



**Our Redeemer Child Care Center
Toddler Room - Group 2
January 2017**

Important Dates

- MOVEMENT & MUSIC WITH MISS SUE: January 5th & 8th
- PIZZA DAYS: January 6th, 12th, 20th & 26th.
- January 2nd: CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY
- January 16th: 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...worked on our fine-motor skills by stringing cheerios on pipe cleaners to create birdfeeders (and ate a few ourselves)...enjoyed the story "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats and created artwork that resembled the artwork in the book...learned about all the clothing we will need to wear outdoors this winter and had fun with a new fingerplay where we pretend to put our winter clothing on and off...enjoyed a puppet show from "Sparky's puppets...LOVED the book "Merry Christmas, Big Hungry Bear" by Don and Audrey Wood...jumped on the TRAMPOLINE...walked across the balance beams outdoors...watched our pumpkins turn to "mush" outside (maybe we'll have a pumpkin patch in 2017?)...celebrated the holidays with songs and handmade gifts, made music with jingle bells, packed up our toys in gift bags, set up a manger...pretended to be reindeer & did the "Hot Chocolate" dance with Miss Sue...made shakers and "2017" signs...created "firework" art with paint, counted backwards and practiced saying "HAPPY NEW YEAR!" We were BUSY!!!

Weekly Themes

Dec. 27 – 30: Happy New Year!
Jan. 3 – 6: Goodnight Moon
Jan. 9 – 13: Nursery Rhymes
Jan. 15 – 20: Space
Jan. 23 – 27: Arctic Animals

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. It is important to pass on this valuable resource to our children. Take the time to share your favorite rhymes with your children 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.

-from Jean Warren @ www.preschoolexpress.com

Have you had a chance to visit your town's local library yet? It is a great experience for young children! For example, at the Boyden Library's Children's Room you and your child can play with puppets and puzzles – take part in free special events – and of course, search for your new favorite book! This winter is the perfect time to snuggle up and read together.

Have fun!

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.

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.

“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!)

“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)

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.)

