



Winter in the Woods

FEATURED CONCEPTS

Letters & Sounds:



Shape & Color:



Character Trait:

Honesty

Yoga Pose:

Bear Pose



Number:



Sign Language:



This month, we're bundling up and stepping into Winter in the Woods, a woodland world full of winter wonder. Each day, your child will discover something new, like tiptoeing like a deer, peeking out like a sleepy bear or hooting along with a wise old owl. We'll explore frosty favorites like pine trees, snowflakes, icicles and pinecones, and cozy up with themes like glowing fireplaces, stacked logs and snug little hedgehog homes. Through playful songs, stories and sensory adventures, we'll bring the forest to life while building language, imagination and joy. You can keep the magic going at home by snuggling up under a blanket, sipping something warm and wondering together about what's happening deep in the winter woods.

Forest Animals: Pretend to be forest friends like bears and owls while learning animal sounds and stories.

Woodlands: Touch, listen and discover the sights and sounds of the woods, like crunchy leaves, rough bark and chirping birds.

Cold Weather: Trying on winter gear, like hats and mittens, will give your child the chance to build vocabulary and practice getting dressed all by themselves.

Winter Living: With cozy blankets, pretend fires and snug animal dens, we will imagine what it's like to stay warm and comfy all winter long.

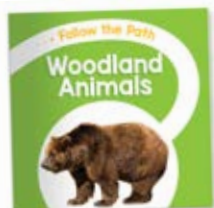
Through snowy trails and woodland cheer, you make winter feel so near as your child learns and plays with glee, in a world as cozy as can be!



Rectangle House



WHAT?	HOW?	WHY?
This week we read a story about kind mice who help a shoemaker and get a tiny house in return. We also explored rectangles by using them to build houses.	Cut a cardboard box into rectangles and help your child arrange them into a little house for their toys. Tape the pieces together, if desired.	This activity helps your child notice shapes in everyday life and understand how they fit together. It also builds early skills for problem-solving, drawing and writing.



What's in the Mitten?

WHAT?	HOW?	WHY?
While reading the book, we followed trails to find animals hiding in the woods. At home, you can turn this idea into a fun game by hiding small objects in a mitten or sock.	Tuck a small toy or animal into a mitten or sock. Invite your child to reach inside to find the surprise. Use different sizes or textures for extra fun and discovery.	Reaching in and pulling out items builds your child's small muscle coordination and problem-solving skills. It also supports their understanding of object permanence.

Baking Muffins

WHAT?	HOW?	WHY?
In the story, Owl discovers that his muffin has gone missing and that Mouse took it without asking. The story teaches honesty, saying sorry and what it means to be a good friend.	Make muffins or another baked good with your child. Invite them to help by pouring, stirring and scooping batter into muffin tins. Choose someone special to share the muffins with as a kind gesture.	Cooking together builds connection and gives your child a chance to be helpful and proud. These everyday moments are perfect for talking about friendship, feelings and making good choices.

Time to Count

WHAT?	HOW?	WHY?
<i>Hickory Dickory Dock</i> is a fun rhyme about a mouse running up a clock until it chimes. With rhythm, repetition and silly fun, it's a great way to spark curiosity about sounds and numbers in your child's everyday world.	While you're out and about, listen for sounds like beeps, honks or rings and count them aloud together. You can also play the game at home by tapping, clapping or using toy instruments.	Noticing and counting everyday sounds helps your child build early math skills and become a stronger listener. Practicing numbers through playful activities sets the stage for future counting and rhythm awareness.

READ WITH ME

The Quilt Forest
by Charlotte Offsay



The Snowy Day
by Ezra Jack Keats



Winter is Here
by Kevin Henkes



Bear Snores On
by Karma Wilson

