

PRIME TIMES



Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Immaculata, Pennsylvania 19345

November, 2017

Five Pilgrims, Five Indians

Five Indians help them plant corn.
(pretend to plant)
The Indians bring the corn
(hold up right hand)
The Pilgrims bring the meat.
(hold up left hand)
Ten new friends sit down to eat.
(Fold hands together)



Monthly Primary Stem Centers

- November: Watch a mini video on www.schooltube.com about the first winter for the pilgrims. Have the students create housing for the pilgrims using only popsicle sticks, play dough, and scraps of fabric.
- December: Have the students read a book (fiction or non-fiction) about a Christmas tree. Challenge them to create a free standing decorated Christmas tree of their own using only glue and construction paper.
- January: Have the students watch a mini video on www.schooltube.com about snowflakes. Provide a tray with supplies such as pipe cleaners, construction paper, beads, glue, etc... to build a model snowflake.

A Story for Advent

The Legend of the Poinsettia is a beautiful story by Tomie dePaola. This Mexican legend tells how the poinsettia came to be, through a little girl's unselfish gift to the Christ Child. His glorious paintings capture not only the brilliant colors of Mexico and its art, but also the excitement of the children preparing for Christmas. If you Google The Legend of the Poinsettia activities, you will find an assortment of activities you can use after reading the story.

Saintly Advent Calendar

This year in preparing for Christmas count down the days with the Saints. Each day display a picture and give a short biography of either the Saint of the Day or one of your favorites. As a wrap up the class can talk about how the virtue the Saint exemplifies helps them to draw closer to Jesus this Advent Season.



Peppermint Stick

I took a lick
Of a peppermint stick
And oh it tasted yummy!
It used to be on the Christmas tree
But now it's in my tummy!



The Importance of Being Present

Being truly present to one another is something we strive for and something we want to impart to our students. The book "What Does It Mean to Be Present?" by Rana DiOrio and illustrated by Eliza Wheeler is a great way to concretely share about the importance of each moment.

Helping Verbs

Tune: Jingle Bells
Helping verbs! Helping verbs!
There are 23...
Am, is, are! Was, and were!
Being, been and be!
Have, has, had!
Do, does, did!
Shall, should, will, and would!
There are 5 more helping verbs:
May, might, must, can, could!

Five Yummy Gingerbread

Five Little Gingerbread sitting on  a plate,
The first one said, "Boy we smell so great!"
The second one said, "There's a chill in the air."
The third one said, "I see hungry children everywhere!"
The fourth one said, "I think we better run!"
The fifth one said, "Here the children come!"
Then the children each grabbed one
And with a MUNCH, CRUNCH, MUNCH
The five yummy gingerbread all turned into lunch!

Ready, Set, Play

Don't spend valuable time handing out game supplies. For partner games, prepare one cup of game supplies for every two students. Each cup contains items such as dice, a paper clip, a penny, game markers etc. Store cups where students can reach them when it is game time. One partner gets a cup. When the game time is over, the other partner returns the cup and all its contents to the storage spot. The Dollar Store has small plastic containers with lids that are also good for storing game supplies. If your students are in teams or groups, you can label the cups or containers with the number of their team or group.

Duct Tape Saves the Day

Coffee cans and small and large Pringles containers are also great for storing game supplies, rulers, math manipulatives etc. Colorful duct tape can be used to cover the cans and labels can be placed on each container.

Warm Fuzzy

Materials: Colorful fuzzies, clear plastic containers with lids or clear circular containers with a dome lid.
With containers that have lids, you need to cut a hole large enough for a fuzzy to fit through. One container is needed for each student. Explain to the students that each time they show kindness, helpful manners, selfless acts, or other virtues you feel need to be practiced, they can earn a warm fuzzy. A student or teacher can put a fuzzy in the container, if they see someone following classroom rules and showing kindness. At the end of the week the student with the most warm fuzzies earns a special treat. If there is a tie, both winners receive a special treat. You may want to decorate a small bulletin board and post students' name and picture or create a Warm Fuzzy certificate. Another activity would be to group students so that they can create a pictograph or bar graph using the colors of their warm fuzzies. Students can also use the fuzzies to create patterns and challenge their classmates to solve the pattern of what comes next. Fuzzies can be purchased at the Dollar Store.



