

THE KIDS' COMMUNICATION CENTER THANKSGIVING ACTIVITIES!



IMPROVE ABILITY TO DESCRIBE, USE OF ADJECTIVES: One of our favorite Thanksgiving activities is to taste-test all of the foods we eat around Thanksgiving! Think about the adjectives that you can use to describe foods. They may include: sweet, salty, sour, hot, cold, chewy, crunchy, juicy.

IMPROVE WORD RETRIEVAL & AUDITORY MEMORY SKILLS: Ask your child to help you remember the things you need when you go grocery shopping. A child should be able to remember as many things as their age. So, your three-year-old should remember three things, your four-year-old, four things, and so on. Give your child clues to help them remember each item as you shop.

Use the grocery shopping activity to **categorize** items too (e.g., "What are the fruits we need?" or, "Pancakes, cereal, and eggs are all kinds of....")

IMPROVE ABILITY TO TELL STEPS IN PROCEDURES: Have your child help out while making Thanksgiving foods! While following a recipe (and after the food has been made), have your child list the ingredients used and try to tell the steps in the correct order. Encourage the use of complete sentences, specific words vs. "it," "do," "right there," and sequencing words/phrases like "first," "next," "after that," and "when you are finished..."

IMPROVE ABILITY TO ANSWER SOCIAL QUESTIONS, ENGAGE IN CONVERSATION: And the reason we celebrate... discuss with your child what they are thankful for! Remind them to name their friends, family, teachers, favorite toys and books – see how long your list will get!

IMPROVE EXPRESSIVE GRAMMAR, SENTENCE LENGTH, "WH" QUESTIONS: The holiday season is often a time of visiting relatives that your child may only see a few times a year. What a great time to look at pictures (Facebook!) and see if your child can remember everyone's names. Use the holiday as an opportunity to take new pictures of family and friends! Have your child narrate the pictures while you listen for correct pronoun use and specific vocabulary. Try asking your child "Wh" questions about the pictures, and also open-ended questions (e.g., Tell me about this picture...)

At the end of the fun holiday, ask your child what their favorite part of the day was (listen for past tense verbs). Allow them to look at and talk about the pictures for the days that follow. This will help them be able to relate the events of the day to their teachers and others who ask.

HAVE A WONDERFUL THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY!