





Early Childhood Curriculum Ideas

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Christmas Decorations for the Tree	
<p>Paper Chains</p> <p>Use red, green and white paper or crepe paper. Cut into strips and join together with sellotape or staples.</p> <p>Pine Cones</p> <p>You can use big or small ones – get the children to collect these. Decorate these with glitter, paint, sand or cotton wool is a few suggestions.</p> <p>Trees, Bells, Stars</p> <p>Cut out cardboard or paper into the above shapes and once again the children can decorate those using pens, paint, glitter or any other collage resource. These look great hanging on the tree.</p>	
<p>PAINT</p> <p>Wrapping Paper</p> <p>Use your children's art work (paintings) for wrapping paper.</p> <p>Christmas Wreath</p> <p>Cut out a large circle with a small circle in the middle – use heavy cardboard. Provide a selection of resources for the children to decorate i.e natural resources (leaves, small shells, sand, glitter, glue, and paints in Christmas colour.</p>	
<p>Handprints</p> <p>Put paint on your child's hand and make a print. Use the following rhyme:</p> <p>Sometimes you get discouraged Because I am so small, You find my little fingerprints On the windows and the walls But now I'm getting bigger And soon I'll be so tall, You'll find my little fingerprints Hard to recall. So at the _____ playgroup Early in November, This had I made for you To help you remember 2006</p>	
<p>You could laminate these so that they last forever.</p> <p>Stained Glass Windows/trees</p> <p>Cut out holes of different shapes in cardboard or paper. Use red, green and white cellophane to cover. You could use other colours as well. Use sellotape to attach the cellophane to the cardboard.</p>	

Santa's Whiskers Game

Draw a picture of Santa without his beard.
Attach to a large piece of cardboard and place on the wall in a position that the children can reach it.
Cut out a beard, wear a blindfold and see if you can pin the beard onto his chin.

Standing Christmas Trees

Draw a Christmas tree on a folded piece of card.
Cut it out so that you have 2 trees.
Get the children to colour and decorate the trees.
Cut a slit on one tree from the base to the middle.
Cut a slit from the top to the middle on the other one.
Slot the two trees together and stand in some playdough/clay in a margarine lid.
You could also hang these on the tree.



Salt Dough

3 cups Salt
2 cups water
1 ½ cups cornflour

Mix in a saucepan, cook over low heat and stir well.
When it has formed a solid mass remove and knead well.

Use cutters (in shapes of trees, stars etc) to cut out the shapes. Make a hole in the top. Allow to dry hard and then the children can decorate them. Thread a piece of ribbon/string through top and hang.



Twinkle, Twinkle, Christmas Star

Twinkle, twinkle, Christmas star
How I wonder what you are
Up above the Christmas tree
Shining bright for all to see
Twinkle, twinkle, Christmas star
How I wonder what you are

You could get the children to make some stars for this song using cardboard in the shape of a star and decorate with glitter.



A FEW WORDS OF WISDOM

- Remember it's the process that your child has gone through, not the end product.
- If you make it for your child, the only thing they learn is that you can make it better than they can.