



## Our Redeemer Child Care Center Toddler Room – Group 2 January 2018

### Important Dates

- MOVEMENT & MUSIC WITH MISS SUE: January 10<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.
- PIZZA DAYS: January 4<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>
- January 1<sup>st</sup>: CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY
- January 15<sup>th</sup> : Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Last month we...**learned what animals do to get ready for the winter, pretended to be squirrels collecting food, birds flying south and bears sleeping in caves...added tools to the classroom and did LOTS of construction...worked on our fine-motor skills by stringing cheerios (and eating quite a few) on pipe cleaners to create birdfeeders...enjoyed the story "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats...learned about all of the clothing we will need to wear outdoors this winter and had fun acting out a new fingerplay where we pretend to put on our winter clothing...put on our real winter clothing and played in the snow...learned about animal tracks during a visit with Ms. Jessica from Stony Brook...LOVED the book *Merry Christmas, Big Hungry Bear* by Don and Audrey Wood...jumped on the trampoline and spun on the bilibo seat... celebrated the holidays with songs and handmade gifts, made music with jingle bells, packed up our toys in gift bags, set up a manger on our train table...pretended to be reindeer and did the "Hot Chocolate" dance from the Polar Express with Miss Sue...made "shakers" and "2018" signs...created "firework" art with paint and glue...counted backwards and practiced saying "HAPPY NEW YEAR!"

### **Weekly Themes**

January 2 - 5: Goodnight Moon  
January 8 - 12: Nursery Rhymes  
January 15 - 19: Space  
January 22 - 26: Let it Snow!  
January 29 – Feb. 2: Things that Go

### **Learning with Nursery Rhymes:**

*Rhymes are an important part of childhood. Their rich language and their rhythms soothed us and inspired us as we were growing up...Take the time to share your favorite rhymes - and watch the learning begin!*

**Language Skills** – Rhymes help children learn word endings and their controlled meter aids children in their beginning reading efforts.

**Thinking Skills** – Rhymes help our brains recall words and facts, thus leading to early success.

**Music Skills** – Rhymes help children learn songs easier.

**Literature** – Nursery rhymes bring classic literature to children at an early age.

**Creativity** – Rhymes enable children to start making up their own rhymes when they are preschoolers.

**Self-Esteem** – Children gain pride and confidence in themselves when they learn how to anticipate the final word in a rhyme.

*-Jean Warren*

*from [www.preschoolexpress.com](http://www.preschoolexpress.com)*

Looking for something new to do? A visit your local library is a great experience for young children. For example, in Foxboro, at the Boyden Library, you can take part in free special events, including arts and crafts, storytellers, science presentations, animal programs, puppet shows and more! When you visit the Children's Room, you can play with stuffed animals, puppets and puzzles – and of course, you can search for your new favorite book! This winter is the perfect time to snuggle up and read together.

Amanda M. & Amanda T.



## January Songs and Fingerplays

### **“Bedtime Routine” (tune: All around the Mulberry Bush)**

This is the way I brush my teeth, brush my teeth, brush my teeth,  
This is the way I brush my teeth before I go to bed.

*Talk with children about their bedtime routine and add/act out verses: take a bath, put on my pajamas, read books, give a hug, etc.*

### **“Goodnight” Poem**

Goodnight elbows. Goodnight nose. Goodnight eyebrows. Goodnight toes.  
Goodnight hair. Goodnight feet. Goodnight fingers. Goodnight cheeks.  
Goodnight shoulders. Goodnight head. Goodnight ankles. Rest in bed.

### **“Jack Be Nimble!”**

(Jack) be nimble,

(Jack) be quick,

(Jack) jump over the candlestick!

*(You can use your child’s name with this nursery rhyme and practice jumping!)*

### **Two Little Blackbirds**

Two little blackbirds, sitting on a hill,  
One named Jack and one named Jill,  
Fly away Jack, fly away Jill,  
Come back Jack, come back Jill.

### **“Climb Aboard the Spaceship” (“Itsy Bitsy Spider”)**

Climb aboard the spaceship, we’re going to the moon.

Hurry and get ready, we’re going to blast off soon.

Put on your helmets and buckle up real tight.

Here comes the countdown, let’s count with all our might!

5-4-3-2-1-BLAST OFF!

### **Penguin Greeting** for circle time

Penguin, penguin

Play the game

Penguin, penguin

Say your name

### **“Winter Fingerplay”**

Climb, climb, climb - up the hill of snow. (Let fingers walk up your arm or bent leg.)

Jump on our sleds - down we go. Wheee! (Let fingers slide down your arm or leg.)