

## Teacher Tip of the Month by: Amy Carmichael, Contact Teacher

## How to survive the holidays with these Christmas-themed STEM activities:

- 1. Slime is in! Make Christmas tree slime and decorate it with glitter, bells, and tinsel. Discuss the chemical reaction that happens when you mix the slime up.
- 2. <a href="https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/christmas-tree-homemade-slime/">https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/christmas-tree-homemade-slime/</a>
- 3. Engineer a 3-D Paper Christmas Tree. Discuss the geometry involved, like angles and shapes.
- 4. <a href="https://www.steamsational.com/wp-content/cache/wp-rocket/www.schoolingamonkey.com/3d-paper-christmas-tree-engineering/index-https.htmlgzip">https://www.steamsational.com/wp-content/cache/wp-rocket/www.schoolingamonkey.com/3d-paper-christmas-tree-engineering/index-https.htmlgzip</a>
- 5. Do a raised salt painting. The website link creates snowflakes but anything can be done. Children can practice writing their ABCs in fun Christmas colors!
- 6. <a href="https://thesaltymamas.com/snowflake-salt-painting/">https://thesaltymamas.com/snowflake-salt-painting/</a>
- 7. Create a pipe cleaner circuit Rudolf and make his nose light up! This is a great science lesson about electricity and circuits.
- 8. <a href="https://teachbesideme.com/rudolph-pipe-cleaner-circuit/">https://teachbesideme.com/rudolph-pipe-cleaner-circuit/</a>
- 9. Make a crystal candy cane that you hang as an ornament. Discuss how this happens and look at different types of crystals.
- 10. <a href="https://gosciencegirls.com/crystal-candy-canes/">https://gosciencegirls.com/crystal-candy-canes/</a>

The holidays are a great time to spend with the family but it can be hard to focus on school work at that time. Use everyday opportunities and turn them into lessons. Talk about Science while baking cookies. Use shopping for presents to discuss percentages, addition, and budgeting. Local libraries also offer fun winter activities for school-aged children. Take advantage of them.

The biggest tip I can give is to BE FLEXIBLE!! Do a holiday school schedule and remember the goal is to make memories this holiday season, not lesson plans.

Please post pictures of your creations on our Facebook page!

## Happy Birthday to....

Jakhaya

Evelyn

Walter

Elijah H.

Marc

Erno

Belicia

Thomas

Alexis

Neve

Angelina

Clayton

Kendra

Preston

Aryan

Elijah P.

Bowen

James

## ALC "Make a Gift" Event

Stop by the Anchorage Learning Center on December 9<sup>th</sup> between noon and 5pm for some light snacks and crafts. No reservation required. Stop by when you can. There will be 3-4 different crafts to choose from. First come first serve on crafts. We have a limited supply of each craft, so come early for best choices.

We look forward to seeing you there!