

Wild Child AUTUMN PROGRAM

STONES

**AGE: PRESCHOOL-
KINDERGARTEN**

MATERIALS

- BUCKET OF HAND-SIZE AND LARGER STONES
- SILK OR BANDANA
- BOWL OF SMALL POLISHED STONES
- THICK WHITE PAPER (WE USE WATER-COLOUR PAINTING PAPER)
- BASKET OF NATURAL PIGMENT MATERIALS (LEAVES, BERRIES, FLOWERS, THIN BARK)
- FOLDING TABLES
- "EVERYONE NEEDS A ROCK" STORYBOOK

SET UP

Approximately 30 min.
(Longer if leaf collection is tied into a hike)

OBJECTIVE

Inukshuks: Set up an inukshuk (pile of rocks) in a place where the children will be able to see it from nearby the circle. Set up another inukshuk past the first one, visible

while standing at the first one. Set up 5-7 inukshuks throughout the property, each one visible from the previous one. At the final inukshuk, hide "everyone needs a rock" under the rock-bucket. Hide the bowl of polished rocks under the silk.

Craft table: Set the folding tables flat on the ground. Place paper and natural pigment items around the table.

PROGRAM

Introduce instructors

Opening Circle (songs and dances)

The purpose of opening circle is to get the blood and breath moving. Feel free to substitute songs with dances or movements from your own repertoire or look up the ones we use.

-Go-around of names and everyone repeats name and claps for each syllable (optional- this can be challenging for very young kids.)

-"Good morning dear earth"

-Mouse, penguin, eagle (tiny circle with one foot in centre, small circle with elbows touching, large circle with 'wings' spread)

-"I like to rise when the sun she rises"

-"Alouette"

-“Small horses”

‘Rock, rock how you wander’ game

Come to a sitting circle, so everyone’s knees touch. The instructor holds a small rock to begin. Pass the rock in the circle. When the song ends, ask one of the children if they know who is holding the rock. Play many times.

Rock song

“rock, rock, how you wander, from one hand into another. Can you see, can you see where our little rock may be.”

Dwarves Poem

(Gather children to sitting circle)

What is that?

(act out listening) Who is this I hear?

Deep down in the earth (pound the earth in rhythm with the words) Hacking and cracking the rocks and the stones?

(sing) Is it the wind in the trees?

Swaying and bending through every breeze?

(speak) No, no it’s the wind!

Who is it then?

(act out listening) Who is this I hear?

Deep down in the earth (pound the earth in rhythm with the words) Hacking and cracking the rocks and the stones?

(sing) Is it the squirrel on scamping feet?

Looking for acorns so tasty to eat?

(speaking) No, it’s not the squirrel

Who is it then?

(act out listening) Who is this I hear?

Deep down in the earth (pound the earth in rhythm with the words) Hacking and cracking the rocks and the stones?

(sing) Is it the chickadee so small and quick?

Looking for seeds to pick-it-y pick?

(speaking) No, it’s not the chickadee!

Who is it then? Who is this I hear?

Deep down in the earth (pound the earth in rhythm with the words) Hacking and cracking the rocks and the stones? Behold the dwarfs inside the hill— Their tiny hammers are never still. They sing and work deep underground, And as they tap the rocks resound: Crack, crack, the rock we hack. Quake, quake, the mountains we shake. Bang, bang, our hammers clang. In caverns old we seek the gold.

Invite the children to a treasure hunt that the dwarves have left them! Dwarves don’t have maps, they use inukshuks to tell the way. Can they spot the first inukshuk? Point to it, then go there.

Follow inukshuks

Allow the children to spot the next inukshuk and run to it. Follow to the end.

Uncover the storybook, the ‘Treasure from the Dwarves’

Read the story

Children choose a rock

Help them experience the stones as in the story book, smell them, hold them to the l

light, feel them in their hands to choose their own special rock.

Rock Painting

Children sit around craft table. Demonstrate how to use the rocks to pound the natural pigment items onto the paper to create nature paintings with their special rock! Write their names on the paper at the end.

Closing Circle

Circle dance: Wishata dewyah

(Any song can be used, along with simple walking in a circle or coming in and out of the circle)