

9:00 Circle: WINTER SOLSTICE- What causes winter and summer? Tell about the first day of winter, known as the Winter Solstice. [Prepare ahead of time- Push a skewer through an orange or styrofoam ball. Draw a line with marker to show the equator and an "x" to show where we are.] Point to the equator and the north and south hemispheres / poles. Shine the sun (a flashlight) on the equator. As the earth goes around the sun the earth tilts on its axis. Tilt the north pole away from the sun. The sun is not as warm in the northern hemisphere because the sun is in the southern hemisphere now. It is summer in the southern hemisphere now. Tilt it back and forth to show summer and winter. Talk about how early it gets dark now. Tomorrow and every day after it will get longer and longer as the north pole slowly starts to tilt back toward the sun. Modify this to give an explanation of your location. Read *Dear Rebecca, Winter is Here* or other book appropriate for your location.

Lesson- **GEOMETRIC SOLIDS- hemisphere (S)**

11:45 Circle: Read *Celebrations of Light: A Year of Holidays Around the World*, pp. 7 & 21-32.

Show samples of the various lights- candle, menorah, luminaria, diya, kinara.

Story Time- *Winter* or *I Like Winter* or *Snow*

3:00 Circle: SNOWFLAKES Read *Snowflake Bentley*.



Lesson- **HEXAGON INSET SNOWFLAKE**

MATCHING SNOWFLAKES

HEXAGON CONSTRUCTIVE BOXES 2 & 3 (S)

SNOWFLAKE GLUE RUBBING

CUTTING A SNOWFLAKE

BROOM AND DUSTPAN (P)

EXPERIMENT: Crystal needles

ART: Snow scene 1

WEB SITES:

www.snowflakebentley.com

www.vermontsnowflakes.com has Wilson "Snowflake" Bentley snowflakes that can be printed.

EXPERIMENT: Crystal needles- Jar lids, black paper, white pencil, 4 T. Epsom salts in 1 cup water. Process- Place lid on paper and draw around. Cut out and put inside the lid. Pour liquid in lid and let stand for one day. Observe the crystal needles that form.

WORK

Hexagon Inset Snowflake- See Instructions for Work at the back of this guide under Snowflake Work

Snowflake Glue Rubbing-

Cutting a Snowflake-

Small and Large Hexagon Constructive Triangle Boxes- See Supplement to the Guides: Instructions for Montessori Work, Sensorial work. An order form is on the last page of this guide.