

Terri Caywood
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September

. Week 1: “Northwoods Neighbors”

***Focus:* Social Awareness, Empathy**

***Explore:* Local wildlife, forest animals, and how we share space with them.**

. Week 2: “Beef-A-Rama™ Bonanza”

***Focus:* Community, Dramatic Play, Nutrition**

***Explore:* Cow-themed play, cooking with local ingredients, pretend parades.**

. Week 3: “Changing Leaves, Changing Us”

***Focus:* Natural Awareness, Self-Expression**

***Explore:* Leaf rubbings, tree identification, and emotional changes with seasons.**

. Week 4: “Harvest Helpers”

***Focus:* Farm to Table, Life Skills, Preserving**

***Explore:* Apple tasting, seed sorting, garden cleanup.**

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October

. Week 5: “Cranberry Marsh Magic”

***Focus:* Science, Nutrition**

***Explore:* Cranberry bogs, floating experiments, cranberry snacks.**

. Week 6: “Woodland Creatures at Work”

***Focus:* Empathy, Literacy**

***Explore:* Animal homes, hibernation stories, puppet play.**

. Week 7: “Pumpkin Patch Explorers”

***Focus:* Math, Fine Motor**

***Explore:* Pumpkin weighing, scooping, seed counting.**

. Week 8: “Fairy Tale and Folk Lore”

***Focus:* Abstract Thinking, Art, Culture Language**

***Explore:* Fables Classical Stories, puppet and shadow play, forest walks.**

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November

. Week 9: “Gathering Gratitude”

***Focus:* Empathy, Self-Esteem**

***Explore:* Thank-you cards, gratitude circles, family traditions.**

. Week 10: “Feathers & Forests”

***Focus:* Natural Awareness, Creative Expression**

***Explore:* Turkey tracks, feather crafts, bird watching.**

. Week 11: “First Snowflakes”

***Focus:* Science, Self-Regulation**

***Explore:* Ice melting, snowflake symmetry, quiet snow walks.**

. Week 12: “Warm Hands, Warm Hearts”

***Focus:* Health, Compassion**

***Explore:* Mitten matching, kindness stories, warm drink making.**

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December

. Week 13: “Winter Woods”

***Focus:* Outdoor Play, Spatial Control**

***Explore:* Animal tracks, snow play, pinecone hunts.**

. Week 14: “Traditions Around the Table”

***Focus:* Culture, Nutrition**

***Explore:* Family recipes, pretend feasts, food stories.**

. Week 15: “Lights & Shadows”

***Focus:* Abstract Thinking, Art**

***Explore:* Candlelight, shadow puppets, light table play.**

. Week 16: “Cozy & Kind”

***Focus:* Self-Regulation, Empathy**

***Explore:* Pajama day, storytelling, gift-making.**

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January

. Week 17: “New Year, New Me”

***Focus:* Self-Esteem, Self-Regulation**

***Explore:* Goal setting with visuals, calming jars, “I Can” books.**

. Week 18: “Snow Science”

***Focus:* Science, Abstract Thinking**

***Explore:* Ice melting, snow experiments, snowflake symmetry.**

. Week 19: “Tracks in the Snow”

***Focus:* Natural Awareness, Empathy**

***Explore:* Animal tracking, storytelling, snowshoe play.**

. Week 20: “Warm Winter Foods”

***Focus:* Nutrition, Life Skills**

***Explore:* Soup making, food sorting, warm/cold sensory bins.**

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February

. Week 21: “Northwoods Love”

***Focus:* Empathy, Social Awareness**

***Explore:* Kindness chains, heart art, friendship stories.**

. Week 22: “Winter Birds & Feeders”

***Focus:* Natural Awareness, Fine Motor**

***Explore:* Pinecone feeders, bird watching, feather painting.**

. Week 23: “Family Traditions”

***Focus:* Culture, Communication**

***Explore:* Family photo collages, storytelling, home languages.**

. Week 24: “Cozy Homes”

