



From SAIL: Systems
Aligned In Learning

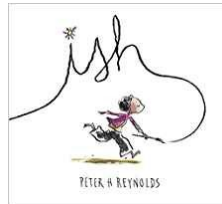
The Be **READY** Rover Review

December's Storytime Theme: Arts and Gifts!

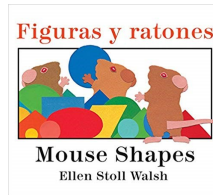
READ



The Perfect Gift
Jenny Gago



Ish
Peter H. Reynolds



Figuras y ratones/Mouse Shapes
Ellen Stoll Walsh

TALK

What holiday does your family celebrate this month? What do you do on that holiday? What is your favorite thing to do on your holiday? Do you get gifts? Do you give gifts?

SING

We sang such holiday favorites as “Jingle Bells”, “Rudolph”, “Jingle Bell Rock”, “Frosty the Snowman” and “Feliz Navidad”, using shakers and musical instruments.

PLAY

After reading *Mouse Shapes*, the children put magnetic shapes together on a dry erase magnetic board to make the pictures in the book.

WRITE

The children made a gift of art for a person in their life. I drew simple pictures made from shapes they know—triangles, squares, circles, ovals, rectangles—of a Christmas tree, a candle, a Hanukkah Menora, a Mishumaa Saba (the seven candles) if a child observes Kwanza , a wreath, a snowman, and presents. The children glued pre-cut shapes to make their own design, and put in the details, using markers and crayons.

More Holiday activities:

- 1. Make a shaving cream snowman;** Give each child a piece of cardboard or posterboard. Briskly mix 2 parts nonmenthol shaving cream with one part white glue. When slightly stiff, drop some on each child's sheet. Have the children use craft sticks to spread the mixture into a snowman shape (you could draw the outline for the very young), then add sequins for the mouth and eyes, and twigs for arms.
- 2. Act out “A Visit from St. Nicholas”;** Assign parts, and use costumes, (night cap, slippers, Santa hat), and props (pillows, stockings, a sack with toys), and let the children act out the poem as you read it.
- 3. Make cinnamon clay ornaments (No Cooking!);** Combine 1 cup flour, 1/2 cup salt, 1/2 cup cinnamon, and 3/4 cup very warm water, and mix well. Flour hands and knead a few minutes on waxed paper. Let the children roll the dough out and use cookie cutters. Punch a hole in the top of each ornament with a straw. Let dry (approx. 24 hours). Thread string through the hole, then hang up or let children paint them with acrylic paints (**Careful!** These paints **don't** wash out!). These make great gifts!

We try to achieve the 6 early literacy skills - **Print Motivation, Print Awareness, Letter Knowledge, Vocabulary, Phonological Awareness** (such as rhyming words), and **Narrative Skills** – by including 5 basic activities in our lesson plans: **TALK, SING, READ, WRITE, PLAY.**

Long Live Hand Print Art!

Make cards, gift bags, decorated gifts.



Candles are used in all 3 traditions. Paint toilet paper tubes. Make flames from paper or crumpled tissue paper, glue to sticks, and push up inside tube to “light” a candle a day for 8 days of Hanukkah. Kwanza uses 7 candles,: 3 red,1 black, and 3 green.



From Pinterest

If there are certain kinds of books or materials you would like me to bring out to you, just call me at : **717-207-0500 ext. 1201**, or email : **mbenson@lancasterlibraries.org**