



# Pinnacle Curriculum

Overview of Monthly and Unit Themes

## January – “Winter Wonders”

With snow, ice, and frosty weather everywhere, winter is a magical time of year! Whether your snowflakes are made from ice, glitter, or just paper, the winter can be fun wherever you are. This month, as the children get started in a brand-new year, we'll take a look at the wonders of winter. We'll start off with a chance to make New Year's resolutions and then explore the beauty (and science!) of snow. Then we'll look at other winter wonders, from the winter wear we don to the winter animals that thrive in the cold.

**Week One**

Unit Theme – Snow, Snowflakes, and Ice

**Week Four**

Unit Theme – Winter Animals: Polar Bears

**Week Two**

Unit Theme – Winter Wear

**Week Five**

Unit Theme – Igloos and Eskimos

**Week Three**

Unit Theme – Winter Animals: Penguins and Seals

## February – “Matters of the Heart”

February is filled with thoughts of love, appreciation, and special people. These are definitely matters of the heart! We'll begin the month by honoring past American presidents and leaders of our country during Week 1 with “We Love America.” In Week 2, Valentine's Day gets full focus as it takes center stage on the calendar and in students' minds. February is also Dental Health and Heart Health month. During the last two weeks, we'll take a look at healthy habits including dental health. It's never too early to begin healthy habits that will last a lifetime.

**Week One**

Unit Theme – We Love America

**Week Three**

Unit Theme – Healthy Habits

**Week Two**

Unit Theme – Be My Valentine

**Week Four**

Unit Theme – Healthy Habits



## March – “Marching Into Spring”

Warmer weather, butterflies, and flowers! Yes, spring is just around the corner, and your children can hardly wait to play outdoors. Before warmer weather arrives, we'll begin the month with lots of indoor activities based on books by our great friend, Dr. Seuss. As the weather warms up, we'll move into fun activities with wind, butterflies, plants, and insects. Spring is truly a time of new beginnings.

### **Week One**

Unit Theme – A Tribute to Dr. Seuss

### **Week Two**

Unit Theme – March Winds

### **Week Three**

Unit Theme – Birds and Butterflies

### **Week Four**

Unit Theme – Spring Things

### **Week Five**

Unit Theme – Interesting Insects

## April – “Spring Fever”

April showers bring May flowers, green grass, budding trees, and warmer weather, making everything seem brand-new! As the environment changes with the warming weather, animal life changes, too. Baby animals appear, pond animals emerge, and tadpoles turn into frogs. This month we will continue to explore the wonders of spring. In Week One, we'll focus on baby animals, from chicks and bunnies to kittens and puppies. In Week Two, we'll learn about turtles. Then in Week Three, we'll be ready to see how tadpoles turn into frogs! Week Four gives children a look at plant life through “Great Gardens.” And in Week Five, we'll feature outdoor dining with a focus on “Picnics.”

### **Week One**

Unit Theme – Baby Animals

### **Week Two**

Unit Theme – Turtles

### **Week Three**

Unit Theme – Tadpoles and Frogs

### **Week Four**

Unit Theme – Great Gardens

### **Week Five**

Unit Theme – Picnics



## May – “Marvelous May”

Spring has sprung, and the world is alive with color! The flowers are in bloom, the days are warmer, and the springtime animals are frolicking in the grass. We begin this month with a focus on the colors of spring, as we celebrate the season with pastels. A special week of fun is in store during Week Two as we celebrate “Magical Moms.” Week Three will bring the zoo to your classroom as we talk about lions, tigers, bears, and other animals. Week Four brings us back to the animals in our own gardens as we learn about those “Lovely Ladybugs” that make their appearance during May. A countdown to summer kicks off during Week Five’s “Wacky Week.”

### **Week One**

Unit Theme – Shades of Spring

### **Week Two**

Unit Theme – Magical Moms

### **Week Three**

Unit Theme – Lions, Tigers, and Bears

### **Week Four**

Unit Theme – Lovely Ladybugs

### **Week Five**

Unit Theme – Wacky Week

## June – “From Sea to Shining Sea”

Summer is finally upon us! It’s time for some summer fun, and that includes lots of water! This month your little ones will have fun “From Sea to Shining Sea.” They’ll explore “Oceans and Water Fun” in Week One. Week Two finds your children diving right in for a whale of a time discovering “Ocean Life.” Then they’ll sail the seven seas in Week Three’s “Boats and Ships.” Join in the celebration as we pay tribute to our “Fabulous Fathers” in Week Four. And we’ll end the month talking about those people who take the extra step to help others in need – truly all-American heroes.

### **Week One**

Unit Theme – Oceans and Water Fun

### **Week Two**

Unit Theme – Ocean Life

### **Week Three**

Unit Theme – Boats and Ships

### **Week Four**

Unit Theme – Fabulous Fathers

### **Week Five**

Unit Theme – American Heroes



## July – “All-American Spirit”

It's July and the long, hazy days of summer are here! My how time flies when you're having fun! Children will catch the “All-American Spirit” this month as they look at the people, places, and things that define our country! As we celebrate the independence of our nation this month, create an atmosphere of patriotism and thankfulness for the great country we live in. This month's curriculum will definitely help you do just that!

