



## Month: December Week: 4 Subject: Approaches to Play & Learning

Day 1	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Review Week	APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL1.2 Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner
Indicators	Younger Infants	Older Infants
	May look toward the basket, reach for nearby objects, and explore them with hands and mouth.	May choose specific items from the basket, explore several objects in a row, and return to favorites.

### Activity: Treasure Basket - December Objects

Place a small “treasure basket” on the floor with safe December-themed objects (soft jingle toy, scarf, small board book, textured ball). Seat infants around the basket and let them reach in and choose what interests them. Stay close, naming each object and describing what they do-“You found the jingle,” “Soft scarf,” “Shake, shake.” Allow plenty of time for free exploration so infants lead the play with their curiosity.

<b>Resources/Materials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shallow basket or bin</li> <li>Safe December objects (soft jingle toy, small scarf, board book, textured ball, soft block)</li> </ul>	<b>Key Vocabulary:</b> look, touch, shake	<b>Support:</b>
---	--	-----------------



## Month: December Week: 4 Subject: Approaches to Play & Learning

Day 2	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Review Week	APL1.2 Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence
Indicators	Younger Infants	Older Infants
	May watch as the adult presses buttons or levers and see lights, sounds, or movement appear.	May try pressing, pushing, or turning parts of the toy and repeat actions to see what happens again.
<b>Activity: Cause &amp; Effect Toys - Press &amp; Watch</b> Offer one or two simple cause-and-effect toys (pop-up toys, light-up buttons, spinning tops). Demonstrate how to press a button, flip a switch, or turn a knob, then pause for infants to watch what happens. Encourage older infants to try, gently guiding their hands at first. Celebrate every attempt- "You pressed!"-and let them repeat actions as many times as they like to discover "I do this, then that happens."		
Resources/Materials	Key Vocabulary:	Support:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simple cause-and-effect toys (pop-up box, light-up button toy, spinning toy)</li> </ul>	press, watch, again	



## Month: December Week: 4 Subject: Approaches to Play & Learning

<b>Day 3</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Foundation(s)</b>
	Review Week	APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL4.1 Demonstrate development of social interactions during play
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Younger Infants</b>	<b>Older Infants</b>
	May watch from one end of the tunnel, smile or vocalize when someone appears, and reach toward the opening.	May crawl partway or all the way through the tunnel, peek out, and engage in simple back-and-forth play with a caregiver or peer.
<b>Activity: Tunnel Peek</b> Set up a short play tunnel or drape a light blanket over low furniture to create a safe tunnel. Sit at one end and gently call the infant's name, peeking in and out of the opening. Invite older infants to crawl through toward you; for younger infants, you can stay close to one end and play peekaboo by lifting the blanket. Use excited but gentle tones ("Peek!") to make the exploration fun and encourage them to move and interact.		
<b>Resources/Materials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play tunnel or small area covered with a light blanket</li> </ul>	<b>Key Vocabulary:</b> peek, in, out	<b>Support:</b>



## Month: December Week: 4 Subject: Approaches to Play & Learning

<b>Day 4</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Foundation(s)</b>
	Review Week	APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Younger Infants</b>	<b>Older Infants</b>
	May show interest in one bin by looking or reaching and explore a few items briefly.	May clearly choose one bin over another, stay with preferred materials longer, and return to them after short breaks.

### Activity: **Choice Time - Favorite Exploration Bin**

Prepare two or three small exploration bins (for example: soft “snow” bin with cotton balls, ball bin, fabric/scarf bin). Place them near infants and watch which one they look at or reach for. Move the chosen bin closer and let them explore at their own pace, narrating what they are doing. Older infants may move or crawl toward another bin; follow their lead and allow them to revisit favorites, building early decision-making and focus.

<b>Resources/Materials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 small bins with different materials (cotton “snow,” balls, scarves/fabric scraps, etc.)</li> </ul>	<b>Key Vocabulary:</b> choose, more, play	<b>Support:</b>
--	--	-----------------



## Month: December Week: 4 Subject: Approaches to Play & Learning

<b>Day 5</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Foundation(s)</b>
	Review Week	APL1.2 Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner APL4.1 Demonstrate development of social interactions during play
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Younger Infants</b>	<b>Older Infants</b>
	May watch closely, smile, or startle gently when the scarf is lifted to reveal a face.	May pull the scarf off their own face or the caregiver's face, anticipating the "peekaboo" moment and engaging in back-and-forth play.

### Activity: Peekaboo Play with Holiday Scarves

Use light, colorful scarves (gold, red, white) to play gentle peekaboo. Place a scarf loosely over your face and say, "Where did I go?" then pull it down with "Peekaboo!" Repeat several times and then invite infants to pull the scarf off your face or their own. Follow their giggles and cues, sometimes hiding a toy under the scarf for them to discover. This builds early social play, anticipation, and joyful interaction.

<b>Resources/Materials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Light, baby-safe scarves (holiday/winter colors if available)</li> </ul>	<b>Key Vocabulary:</b> peekaboo, where, here	<b>Support:</b>
--	---	-----------------