

## SEASONAL IDEAS

### Winter Book Supplements:

The Christmas Tree Tangle by Margaret Mahy

Mr. Willowby's Christmas Tree by Robert Barry

The Christmas Alphabet by Robert Sauda

Twelve Days of Christmas by Hilary Knight

Stories by Firelight by Shirley Hughes

The Little Crooked Christmas Tree by Michael Cutting

Children Around the World Celebrate Christmas by Susan Titus Osborn and Christine Tangvald

Hooray a Pinata by Elisa Kleven

A Christmas Surprise for Chabelita by Argentina Palacios

**Ornaments:** Collect margarine lids. Have the children bring in a picture or take digital ones. Glue picture inside lid. Punch a hole and tie curling ribbon through it. Decorate with sequins and jewels.

## GIFT CRAFT IDEAS

### Clothespin Angels:

Provide wooden clothespin. Fold a coffee filter in half and glue inside the clothespin as wings. Have children make a dress or outfit to glue onto front of clothespin. Tie curling ribbon loop around neck to make hanging ornament. Decorate wings with glitter, sequins and jewels. Decorate outfit with collage materials. Glue glitter pipe cleaner shaped as circle for halo. Write child's name and date on back.

### Christmas Cloves:

You will need green tissue paper, red ribbon or pipe cleaner, whole cloves, string (optional)

Place a handful of cloves onto a piece of tissue paper. Lift up the ends of the tissue paper and tie them together a length of ribbon or a pipe cleaner. Now either add a loop of string to the top of the bag and hang it from your holiday tree or put in your drawer to make your clothes smell delicious.

### Christmas Bells:

You will need a Styrofoam cup or a cut out section of an egg carton, small jungle bells, glue, scissors, yarn, foil, glitter, sequins, tissue paper, construction paper, paint, etc.

Use the scissors to punch a hole in the flat base of the cup. Thread a bell and then tie a knot at the end of a piece of yarn. Thread the yarn through the hole so the knot is inside the cup. The cup should dangle upside down. Decorate the outside of the cup using tinsel, paper and glitter. Hang the holiday bell on your tree or front door.

**Seasonal Gift Wrap:**

Provide Christmas cookie cutters and large bulletin board paper. Allow each child to use the seasonal gift wrap to wrap presents for someone special.

**Handprint Wreath:** Have each child use their handprints on a ring of tag board. Let them decorate when dry using tissue paper, sequins, glitter, collage materials and bows.

**Holiday Magnets:** Provide wood scraps with magnetic tape taped to back. Let the children bring in an old photo and decorate with collage materials.

## **December:**

### **Gift Ideas:**

Have the children create recipe books. Let them dictate to you in their own words how their mother makes a certain food, dessert, etc.

### **Gift Planters:**

Half pint milk cartons filled with potting soil and planted two weeks in advance of giving with marigold or other fast growing seeds make beautiful planters for children to take home as gifts. As a finishing touch: punch holes in the sides of the carton and tie with colorful lace or ribbon.

### **Art:**

#### **Holiday Mural Scene:**

Have the class cooperatively paint a holiday scene. Provide chalk, paints, and lots on imagination. Use on bulletin board for backdrop.

#### **Mosaic Christmas Tree:**

Have the children decorate a tree pattern using fabric scraps and wallpaper samples and wrapping paper. Decorate on top the lights using hole punches of colored paper or confetti.

#### **Games and Movement:**

Discuss with the class feelings and objects that express Christmas time. Then have children use movement to express ideas. Encourage creativity and lots of imagination.

### **Songs/Finger plays**

#### **Christmas Toys**

A ball, a book, a tooting horn,  
I hope I'll get on Christmas morn.  
A ball to bounce,  
A book to read,  
And a horn to toot.  
When I see Santa I'm going to say,  
Please bring me these toys on Christmas day!

## **December Songs:** **Hanukkah**

### **Lighting all the Candles**

(Tune: I've Been Working on the Railroad)

I am lighting all the candles,  
On this Hanukkah night.  
I am lighting all the candles,  
To see the shining bright.  
Flicker, flicker little candles,  
Fill me with your glow.  
Now the time has come to count them,  
Ready, set, let's go.  
1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8

### **Light the Candles Bright**

(Tune: The Farmer and the Dell)

Oh, light the candles bright,  
And dance around the light.  
Heigh ho the derry oh  
It's Hanukkah tonight.  
Spin the dreidel round,  
And watch it falling down.  
Heigh ho the ferry oh  
It's Hanukkah tonight.  
Latke treats to eat,  
And family to greet,  
Heigh ho the derry oh,  
It's Hanukkah tonight.

### **I'm A Little Dreidel**

(Tune: I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little dreidel,  
Made of clay.  
Spin me around,  
When you want to play.  
When I fall down, if you don't win,  
Just pick me up and spin again.

### The Dreidel Song

I have a little dreidel,  
I made it out of clay,  
And when its dry and ready,  
Then dreidel I shall play.

(Chorus) Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel,  
I made it out of clay,  
Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel,  
Dreidel I shall play.

My dreidel's always playful,  
It loves to dance and spin,  
A happy game of dreidel,  
Come play, now let's begin.

One player spins the dreidel,  
And when the spinning's through,  
The dreidel drops with one side up,  
And tells him what to do.  
(Repeat Chorus)

*Nun* means you get nothing,  
*Gimel* means you win!  
*Heh* means you get half the pot,  
And *shin* means put one in.

Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel,  
With leg so short and thin,  
Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel,  
It drops and then I win.  
(Repeat Chorus)

## **Kwanzaa**

### **Kwanzaa**

(Tune: Three Blind Mice)

Red, green, black.

Red, green, black.

Kwanzaa's here,

Kwanzaa's here.

The decorations are quite a sight,

We light the candles every night,

The holiday is filled with light,

Kwanzaa's here,

Kwanzaa's here.

## **Spanish**

### **Feliz Navidad**

#### **Chorus:**

Feliz Navidad. Feliz Navidad.

Feliz Navidad prospero ano y felicidad.

#### **Repeat:**

I want to wish you a Merry Christmas!

With lots of good times to make you happy.

I want to wish you a Merry Christmas

From the bottom of my heart.

I want to wish you a Merry Christmas,

With mistletoe and lots of cheer,

With lots of laughter throughout the year

From the bottom of my heart.

## Christmas

### **On Christmas Day**

(Tune: Frere Jacques)

We give presents, we give presents,  
To our family, to our friends,  
We give presents, we give presents,  
On Christmas Day, On Christmas Day.

We sing carols, we sing carols,  
On Christmas day, on Christmas Day,  
We sing carols, we sing carols,  
On Christmas Day, On Christmas Day.

Our tree is decorated, our tree is decorated,  
On Christmas Day, On Christmas Day,  
Our tree is decorated, our tree is decorated,  
On Christmas Day, On Christmas Day.

Santa Claus visits, Santa Claus Visits,  
On Christmas Eve, On Christmas Eve,  
Santa Claus visits, Santa Claus visits,  
On Christmas Eve, On Christmas Eve.

We send peace and love, we send peace and love,  
To everyone, to everyone,  
We send peace and love, we send peace and love,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.

### **S-A-N-T-A**

(Tune: Bingo)

I know a man with a long white beard  
And Santa is his name-o  
S-A-N-T-A  
S-A-N-T-A  
S-A-N-T-A

And Santa is his name-o

(Additional Verses): He slides down the chimney with a pack on his back and  
Santa is his name-o

**Santa's Coming**

(Tune: Frere Jacques)

Santa's coming,  
Santa's coming,  
Sleigh bells ring,  
Sleigh bells ring.  
It is Christmas Eve, It is Christmas Eve,  
Ding Dong Ding,  
Ding Dong Ding.

**Merry Christmas Everywhere**

(Tune: Old Mac Donald Had a Farm)

Christmas time will soon be here,  
Merry Christmas Time.  
Happiest time of all the year.  
Merry Christmas time.  
Merry Christmas here,  
Merry Christmas there,  
Christmas cheer is everywhere,  
Christmas time will soon be here,  
Merry Christmas time.

**I'm a Christmas Tree**

(Tune: I'm A Little Teapot)

I'm a great big Christmas tree, tall and straight,  
Here are my branches for you to decorate.  
First we'll put a star up on the top,  
But be careful that the ornaments don't drop.

**The Chimney**

(Finger play)

Here is the chimney.  
Here is the top.  
Open the lid.  
Out Santa will pop.



### **Up On the Housetop**

Up on the housetop reindeer pause, (jump up)  
 Out jumps good old Santa Claus.  
 Down through the chimney with lots of toys, (shake downward)  
 All for the little one's Christmas joys.

#### Refrain

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go.  
 Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go!  
 Oh, up on the housetop, click, click, click, (snap fingers on click, click, click)  
 Down through the chimney with good St. Nick (Shake downward)

### **I'm A Little Pine Tree**

(Tune: I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little pine tree as you can see,  
 All the other pine trees are bigger than me.  
 Maybe when I grow up then I'll be,  
 A great big Merry Christmas tree!

