

## Extra February Creative Experiences

### ART

#### Heart String Art:

- Cut white paper into the shape of a heart
- Fold lengthwise
- Using red and pink and/or lavender paint, dip one string into each color
- Lay heart flat on newspaper
- Child squiggles one string at a time onto heart surface, letting string come to rest with the tip hanging off of the bottom of the heart
- Fold heart on the crease, putting pressure on the top of the heart as the child pulls string out and quickly disposes of them in a waste basket
- Open heart and see the beautiful design
- (HINT: kite string is the best type of string to use)

#### Heart Designs:

- Have children use patterns of large, medium and small hearts to cut as many as they wish from different colors of paper
- Place hearts onto white mural paper in any pattern or design

#### Weave a Heart:

- Cut large hearts from full pages of wallpaper samples
- Fold like a fan lengthwise and make small slits on the folder edges 1" deep
- Open and you'll see vertical slits
- Give children one heart and multiple strips of contrasting colors of wallpaper, the length of the heart
- Children are to weave one strip at a time up and over the slits of the heart to form a heart weaving design. Trim strips and glue ends to the heart.

#### Soap Painting:

- Add Ivory Snow Flakes to red and pink paint
- Cut paper into the shape of a large heart before placing on easel
- Children will enjoy painting a textured painting

#### Collage Hearts:

- Provide a container of scraps filled with construction paper, confetti, spangles, doilies and cardboard or file folder hearts of different sizes
- Children may create anything they wish

### Starch Hearts:

- Place small bowls of liquid starch, brushes and white paper on table
- Place small heart shapes cut from red tissue paper in another small container
- Encourage a child to brush liquid starch onto paper then place tissue paper hearts on top of the starch and brush over it again very carefully
- Create collage designs

### Valentine Glitter Playdough:

- Make red playdough
- Place shiny placemats or wax paper on table and sprinkle silver or gold glitter
- Encourage child to roll playdough through mixture, making snake rolls and shaping into hearts

### Love Mural:

- Invite each child to tell you someone they love and why
- Write each child's answer onto a heart with child's name
- Have child glue onto a Love Mural for all to see

### Feeling Tree:

- Turn a classroom tree into Feeling Tree or create a tree for this month
- Draw feeling faces onto hearts; happy, sad, sleepy, angry, confused, afraid, etc.
- Have each child select a heart during circle time and tell about a time when he or she was that feeling, then hang it on the tree

## **SNACK IDEAS**

### Jell-O Hearts:

- Prepare strawberry Jell-O in heart shaped mold
- Or, cut flat pan Jell-O with heart shaped cookie cutters

### Valentine Pudding:

- Prepare Vanilla pudding according to directions and add one or two drops of red food coloring into mixture
- Let children help with mixing and pouring into cups

## GAMES

### Missing Heart Guessing Game:

- Cut six large hearts, each a different color
- During circle time, line them up in the middle of the circle
- Everyone takes a look at them
- Ask a child to turn around and hid eyes
- Another child is chosen to take one of the Valentine hearts and sit on it
- First child turns back around and guesses which color of heart is missing
- Then, he guesses which child is sitting on that color heart
- He gets three tries
- If he chooses the correct child he gets to go again, if he does not choose the correct child start the game over again

### Valentine Hunt:

- Hide paper hearts around the room
- Play soft music while children hunt
- When all are found count them, sort by color and/or by size
- Place them in the art area for collage fun

### Musical Hearts:

- Place many colors of large hearts on the floor (one for each child)
- Play music and have all children walk around the hearts
- When the music stops children are to find a heart and sit on it, only one heart per child
- Call on a child and ask him to tell you the color of his heart
- After answer have child reveal heart and let class decide if he was correct
- Ask each child until all have identified each color

### Heart Hop:

- Cut ten large hearts from red construction paper
- Use a black felt tip marker and number hearts from 1 – 10
- Mix them up
- Stand at one end of the room and have children stand across from you at the other end
- As you hold up a heart have children hop forward as many hops as the number says
- Continue holding up hearts, one at a time until the children have hopped to your end of the room
- Repeat game by having children hop backwards across the room as you hold up a heart