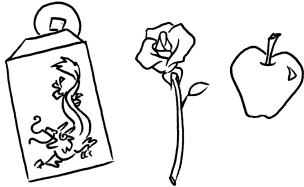


Holiday Colors

Age: Toddlers (18-36 months)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Language and Literacy

What You Need:



None

What To Do:

1. As each holiday or special celebration comes around, talk to your child about what it represents and colors that are associated with it. For example,

- red is associated with Chinese New Year. Chinese New Year is celebrated on the day of the second new moon after December 21. Chinese children get lisee, special red envelopes filled with good luck wishes, from their parents and grandparents.

- red, orange, yellow, green, purple, and blue—all of the colors of the rainbow—are associated with May Day, May 1, which is Lei Day in Hawai'i.

2. Use the holiday colors in games. For example, "Let's look for things that are red."

3. Talk about each red item you find. For example, "The paper bag in the kitchen has red letters on it. It's the name of the grocery store where we shop. What other red things can you find?"

4. Sing songs associated with the holiday. Here is a popular song about May Day written by Leonard "Red" Hawke in 1928:

...May Day is Lei Day in Hawai'i



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Garlands of flowers ev'rywhere
All the colors in the rainbow
Maidens with blossoms in their hair.
Flowers that mean we should be happy,
Throwing aside a load of care.
Oh, May Day is Lei Day in Hawai'i,
Lei Day is happy day out there.

Variation:

Talk about other holidays or special days that are important in your culture.
Encourage other family members to share their culture with your child.

