



Craft Activity

Theme: Hanukkah

Intro: Hanukkah is the 8-day Jewish Festival of Lights. The word Hanukkah is the Hebrew and Aramaic word for “dedication.” It is a time of giving and receiving presents, and gifts are given on each night of Hanukkah.

Craft activity: Sun Catcher

Children will need: Star template, contact, blue cellophane

Instructions:

Cut out the inside of the star template and stick a piece of contact underneath. (An adult may need to assist you with this). Use the cellophane pieces to stick to the contact. Hang your sun catcher near a window to see the colours shine through.

Extension ideas: A sun catcher can also be made using 6 popsticks. Make 2 triangles and stick one on top of the other.

Fact: During each day of Hanukkah, a special candle is lit on a Menorah. A special 9th candle called a Shamash is used to light the 8 candles and is displayed in the centre of the Menorah.



Learning Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity.

Coordinator extension ideas and group time guide

Sensory activity:

Sensory Rice Tray

You will need: Blue and white rice, tray, blue items such as pom poms, popsticks, stars, candles, straws, etc

Instructions: Colour some rice using food colouring and a small amount of vinegar. Let dry overnight. This will need to be made before the Playgroup session. (store in an airtight container once the rice has dried)

Put the rice into a tray and hide the items in the tray. Children will be able to spend time searching for the items, as well as experiencing the sensory touch from the rice.

Outside Activity:

Game of Hot Latkes

Bring a potato to the area. Have the children sit in a circle.

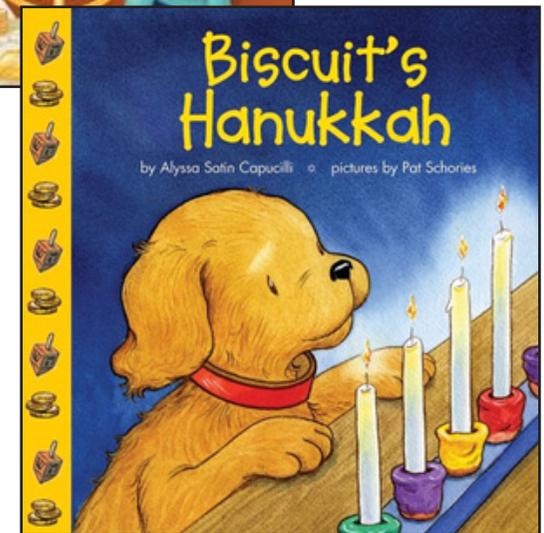
Play some music. The children pass the "hot" potato latke around.

When the music stops everyone freezes. The child holding the potato yells "Hot Latke!".

Continue until all the children have had a turn.

Group time ideas:

- Play a group game of dominoes (see attached templates. Use these to make your own dominoes)
- Make Latkes for morning tea. (these are potato pancakes)



Book Suggestions:

Happy Sparkling Hanukkah by Elizabeth Spurr
Biscuit's Hanukkah by Alyssa Satin Capucilli



