. Using a measuring tape, measure the distance of your throw. Compete against peers, or strive for your personal best! For indoor fun use a white sock bundles or yarn balls. Find a safe spot with an open wall, throw the sock against the wall and measure the distance between the sock and the wall in order to determine the distance thrown. <input type="checkbox"/> "Snowball Shuttle: Position partners about 10 feet apart. Have each partner hold a tablespoon. Partner 1 balances a cotton ball "snowball" on their spoon and shuttles it to Partner 2, transferring it to their spoon. If the "snowball" is dropped, it must be picked up with the spoon only!



Holiday Theme - Upper Elementary (Grades 4-6)

This theme is designed to begin teaching children independent living skills. Please see the resource page at the end of this document to find related activities on abcteach.

Subject	Activities
Math & Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Learn how to wrap a gift. Estimate amount of paper, ribbon and tape needed. How close were your estimations? <input type="checkbox"/> Learn how to use a measuring tape to ensure proper paper and ribbon amounts. Practice! <input type="checkbox"/> Make and decorate a calendar of the month of December. Count down until the big day!
Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about organizations in your community that help people in need. <input type="checkbox"/> Support the organization by collecting food or clothing, buying a toy etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer your time help someone in your community. Shovel snow and carry groceries for the elderly, spend time reading or talking to someone at a nursing home, help with a food drive, or go caroling. <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about how another culture celebrates the holiday. Create decorations that represent their traditions. <input type="checkbox"/> Create a time capsule. With family, fill a container with items unique to this holiday season. Together, decide which items would be meaningful to include. Save the container until next year to open during the holidays.
Reading & Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Create a list of 5 family members or friends to whom you would like to send a holiday card. Locate their addresses and learn how to write their names correctly. <input type="checkbox"/> Create a skit and act out your favorite holiday story. <input type="checkbox"/> Photograph family and friends enjoying the holiday season. Use the photos to create a story about your holiday. Write captions describing the details in the photos. <input type="checkbox"/> Create your own unique illustration of the holiday season. Color neatly. Write a poem about why the holiday is special to you. Photocopy your design and poem to create cards for family and friends.
Holiday Activities & Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Snowman Target Toss: Collect three 2-liter bottles per participant. Put two inches of water in each bottle, then cover the bottle with a white recycled grocery bag. Secure bag with two rubber bands and decorate to resemble a snowman. Give each participant a dozen "snowballs". Stand a comfortable distance from target, and start throwing one "snowball" at a time to knock down as many of your snowmen as possible. <input type="checkbox"/> Dress Up Relay: Determine and collect appropriate clothing necessary to play outdoors. Pile collected clothing in center of room. Designate dressing space for each participant. On signal, go to the pile and locate 1 of your items and put it in your dressing space. Continue until all your items are in your space, set a timer, and see how long it takes each one to collect clothing and get dressed!



Holiday Theme - Resource Page

Below, find links to sections on abcteach. These sections contain downloadable materials that complement the fun activities in this Holiday Activity Planner.

Subject	Activities
Math & Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Extras: Recipes<input type="checkbox"/> Math Measurement<input type="checkbox"/> Clip Art: Weights and Measures<input type="checkbox"/> Math Counting Flashcards<input type="checkbox"/> Fillable Calendars (Laminate and use each year!)<input type="checkbox"/> Money
Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Family Theme Unit<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Prompts<input type="checkbox"/> Shape Books<input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Signs (Directional prompts included!)<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Tundra<input type="checkbox"/> World Continents<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Languages (Learn about new languages and cultures!)<input type="checkbox"/> Hanukkah<input type="checkbox"/> Kwanza
Reading & Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Extras: Greeting Cards<input type="checkbox"/> Reading Comprehension (Choose your grade, then head to the "Holiday/Seasonal" link)<input type="checkbox"/> Shape Books<input type="checkbox"/> FUNctional Text (Contains great "how to" projects)<input type="checkbox"/> Memory Books<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Papers
Holiday Activities & Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Fun Activities<input type="checkbox"/> Crafts<input type="checkbox"/> Holidays<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Theme<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly Activity Calendars<input type="checkbox"/> Hands-On Activities<input type="checkbox"/> New Years Activities