Mittens

I wiggle my left hand,
I wiggle my right,
Inside of my mittens
So warm and so tight!



I wiggle my pinkie,
I wiggle my thumb,
So when I make snowballs,
My hands won't get numb.

Privacy Boards

Create a Privacy Board for test taking time or when students just need their own space.

Materials:

- 2 file folders – oak tag or colored
- Glue folders together at the ends
- Ideas to glue on the front sides and inside sides
- When your ideas are glued in place, laminate the folders.

Some ideas for the outside of the folders:

Left outside: I need quiet when I am thinking.

Middle outside: Great work is happening here.

Right outside: My brain is working hard.

Left inside:

1. Take a deep breath and relax.
2. Raise your hand if you need help or have a question.

Middle inside: A prayer that can be prayed before the test begins. Sample:

Dear Jesus,

Be with me while I take this test. Help me believe in myself. I know that you love me. Help me to make good choices and decisions in and out of the classroom. Thank you for always being there for me. Amen.

Right inside:

- Before you turn in your paper:
- Check for questions or problems you may have skipped.
- Give the hard questions or problems one more try.
- Make sure your full name, date, and student # are at the top of the paper.

Laminate and you have your privacy board. You can add other items to the inside. e.g. Number line, alphabet, rules, etc. You can create your own prayer or write a prayer with your students.

Submitted by: E. Houlette

Mitten Math Moment

Use this quick skill stretcher all winter long! Put long, narrow cards with math problems in two large mittens. When you have a few minutes between activities, designate a “mitten Math Moment.” Then have a student take a card from a mitten and read it aloud or you may read it aloud. Ask students to solve the problem mentally or use scrap paper or white board. After you discuss students’ solutions and reasoning, confirm the correct answer.

Sample Problems:

- 12 students play outdoors. If each child wears 2 mittens, how many mittens are there in all?
- There are 10 more blue mittens than red mittens. There are 22 red mittens. How many blue mittens are there?
- I buy mittens for 75 cents. I pay with 8 dimes. How much change will I receive?



The Mitten Song

Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle,

Thumbs in the thumb place,
Fingers all together!
This is the song
We sing in mitten weather.
When it is cold
It doesn't matter whether
Mittens are wool,
Or made of finest leather.
Thumbs in the thumb place,
Fingers all together!
This is the song
We sing in mitten weather.

Question Song

Tune: He's Got the
Whole World in His
Hands



I've got the who, what, where, when, why, and
how
I've got the who, what, where, when, why, and
how
I've got the who, what, where, when, why, and
how
I've got the QUESTION words in my hand.

Clean-Up Song

Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
Time to clean up where you are.
Put the toys back in their place.
Keep a smile on your face.
Twinkle, twinkle little star.
Time to clean up where you are.



Words in the third line can be changed to what
you are using at the time of clean-up.

January

January now is here
A fine new start
For a whole new year.

The snow comes down
In the dark of night.
When we awake
The world is white.

In January,
When there's snow,
We get our sleds
And away we go.



One Odd Day

By: Doris Fisher

When teaching odd and even numbers a
Humorous, rhythmic, read-aloud story is "One
Odd Day." It's about a boy who wakes up one
morning to find that everything is literally odd.
The colorful, busy spreads have child appeal,
and independent readers can pore over the
pages, trying to spot all the odd things hidden in
the art.

Odd and Even

By: Marg Wadsworth

If you are an even number
You always have a pair
So if you look around
Your buddy will always be there.
But....
If you are an odd number
There's always a lonely one
He looks around to find his buddy
But he's the only one.

Even Number Cheer

2, 4, 6, 8, who do we appreciate?
Evens!!! (whisper) 0
1, 3, 5, 7, 9, we think odds are mighty fine!

Even Was Her Name-O

Tune: Old MacDonald

There was a farmer had a cow and *Even* was her
name-o
0, 2, 4, 6, 8! 0, 2, 4, 6, 8! 0, 2, 4, 6, 8!
And *Even* was her name-o!

Odd Was His Name-O

Tune: Old MacDonald

There was a farmer had a pig and *Odd* was his
name-o
1, 3, 5, 7, 9! 1, 3, 5, 7, 9! 1, 3, 5, 7, 9!
And *Odd* was his name-o!