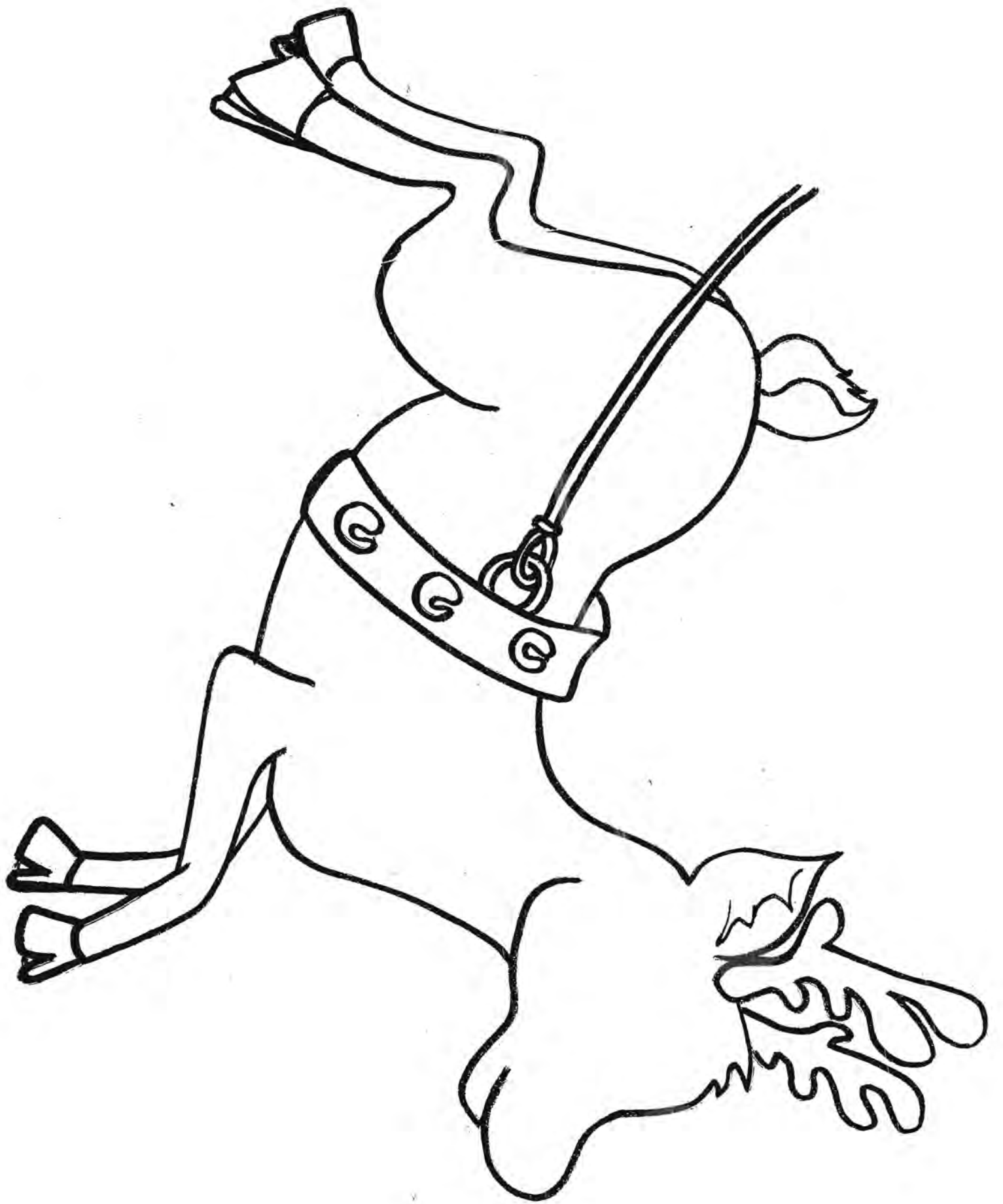
### **Reindeer Pokey**

(Tune: Hokey Pokey)

You put your antlers in,  
 You put your antlers out,  
 You put your antlers in,  
 And shake them all about.  
 You do the reindeer pokey and you turn your self around,  
 That's what it's all about, reindeer pokey!!

(Additional Verses):

You put your hooves in...  
 You put your red nose in...  
 You put your fluffy tail in...  
 You put your reindeer body in...





**Bright Things**

to  
**Glow About!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