***Focus:* Dramatic Play, Spatial Control**

***Explore:* Blanket forts, pretend fires, cabin building with blocks.**

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March

. Week 25: “Maple Magic”

***Focus:* Science, Nutrition**

***Explore:* Sap to syrup, taste testing, tree tapping stories.**

. Week 26: “Melting & Mud”

***Focus:* Natural Awareness, Self-Regulation**

***Explore:* Mud kitchens, puddle jumping, weather transitions.**

. Week 27: “Signs of Spring”

***Focus:* Observation, Literacy**

***Explore:* Bud watching, spring books, nature walks.**

. Week 28: “Eggs & Nests”

***Focus:* Life Cycles, Empathy**

***Explore:* Nest building, egg balancing, bird songs.**

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April

. Week 29: “Earth Week Explorers”

Focus: Environmental Awareness, Life Skills

Explore: Recycling, composting, nature clean-up.

. Week 30: “Rain & Rainbows”

Focus: Science, Art

Explore: Color mixing, water cycle, rainbow walks.

. Week 31: NAEYC’s Week of the Young Child®

Focus: Advocacy, Identity

Explore: Community collaboration, expression and celebration

. Week 32: “Garden Beginnings”

Focus: Farm to Table, Self-Sufficiency

Explore: Seed planting, garden planning, soil play.

. Week 4: “Bugs & Buds”

Focus: Natural Awareness, Abstract Thinking

Explore: Insect exploration, flower dissection, bug yoga.

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May

. Week 1: “Moms, Aunties & Caregivers”

***Focus:* Empathy, Family Culture**

***Explore:* Gift making, storytelling, family interviews.**

. Week 2: “Pollinator Power”

***Focus:* Science, Compassion**

***Explore:* Bee dances, pollination games, flower art.**

. Week 3: “Lakes & Loons”

***Focus:* Natural Awareness, Literacy**

***Explore:* Water safety, loon calls, lake stories.**

. Week 4: “Outdoor Artists”

***Focus:* Creative Expression, Gross Motor**

***Explore:* Sidewalk chalk, nature painting, outdoor easels.**

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June

. Week 1: “Dads, Uncles & Caregivers”

***Focus:* Empathy, Family Culture**

***Explore:* Tool play, storytelling, family projects.**

. Week 2: “Fishing Fun”

***Focus:* Life Skills, Math**

***Explore:* Pretend fishing, counting fish, water play.**

. Week 3: “Camping & Canoes”

***Focus:* Dramatic Play, Self-Sufficiency**

***Explore:* Tent building, pretend campfires, canoe paddling.**

. Week 4: “Summer Solstice”

***Focus:* Abstract Thinking, Culture**

***Explore:* Sun art, light/dark play, seasonal storytelling.**

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July

. Week 1: “Stars & Stories”

Focus: History, Literacy

Explore: Fireworks art, constellation play, storytelling.

. Week 2: “Berries & Baking”

Focus: Nutrition, Life Skills

Explore: Berry picking, baking muffins, taste testing.

. Week 3: “Northwoods Nights”

Focus: Science, Self-Regulation

Explore: Nocturnal animals, moon phases, quiet time.

. Week 4: “Water Wonders”

Focus: Physical Control, Science

Explore: Sprinklers, water tables, floating/sinking.

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August

. Week 1: “Butterflies & Blooms”

***Focus:* Life Cycles, Art**

***Explore:* Caterpillar to butterfly, flower pressing, garden walks.**

. Week 2: “Farm Friends”

***Focus:* Farm to Table, Empathy**

***Explore:* Animal sounds, pretend milking, veggie tasting.**

. Week 3: “Backpack Explorers”

***Focus:* Self-Sufficiency, School Readiness**

***Explore:* Packing bags, routines, classroom scavenger hunts.**

. Week 4: “Celebrating Summer”

***Focus:* Self-Esteem, Social Awareness**

***Explore:* End-of-summer picnic, memory books, family celebration.**