

Outline for Early Childhood Library Activity

Making Turkeys

Standards / Positions Statements

This lesson focuses on the seasons. Making turkeys is very relevant to the month of November and thus to the fall season. During this time, images of turkeys can be found practically everywhere. From this idea, we can expand our knowledge about turkeys to where they live, what they eat, their family structure and many more topics.

Children Input / Purpose

Most children will have a holiday meal at the end of November. Without saying what holiday most people celebrate we can open a dialogue to figure out how much information the children know about this event. At home, children are hearing about an upcoming event where the family comes together and has a special dinner set-up. In the classroom, we can explain why this event is happening and hear from students how they celebrate in their own particular family. Let the children guide this dialogue.

Theme / Main Goals

The main goal for this lesson is for the children to acquire more information about the turkeys. With this hand-print model, we can further explore more information about this big animal. The children will trace one of the hands, cut out the shape of their hand, glue colorful feathers to the turkey, add a beak, add 1 wiggly eye and use glitter glue to decorate the turkey. Each child will make their own individual turkey based on their imagination.

Small Group Opportunities

I think that this activity will be best completed in a small group. The students will use scissors as well as glue and this can be an activity with a lot of clean-up time. Please explain to the children about scissor safety and also that a little bit of glue goes a long way. Of course, teachers can have these pieces pre-cut and help children cut out the hand prints to minimize the risks of injury.

Individual Opportunities

If a child would rather work alone, on the carpet or on a table that is not being used that is fine as long as the child is explained safety issues. Also, it would be a good idea to have the child cut all of the pieces that he needs before working alone in another station. This way, he will only need to glue and not cut out anymore items. All children must remain supervised during any activity no matter if the children are near or far.

One on One - Teacher / Child Opportunities

During a time where children have the option of choosing their activity a teacher can help a child to make his turkey. Perhaps the child needs extra help with his fine motor skills and this activity will help the child in that matter. Some children need more help than others and that is why we are there to help and to observe individual needs.

Materials / Organization

Construction paper of a variety of colors

Markers

Pencils

Scissors

Wiggly eyes

Glue

Glitter glue

Drying rack

Assessment / Growth and Development of the Children in your Care

Your whole classroom can have the fall theme: playdough table can have turkeys, pumpkins, corn figures to cut the playdough. During snack, children can have ½ a turkey sandwich. You can find ways to incorporate the fall season and observe the children and their comments. They will most likely say, "Oh, I remember we learned about the turkey." If you do not hear any comments then you will realize that the children are not taking in the lesson and you will need to accommodate for that or repeat the lesson.

