



Month: December Week: 3 Subject: Approaches to Play & Learning

Day 1	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Theme: Animals in the Winter Number: 19 Letter: Oo Color: Turquoise Shape: Triangle	APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL1.2 Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner
Indicators	Younger Infants	Older Infants
	May look toward new objects in the basket and move arms or hands toward them.	May reach, grasp, and hold different objects, exploring them with hands and mouth.

Activity: “Exploration Basket - Look, Reach, Grab”

Place 3-4 large, safe items (rattle, soft block, fabric ring) in a shallow basket on a mat. Set infants close enough to see and reach. Gently tilt the basket so items are visible and say, “Look at your toys.” Allow infants to choose what to grab or touch first, watching how they explore. Rotate items between children, giving plenty of time for free exploration without rushing or over-directing.

Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-4 large baby-safe toys with different shapes/textures 	Key Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> soft smooth touch 	Support:
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Day 2	Topic(s)		Foundation(s)	
	Theme: Animals in the Winter Number: 19 Letter: Oo Color: Turquoise Shape: Triangle		APL1.2 Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence	
Indicators	Younger Infants		Older Infants	
	May look toward the toy when it lights up or makes sound and may move hands toward it.		May press, hit, or bat the button repeatedly to make the sound or light return.	

Activity: “Cause & Effect - Musical Button Toy”

Introduce a simple cause-and-effect toy (button that lights or plays music). Press it once and say, “Listen!” Then pause and place the toy within infants’ reach. Encourage older infants to press or hit the button themselves, waiting to see if they try again when the sound stops. Comment on their efforts: “You pushed it-music came on!” to reinforce persistence and curiosity.

Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple baby-safe cause-and-effect toy (push button, light, or music) 	Key Vocabulary: push sound again	Support:
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Day 3	<table> <tr> <th data-bbox="375 369 899 407">Topic(s)</th><th data-bbox="899 369 1414 407">Foundation(s)</th></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="375 407 899 632"> Theme: Animals in the Winter Number: 19 Letter: Oo Color: Turquoise Shape: Triangle </td><td data-bbox="899 407 1414 632"> APL2.1 Demonstrate development of flexible thinking during play APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence </td></tr> </table>	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)	Theme: Animals in the Winter Number: 19 Letter: Oo Color: Turquoise Shape: Triangle	APL2.1 Demonstrate development of flexible thinking during play APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence
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Indicators	<table> <tr> <th data-bbox="375 730 899 793">Younger Infants</th><th data-bbox="899 730 1414 793">Older Infants</th></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="375 793 899 926"> May watch as the toy is covered and uncovered and may show surprise or interest when it reappears. </td><td data-bbox="899 793 1414 926"> May try to pull the cloth away or look under it to find the hidden toy. </td></tr> </table>	Younger Infants	Older Infants	May watch as the toy is covered and uncovered and may show surprise or interest when it reappears.	May try to pull the cloth away or look under it to find the hidden toy.
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May watch as the toy is covered and uncovered and may show surprise or interest when it reappears.	May try to pull the cloth away or look under it to find the hidden toy.				

Activity: “Where Did It Go? - Toy Under Cloth”

Place a favorite toy in front of the infant. Let them see and touch it, then slowly place a small cloth over the toy while they watch. Ask, “Where did it go?” and pause. For older infants, wait to see if they pull the cloth away; if not, help lift it and cheer, “There it is!” Repeat several times so infants can practice expecting, searching, and “finding” the toy.

Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small, soft toy or rattle • Light cloth or scarf 	Key Vocabulary: hide find where	Support:
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Day 4	Topic(s)		Foundation(s)	
	Theme: Animals in the Winter Number: 19 Letter: Oo Color: Turquoise Shape: Triangle		APL2.1 Demonstrate development of flexible thinking during play APL4.1 Demonstrate development of social interactions during play	
Indicators				
	Younger Infants		Older Infants	
	May look toward the blanket when it is lifted and may smile or vocalize when an adult or peer appears.		May crawl or scoot partway under the blanket, or play peekaboo at the opening with a caregiver or peer.	

Activity: “Blanket Tunnel Peek”

Drape a lightweight blanket over two low chairs or an adult’s legs to make a tiny “tunnel” opening. Sit at one end and call the infant’s name, lifting the blanket edge to say “Peek!” Encourage older infants to crawl or scoot toward you through the opening. For those not yet mobile, play at the edge, lifting and lowering the blanket for quick peeks and shared smiles.

Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lightweight blanket 	Key Vocabulary: peek under crawl	Support:
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Day 5	Topic(s) Theme: Animals in the Winter Number: 19 Letter: Oo Color: Turquoise Shape: Triangle	Foundation(s) APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL4.1 Demonstrate development of social interactions during play
Indicators	Younger Infants	Older Infants
	May look longer at one of the two toys or move a hand toward a preferred item.	May reach, point, or crawl to the toy they want and may repeat the choice when offered again.
<p>Activity: “Two-Toy Choice Time”</p> <p>Sit with an infant and hold two different toys at their eye level, one in each hand. Name them simply (“ball,” “rattle”) and say, “Which one do you want?” Wait for the infant to look, reach, or lean toward one toy, then hand it to them with positive language: “You chose the ball!” After some play, offer a new pair of toys or repeat the same pair to let them practice making choices and interacting with you.</p>		
Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pairs of contrasting toys (e.g., ball and rattle, soft toy and ring) 	Key Vocabulary: this that choose	Support: