



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



ECCE Activity Pack

Week 13 Term 1

What is Christmas?

Christmas is celebrated by Christians all around the world. It is celebrated on December 25th for many, and on January 7th for Orthodox Christians. It is a celebration of the birth of their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who brought Joy and Hope to the world! Jesus Christ was born in a manger to Mary and Joseph and was visited by Wise men who brought Him gifts of Gold, Frankincense, Myrrh.

Popular Christmas Traditions

There are many different Christmas traditions. Some Christmas traditions include having a Christmas tree, sending Christmas cards, baking holiday cookies, fruit cake, making sorrel drink, buying presents for loved ones, hanging stockings, decorating your home with Christmas lights, singing Christmas carols, and celebrating the day with loved ones.



The Christmas Tree

Christmas trees are also known as Yule-trees. They are evergreen and usually either a fir, pine, or spruce tree. Santa is known to leave Christmas gifts under the tree.

Santa Claus

Santa Claus is also known as St. Nicholas, Father Christmas, Grandfather Frost, and Kris Kringle. Santa is believed to bring gifts to good girls and boys on the night before Christmas (December 24th), which is known as Christmas Eve. Children all over the world write letters to Santa Claus requesting gifts for Christmas. Children send these letters to the North Pole. Santa lives at the North Pole with Mrs. Claus.

Santa Claus' reindeers are named: Comet, Cupid, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Donner, Blitzen and the most famous one Rudolph.

Remote Learning

Time	Activity
9:00 - 9:30	Personal Awareness Preparation for the day
9:30 - 10:00	Circle Time (Online) Discussion about values: Reading stories
10:00 - 10:15	Individual Activity (Online)
10:15 - 10:30	Fruit Time
10:30 - 11:00	Outdoor Play
11:00 - 11:30	Stories/Rhymes
11:30 - 12:30	Lunch Prep Lunch Break & Clean up
12:30 - 12:45	Recall - Discussions based on the day's activities

WEEKLY FOCUS

Learning Outcomes

Children will be given opportunities to:

- Build vocabulary, extend language and communicate effectively when listening and speaking
- Identify and name colours, shapes, numbers and letters
- Develop fine motor skills (colouring, painting, pouring) and gross motor skills (running, hopping, jumping, stretching, and dancing)
- Develop a positive sense of self and build relationships



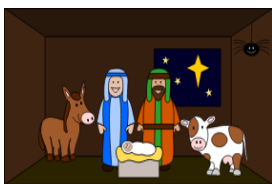
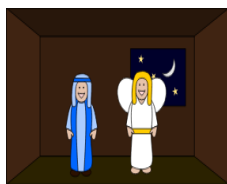
Materials: Paper, pallet sticks, markers, paint, glitter, plastic container, Christmas decorations, sorrel, spices, sugar, plastic bottles, coconut



Activities for three (3) and four (4) year old—PART 1

Monday

The Nativity Story Board



- Read or listen to the Nativity Story
- Allow the child to sequence the story and retell in his/her own words



Holiday Party Hop



- Place a plant or an object in an open space to represent a Christmas tree
- Draw some directional foot prints (as seen in the picture) around the tree
- Play the song, "Rocking around the Christmas Tree"
- Encourage the child to follow the directions by hopping and dancing around the tree

Tuesday

Away in a manger - Baby Jesus Decoration

- Explain that baby Jesus slept in a manger because there was no crib in the stable where he was born

- Discuss what is a manger (Manger: a long open box or trough for horses or cattle to eat from)

- Create the baby Jesus in a manger as seen in the picture using any available materials



Catch a Falling Star

- The child will stoop/stand behind a table or couch
- Someone will throw over paper stars from the other side
- The child will try to catch the falling stars
- The child will count how many stars were caught



Wednesday

Handprint Nativity Scene Ornament

- Paint and print child's hand on a piece of paper, using one or different colours

- Use crayons, markers or paint to draw facial features on fingertips to create Mary, Joseph and the wise men

- Paint/draw a star between the thumb and index finger

- Draw or paint baby Jesus on the palm of the hand

- Cut the paper into a circle as seen in the picture

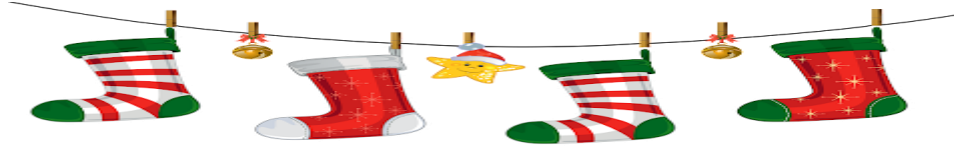
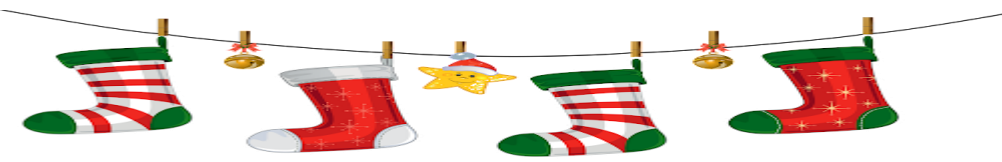
- Attach a piece of string/ribbon and hang as a nativity scene ornament



Christmas Tree Balance



- Create a large Christmas tree on the ground using tape or by drawing it (as seen in the picture)
- Cut out some round paper ornaments and one star ornament
- Place the ornaments in a container at the bottom of the tree
- The child will decorate the tree with the ornaments by walking, bending and squatting on the trunk and branches
- Encourage the child to balance along the tree without stepping out until the tree is decorated



Activities for three (3) and four (4) year old—PART 2

Thursday Christmas Sensory Bin



- Fill a medium to large plastic container with uncooked beans as the base
- Add any available Christmas decorations

- Allow the child to explore all the textures and materials in the bin with his/her hands, using the thumb and pointer finger (pincer grasp) to pick up the small objects:

- Ask questions and start a conversation
 - What is this colour?
 - How does it feel?
 - Shake the bells and say, "the bells are ringing. Do you hear the bells?"
 - Can you take out the red and green objects? Older children, can sort the colours.

Friday Sorrel Refreshers

- Introduce the child to the sorrel flower and discuss the tradition of the popular drink usually made at Christmas in the Caribbean
- Prepare the sorrel drink using a simple recipe
- Encourage the child to identify the colour of the sorrel, smell the spices and taste the liquid before and after it is sweeten
- The liquid can then be made into **juice, lollies or sucker bags**



Reach for the Stars

- Stick the stars from Tuesday physical activity onto ribbon or string and hang from a low ceiling
- Encourage the child to stretch or jump to reach for the stars



Coconut Bowling

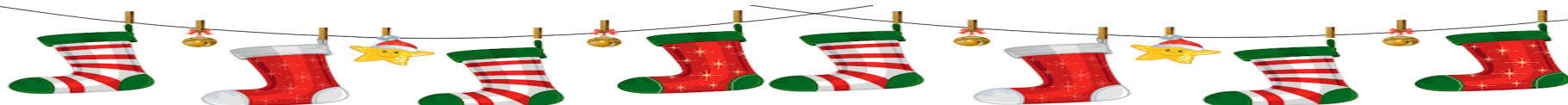
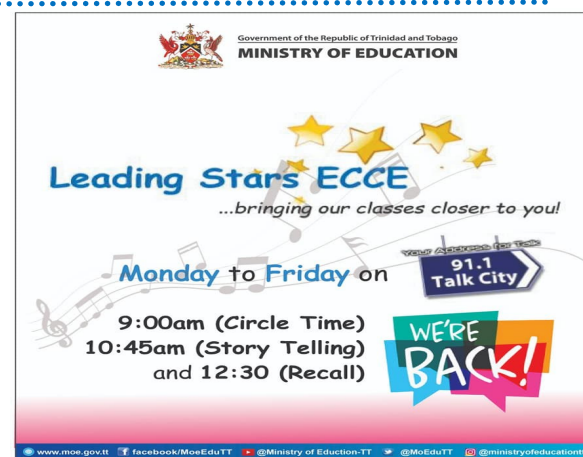
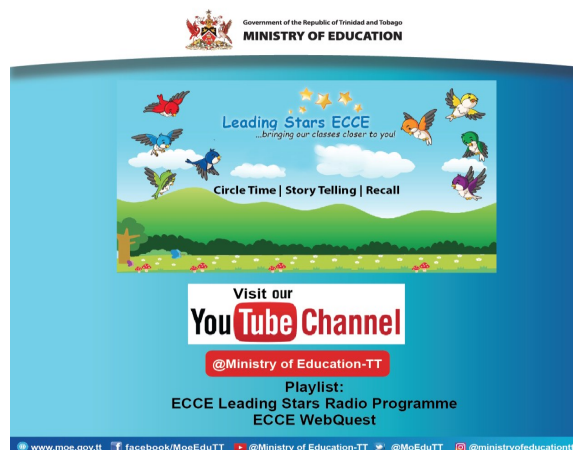
- Fill five bottles with water and arrange in a pyramid pattern
- The child will roll a coconut or a ball on the ground to knock the bottles down



ECCE RESOURCES

For All ECCE Activity Packs <https://www.moe.gov.tt/ecce-activity-packs-2/> they are free to download and print anytime at your convenience

YouTube link for radio programming <https://bit.ly/3Bxz2WO>



Colouring Page

