

JANUARY 2026 Activities for Early Learning Staff



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

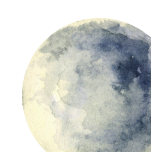
SATURDAY



January is National Mentoring Month. Mentors can be anyone who provides guidance and support as we make our way through the easy and difficult times. [Learn more about the impact of mentors.](#)

1 New Year's Day
**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

2 Share the January Learning is Everywhere [newsletter](#) for activities families can do at home.*

3 Learn about [January's Wolf Moon](#). 

4

5

Make a [Jan Brett inspired winter art craft](#).

6

National Bird Day

Try the [Collaborative Bird House build activity](#) and read the 2023 PA One Book, *Mel Fell* by Corey R. Tabor.

7

Talk about the winter season and how it differs from other seasons.

8

Make [frozen suncatchers](#) from found items in nature.

9

Select a book or two to read from the from [10 Awesome Books About Winter List](#).

10

11

12

Invite school district personnel to review kindergarten registration and attendance policies with families. *

13

Play a [social-emotional game](#) with children & share the game with families so they can play, too.*

14

Bring snow inside. What words can describe the snow? What happens when it's inside too long?

15

Read *If You Were a Penguin* by Wendall & Florence Minor, then create [hatching paper plate penguin chick puppets](#).

16

Explore [different animal tracks](#) and talk about what animals make the tracks and how.

17

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19

[Martin Luther King, Jr. Day](#)



20

Use a flashlight and shine it on the wall. Encourage children to use their hands to make shadows.

21

Create [Calm-Down Jars](#) and talk with children about different ways notice emotions and relax.

22

Make [tissue paper art with snow](#) (or water, if there's no snow!).

23

National Pie Day

Create a pie with paper and talk about mathematical terms like *whole*, *half*, and *one-quarter*.

24

26

Help children identify opposites in the classroom.

27

Teach children a new [outdoor game](#).

28

Create a [sensory bin for sensory play](#).

29

Reach out to local Kindergarten teachers. Plan a spring classroom visit for transitioning preschoolers.*

30

Provide a variety of ways for family members to share feedback related to their experiences.*

31



*Recommendations from the [Pennsylvania Family Engagement Framework](#)