

December 2023

The Why Of Learning

Develop Language :

December vocabulary words: elves, jolly, merry, reindeer, mistletoe, chimney, carols

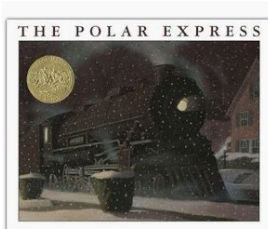
[Teach ASL sign for Reindeer](#)

Fine Motor Development: Making Reindeer Snack out of celery sticks, creamy peanut butter, broken pretzel sticks for antlers, marshmallow bits for eyes, and red raspberry for nose.

Math activity: sorting bells into colors, shapes, and making bell patterns.

Grandma's Goody

When I had my first child October 1988, my undergraduate professor sent me the book, *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg. I remember reading the book each year to my children and now, to my granddarlings. The essence of the story describes the first gift of Christmas- a bell off the reindeer harness. Each year, I am reminded that 'the bell rings' for all of us who believe.



December Activities

Sign language for reindeer

Make celery reindeer snacks

Reindeer Hats

Sorting Bells

Five Little Reindeer

Five Little Reindeer playing in the snow. The first one said, "Can you see my nose glow?"

The second one said, "listen to me sing." The third one said, "I can hear the bells ring." The fourth one said, "Let's eat the pie." The fifth one said, "I'm ready to fly!"

Then CLOMP went their hoofs and the snow fell white, as the five little reindeer flew out of sight.

Music

Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh, O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way. Bells on bob-tail ring, Making spirits bright. What

fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight. Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way. Oh what fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh. O Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way, Oh what fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh.

Open-ended Art

- Decorate trees with loose parts.
- Make reindeer hats using granddarling hands for antlers.
- Make playdough trees. Children can roll out and decorate the tree using bells, pom-poms, pine needles, etc.