



Underlined Items may be printed Free from Preschool Post
There are more Optional Activities online as well.

Morning Circle

Review yesterday's letter ("Q") by asking the children if they can think of a word that begins with that letter. (The goal is not to tell them the letter, but to see whether they can remember it on their own.) If they have trouble remembering "Q," give them some clues. They will probably mention "quilt" and "queen." Play a rhyming game. See if the children can come up with some rhyming words for "queen." It's fine if they come up with a few nonsense words. Steer them in the right direction by suggesting correct answers like "seen," "green," and "lean." Try to find rhyming words with "quilt," ("built," "stilts," "wilt," etc.)

Ask the children if they know what special holiday is coming up. (Valentine's Day.) What kinds of things do we celebrate on Valentine's Day? (Love, hearts, being kind, friends, etc.)



Read Queen of Hearts, by Mary Engelbreit. This perfect Valentine's Day story shows how one child demonstrates a loving attitude toward her classmates.

Music & Movement:

Play Musical Hearts. Tape large pink and red hearts, (either cut from posterboard or bought in the Valentine's Day decorations dept. of your local dollar store,) in random positions on the floor in your circle area. Have enough hearts for there to be one for each two children. Pair up the children on the hearts and explain that this game is similar to "musical chairs." Play some music, and let the children skip around the room while the music plays. Then take away a heart. When the music stops, the children will have to pile onto the remaining hearts. Continue reducing the number of hearts until there is only one left. The children will have to help each other as it gets harder and harder to fit onto the remaining space.

Snack:

Let the children decorate their own heart-shaped sugar cookies with pink frosting and red sprinkles

Additional Activities
Create a classroom "Giving Tree."
Details Online



Center Activities

1. Foamy pink hearts.

Cover the children with protective paint shirts and let them play with pink shaving foam. Use cheap shaving foam to draw large fluffy hearts on a long table. Place a few drops of red food coloring here and there in the foam. Let the children help it turn pink by mixing it with their hands. This activity will stain little hands (and clothes!)

2. Heart-shaped doily reliefs. Tape various sizes of heart-shaped paper doilies onto a table. Cover these with a paper table covering or butcher paper. Provide pink and red pastels or crayons, and let the children rub over the doilies to reveal heart-shaped patterns.

3. Set up a Valentine's Day postal center. Decorate a large box to be the Valentine's Mailbox. Provide a variety of "mailbags" as well as envelopes, paper, pens, stickers for stamps, and rubber stamps and ink pads. Let the children's imaginations guide them in dramatic play as they become Valentine's postal workers.

Art Activity

Valentine's Day Boxes



Provide a shoe box for each child. Offer a variety of decorations and art supplies. Cover each box with pink, purple, or red tissue or wrapping paper, then let the children decorate them to their heart's desire, just like in the circle-time book, Queen of Hearts.

Bible Story



Read The Giving Tree, by Shel Silverstein.

Explain that Jesus' sacrifice of himself is very much like the tree in this book. Briefly relate the story of the Prodigal Son. Explain that the boy's father in the story gave so much to his son, and even though the boy was selfish and ungrateful, the loving father waited for him. When the son returned and was truly sorry for the bad things he'd done, the forgiving father gave him the best of everything he had.

Bible Verse Bracelets:

2 Corinthians 8:2b-3 "Their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own,

Bible Song:

Down in My Heart" from the Cedarment Kids Classics "Sunday School Songs" recording.

