

**KSCP December 2013 Curriculum:
Dark and Light (Family Winter Traditions)**

Big Concepts:

1. We all have culture and tradition
2. Families celebrate in their own special ways
3. Many winter traditions involve special lights that light up the darkness of winter

Literacy:

- Songs and fingerplays: “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star,” “5 brown buns,” “Go to Sleep (movement song),” “This Little Light of Mine (chorus),”
- Books: Light the Lights, Gingerbread Boy, Gingerbread Baby, Goodnight Moon, The House in the Night
- Poems: “My Shadow,” “Jack Be Nimble,”
- Shadow Puppet Theater Stories
- Goodnight Moon extension – Home Center clothesline to pair and pin mittens and socks; Goodnight Moon matching game

Mathematics:

- Pattern block “stars”
- Sorting: electric lights vs. non-electric lights, shiny vs. dull

Art/Science:

- Sensory Table Explorations with black beans and silver “treasures,” making flubber (exploring moving from a liquid to a solid state)
- Making Shadow Puppets and exploring shadow in the puppet theater
- Spiced Play dough with rolling pins, muffin tins, and cookie cutters
- Solstice Lanterns
- Flashlights and colored cellophane (transparent vs. opaque, light and color)
- Contact paper light collage
- Black paper with white crayon and oil pastels
- Penny shining

Gross Motor Games:

- “Jack Be Nimble” candlestick jumping
- Flashlight tag
- Red Light/Green Light

Other Fun:

- Creating caves and cozy dark spaces – forts, hide and seek
- Pajama Week (December 16th – 20th)

Holiday Potluck:

We hope you can all join us to for our shared King Street winter tradition, our Holiday Potluck, on Friday, December 20th from 6-8pm. Children can bring a special glow-in-the-dark or light-up toy/item (flash light, ball, glow-in-the-dark shirt, etc.). We will darken the Home Center so children can explore their own special lights. Look for more details from Kelly, and a sign-up sheet posted at school, soon!

How You Can Help:

- Can you share one of your family’s wintertime traditions? Please let the teachers know if you’d like to come in to share something or organize an activity. It could be as simple as reading a special book or sharing an item from you winter tradition, or a more complicated activity like a cooking and tasting project or craft.
- Bring in your pennies for the children to shine and toilet paper tubes for light tubes.
- Have anything sparkly you are ready to donate that children might enjoy dressing up in? We need more sparkles and glitter!

Thank you!