**Week One**

Unit Theme – Land of the Free, Home of the Brave

**Week Four**

Unit Theme – Flying High

**Week Two**

Unit Theme – The Wild, Wild West

**Week Five**

Unit Theme – All-American Space Adventures

**Week Three**

Unit Theme – The Ball Game

## August – “All-American Fun”

This summer, we've traveled by land, by air, and by sea. We've explored the people, places, and monuments that make up this great country called America. This month, we'll sit back, relax, and enjoy some all-American fun! Students will try out their athletic abilities and tickle their funny bones during Week One as they participate in the “Wacky Olympics.” All right sports fans! It's a week of “Sportsmania” during Week Two. Grab your tents and hiking gear, it's “Camping Time” in Week Three. Look out Tinseltown, here we come! We're “Hollywood Bound” in Week Four. Week Five gives your little ones new things to see, smell, and taste as the center's focus turns to “All-American Foods,” celebrating the foods we love in our country.

**Week One**

Unit Theme – Wacky Olympics

**Week Four**

Unit Theme – Hollywood Bound

**Week Two**

Unit Theme – Sportsmania

**Week Five**

Unit Theme – All-American Foods

**Week Three**

Unit Theme – Camping Time



## September – “My Wonderful World”

Children are very interested in learning about their environment and the people around them, so this month we will explore their “Wonderful World!” Each weekly theme in September emphasizes a specific area of a child’s life. During Week One your children will learn how special and unique they are. Be sure to tell them this often since fostering a healthy self-image is important for all children, whether they are infants, three-year-olds, or school-agers! We’ll take a look at a very important part of a child’s world – the family – in Week Two. Week Three finds us talking about those special people they see everyday – “My Friends.” Since children spend a significant portion of their day in care with you, we’ll focus on “My School” in Week Four. And finally, it’s a journey to a place close to home – “My Neighborhood” as you talk about important people and places in their community during Week Five.

**Week One**  
Unit Theme – I am Special

**Week Four**  
Unit Theme – My School

**Week Two**  
Unit Theme – My Family

**Week Five**  
Unit Theme – My Neighborhood

**Week Three**  
Unit Theme – My Friends

## October – “Fall Fun”

Leaves have begun to change colors, the trees are full of apples, and yards and porches are adorned with pumpkins and gourds. The signs of fall are all around us! This month your Pinnacle Curriculum will lead you and your school-age children into some fantastic fall fun! Celebrate the “Harvest Happenings” of the season during Week 1. Week 2 will find you exploring “Fall on the Farm,” while “Fall in the City” is the focus of Week 3. During the last two weeks of this month, children will enjoy reading different “Fairy Tales and Fables.” Week 5 calls for a special “Fairy Tale Day” when the older children will host their very own “fairy tale theatre” for the younger children. Older kids will feel good about themselves for putting on a great performance, and the little ones will feel special for having a show done just for them!

**Week One**  
Unit Theme – Harvest Happenings

**Week Four**  
Unit Theme – Fairy Tales and Fables

**Week Two**  
Unit Theme – Fall on the Farm

**Week Five**  
Unit Theme – Fairy Tales and Fables

**Week Three**  
Unit Theme – Fall in the City



## November – “We Are Thankful”

November means feasts, family, and Thanksgiving fun! It's a time for remembering, giving thanks, and spending time with families. Concepts about early America, such as the Mayflower and the Pilgrims, are the focus of Week 1. Week 2 finds your children exploring the rich and diverse culture of “Native Americans.” It's a look at the “First Thanksgiving” during Weeks 3 and 4. And after eating lots of turkey and stuffing, Week 5's “Healthy Foods” will get your children back into shape!

### **Week One**

Unit Theme – Early Settlers

### **Week Two**

Unit Theme – Native Americans

### **Week Three**

Unit Theme – The First Thanksgiving

### **Week Four**

Unit Theme – The First Thanksgiving

### **Week Five**

Unit Theme – Healthy Foods

## December – “Deck the Halls”

The holiday season is here, and our focus changes to celebrations, shopping, family gatherings, giving, and sharing. Our curriculum this month kicks off with a look at holiday celebrations from around the world and then moves to specific weeks that focus on the sights, sounds, tastes, smells, and feelings of the holidays. Check your calendar and holiday plans and choose the weeks that best meet the needs of your group and best match the holiday schedule of your school. You'll find more activities and ideas than you can possibly implement, so choose the ones that match the needs and interests of your children.

### **Week One**

Unit Theme – Holidays Around the World

### **Week Two**

Unit Theme – The Sights of the Holidays

### **Week Three**

Unit Theme – The Sounds of the Holidays

### **Week Four**

Unit Theme – Tastes and Smells of the Holidays

### **Week Five**

Unit Theme – The Feelings of the Holidays