

**ELINOR  
WONDERS WHY**

WITFK 24/7  
M-F 9:30am;  
3:30pm

WITF TV  
M-F 10:30am



“Elinor Wonders Why” aims to encourage your child to follow their curiosity, ask questions when they don’t understand and find answers using science inquiry skills.

**This week’s focus:** exploring the season of winter.

**ACTIVITY: MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 - SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL LEARNING**



The change of seasons and the anticipation of the holidays can be unsettling for young children. Spending some quality time together and doing some simple activities can be a healthy distraction and bring some calmness during this time of change. Elinor and her friends like to take nature walks. Dress for the weather and take a walk in your neighborhood or local park. Talk about the changes in the weather and the seasons. What is different? What is the same? If it happens to snow, have fun exploring it!

PA STANDARD: 16.1.PK.K.A – DISTINGUISH BETWEEN EMOTIONS AND IDENTIFY SOCIALLY ACCEPTED WAYS TO EXPRESS THEM. 16.2.PK.C – ENGAGE IN RECIPROCAL COMMUNICATION WITH ADULTS AND PEERS.  
3.3.PK.A.5 – IDENTIFY SEASONS THAT CORRESPOND WITH OBSERVABLE CONDITIONS AND IDENTIFY HOW WEATHER AFFECTS DAILY LIFE.

**ACTIVITY: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 - MATH THINKING**



Talk about how temperature tells us how cold or hot it is inside and outside, and a thermometer measures the temperature. Ask: “Is it cold or hot in the winter? Summer?” You can explain that the higher or bigger number on a thermometer tells us it’s warmer or hot and the lower or smaller number tells us it is cooler or cold. On separate sheets of paper, make two simple thermometers (write a degree scale 0-10). Encourage your child to color the temperature line to 10 in red on the first one and on the second one, color the line to 2 in blue. Ask: “Which thermometer shows winter? Summer?”

PA STANDARD: 2.1.PK.A.1 – KNOW NUMBER NAMES AND COUNT SEQUENCE. 2.1.PK.A.2 – COUNT TO TELL THE NUMBER OF OBJECTS.  
3.3.PK.A.5 – IDENTIFY SEASONS THAT CORRESPOND WITH OBSERVABLE CONDITIONS AND IDENTIFY HOW WEATHER AFFECTS DAILY LIFE.

**ACTIVITY: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 - EARLY LITERACY**



Cut out four circles using white paper to simulate a snowball. Write the letters “S” “N” “O” “W” for younger children. Older children can practice writing the letters. Once finished, throw the paper “snowballs” and see if your child can put the letters in order by sounding out the letters. To make it more challenging, you can make 26 paper “snowballs” and write out the entire alphabet. Throw them to mix them up and then put them in order by singing the alphabet song.

PA STANDARD: 1.1.PK.B – IDENTIFY BASIC FEATURES OF PRINT. 1.1.PK.D – DEVELOP BEGINNING PHONICS AND WORD SKILLS. 1.4.PK.F AND 1.4.PK.R – EMERGING TO... SPELL SIMPLE WORDS PHONETICALLY.

**ACTIVITY: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9 - SCIENCE THINKING**



Try this simple snowball melting experiment. Put snowballs (or ice cubes if no snow) in clear cups in different areas around your home or classroom (i.e. window sill, refrigerator, near heater). Encourage your child to make predictions of what will happen. Check later to see if their predictions were right.

PA STANDARD: 3.2.PK.A.1 – SORT AND DESCRIBE OBJECTS ACCORDING TO SIZE, SHAPE, COLOR, AND TEXTURE. 3.2.PK.A.3 – NOTICE CHANGE IN MATTER.  
3.2.PK.A.6 – PARTICIPATE IN SIMPLE INVESTIGATIONS OF MATTER TO ANSWER A QUESTION OR TO TEST A PREDICTION. 3.3.PK.A.4 – IDENTIFY A VARIETY OF USES FOR WATER.

**ACTIVITY: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10 - THE ARTS**



Create your own “snowfriend” using homemade or craft materials such as play dough, old socks (rolled up into a ball) or recycled boxes and stacking them. Decorate with recycled materials from around the house. When finished, encourage your child to name their “snowfriend”.

PA STANDARD: AL.3.PK.C - USE MATERIALS AND OBJECTS TO REPRESENT NEW CONCEPTS. 9.1.V.PK.B - COMBINE A VARIETY OF MATERIALS TO CREATE A WORK OF ART.