

Douglas County Child Care Association
Newsletter
January-March 2023 Issue



President's Letter

January 2023

Know Your Worth

Teacher, teacher, I declare! Who was a favorite teacher of yours? And why? Do you recall something said by a teacher, a caregiver that inspired and motivated you? Do you recall something said by a teacher, a caregiver that confused or hurt you?

“Great teachers empathize with kids, respect them, and believe that each one has something special that can be built upon.” **Ann Lieberman**

“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.” **Brad Henry**

As early childhood caregivers and educators, we are often a child's first experience from outside their home and family. We are that child's next example of community, love, connection, relationship, support, care, teaching, learning, and growing. A continuation of their journey, that begins at birth and continues for a lifetime.

“A gifted teacher is not only prepared to meet the needs of today's child, but is also prepared to foresee the hopes and dreams in every child's future.” **Robert John Meehan**

“The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires” **William A. Ward**

For families, we honestly reflect our body of early childhood work, welcome them into our homes, practice professional transparency, allow for them to participate, and then begin a respectful, healthy professional partnership on behalf of their child. We project ourselves as masterpieces in the making, and our dedication shows through.

“What the teacher is, is more important than what he teaches.” **Karl Menninger**

“The teacher who is indeed wise does not bid you to enter the house of his wisdom but rather leads you to the threshold of your mind” **Khalil Gibran**

For the infants and toddlers in our care, we create security, safety, a healthy nurturing environment to promote exploration, practicing, bonding, trust. Including all the simple and countless essential ingredients that supports healthy growth and development.

“A good teacher is like a candle – it consumes itself to light the way for others.” **Mustafa Kemal Ataturk:**

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.” **William Butler Yeats**

For preschoolers in our care, we expand their opportunities and environment to facilitate learning, growing, and developing at their own pace, in the context of a deeply bonded community. They are making increasing connections in this widening world with math, science, health, best practices, literacy, language, interpersonal skills, personal skills, relationships, physical and mental maturation, how they learn, all in the context of their regular day. In self-directed play, activities with children and adults, normal daily routines, and intentional inclusion of the early childhood developmental guidelines, their inquisitiveness is rewarded with a love of learning!

“The best teachers are those who show you where to look, but don’t tell you what to see.”
Alexandra Trenfor

“The greatest sign of success for a teacher is to be able to say: The children are now working as if I did not exist.” **Maria Montessori**

So, when we brainstorm on all that we are... and all that we do, it is obvious that we are much more than babysitters. We are experienced and professional caregivers, teachers, educators, mentors, facilitators, business owners, healers, leaders, community builders, family/economy essential supporters, just to name a few. We are vitally important in the life of a child!

“Teachers teach because they care. Teaching young people is what they do best. It requires long hours, patience, and care.” **Horace Mann**

Be proud of all your accomplishments and what is yet to be! Nurture the passion in your profession. Never stop growing as a teacher or being a student of life. Know your worth! Proclaim your worth! And above all else, take care!

“The teachers who get “burned out” are not the ones who are constantly learning, which can be exhilarating, but those who feel they must stay in control and ahead of the students at all times.” **Frank Martin**

May the New Year 0f 2023 bring you an ever-deepening realization of your worth!

Angela Rosales

May the New
Year bring you
happiness,
peace, and
prosperity.
Wishing you a
joyous 2023!

In the Spotlight



Gigi Whalen—Project Manager, Universal Pre-K Local Community Organization, Douglas County

What is your profession/with whom and how long?

I'm working with Universal Pre-K, helping navigate this new opportunity for families and pre-schools in the whole county, as the state rolls this out in August of 2023! I started in this position back in October and have learned a lot about preschool and the ins-and-outs of UPK!

What made you decide on your profession?

I wanted to be a teacher since I was very young as I loved babysitting and working with kids. I worked as a teacher, dean of students, assistant principal and principal, then retired in 2020 and have been contracting in different ways with the district since then! I feel very lucky to continue working with such amazing educators, even after retirement!

What are some of your biggest challenges in your current position?

Rolling out a new program for the state, while they're still building all the specifics, has been challenging. Both parents and providers want to know how things will work, and some of it is still being created, so that's the biggest challenge.

What are some of the most satisfying things in your position?

Getting to work with educators who really care about kids. This is the case with district pre-schools, private providers and in-home providers - they all want to offer great programming for preschool kids so that they are ready for kindergarten! They are all very excited about these new opportunities for kids to attend preschool that is funded by the state, and help more families /kids who will enroll because of this amazing opportunity.

Tell us a little about your life outside of work. Family, hobbies, etc.

I have a wonderful 16 year old son, Luke, who attends Rock Canyon HS, two dogs, love to read, exercise, spend time with my significant other and my family. I love to travel and connect with people. I feel very blessed to continue to work with this terrific district as well as all of the Pre-K schools in the county. It's a great job!!

Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Young Children:

Recommendations for Teaching Practices

By: [National Association for the Education of Young Children \(NAEYC\)](#), [International Literacy Association](#)



Get an overview of developmentally appropriate teaching practices recommended by the International Literacy Association (ILA) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

During the infant and toddler years

Children need relationships with caring adults who engage in many one-on-one, face-to-face interactions with them to support their oral language development and lay the foundation for later literacy learning. Important experiences and teaching behaviors include but are not limited to:

- Talking to babies and toddlers with simple language, frequent eye contact, and responsiveness to children's cues and language attempts
- Frequently playing with, talking to, singing to, and doing fingerplays with very young children
- Sharing cardboard books with babies and frequently reading to toddlers on the adult's lap or together with one or two other children
- Providing simple art materials such as crayons, markers, and large paper for toddlers to explore and manipulate

During the preschool years

Young children need developmentally appropriate experiences and teaching to support literacy learning. These include but are not limited to:

- Positive, nurturing relationships with adults who engage in responsive conversations with individual children, model reading and writing behavior, and foster children's interest in and enjoyment of reading and writing
- Print-rich environments that provide opportunities and tools for children to see and use written language for a variety of purposes, with teachers drawing children's attention to specific letters and words
- Adults' daily reading of high-quality books to individual children or small groups, including books that positively reflect children's identity, home language, and culture
- Opportunities for children to talk about what is read and to focus on the sounds and parts of language as well as the meaning
- Teaching strategies and experiences that develop phonemic awareness, such as songs, fingerplays, games, poems, and stories in which phonemic patterns such as rhyme and alliteration are salient
- Opportunities to engage in play that incorporates literacy tools, such as writing grocery lists in dramatic play, making signs in block building, and using icons and words in exploring a computer game
- Firsthand experiences that expand children's vocabulary, such as trips in the community and exposure to various tools, objects, and materials

In kindergarten and primary grades

Teachers should continue many of these same good practices with the goal of continually advancing children's learning and development. In addition every child is entitled to excellent instruction in reading and writing that includes but is not limited to:

Daily experiences of being read to and independently reading meaningful and engaging stories and informational texts

A balanced instructional program that includes systematic code instruction along with meaningful reading and writing activities

Daily opportunities and teacher support to write many kinds of texts for different purposes, including stories, lists, messages to others, poems, reports, and responses to literature

Writing experiences that allow the flexibility to use nonconventional forms of writing at first (invented or phonic spelling) and over time move to conventional forms

Opportunities to work in small groups for focused instruction and collaboration with other children

An intellectually engaging and challenging curriculum that expands knowledge of the world and vocabulary

Adaptation of instructional strategies or more individualized instruction if the child fails to make expected progress in reading or when literacy skills are advanced

Although experiences during the earliest years of life can have powerful long-term consequences, human beings are amazingly resilient and incredibly capable of learning throughout life. We should strengthen our resolve to ensure that every child has the benefit of positive early childhood experiences that support literacy development. At the same time, regardless of children's prior learning, schools have the responsibility to educate every child and to never give up even if later interventions must be more intensive and costly.

Excerpted from: Learning to Read and Write: Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Young Children. (May, 1998) A joint position of the International Reading Association (IRA) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

(Reading Rockets)

Treasury Report– 2nd Quarter

October 1, 2022—December 31, 2022

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| | | Balance Forward | \$6,154.51 |
| Income: | | | |
| | Membership Dues | \$50.00 | |
| | State Membership Dues | \$40.00 | |
| | Class Fees Nonmembers | \$20.00 | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | Total Income | \$110.00 | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Expenses: | Telephone | \$171.98 | |
| | Education | \$562.77 | |
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| | | | |
| | Total Expenses | \$734.75 | |
| | | | |
| Ending Balance | | | \$5,529.76 |
| Respectfully Submitted, Susan Moberly DCCCA/Treasurer/Membership | | | |

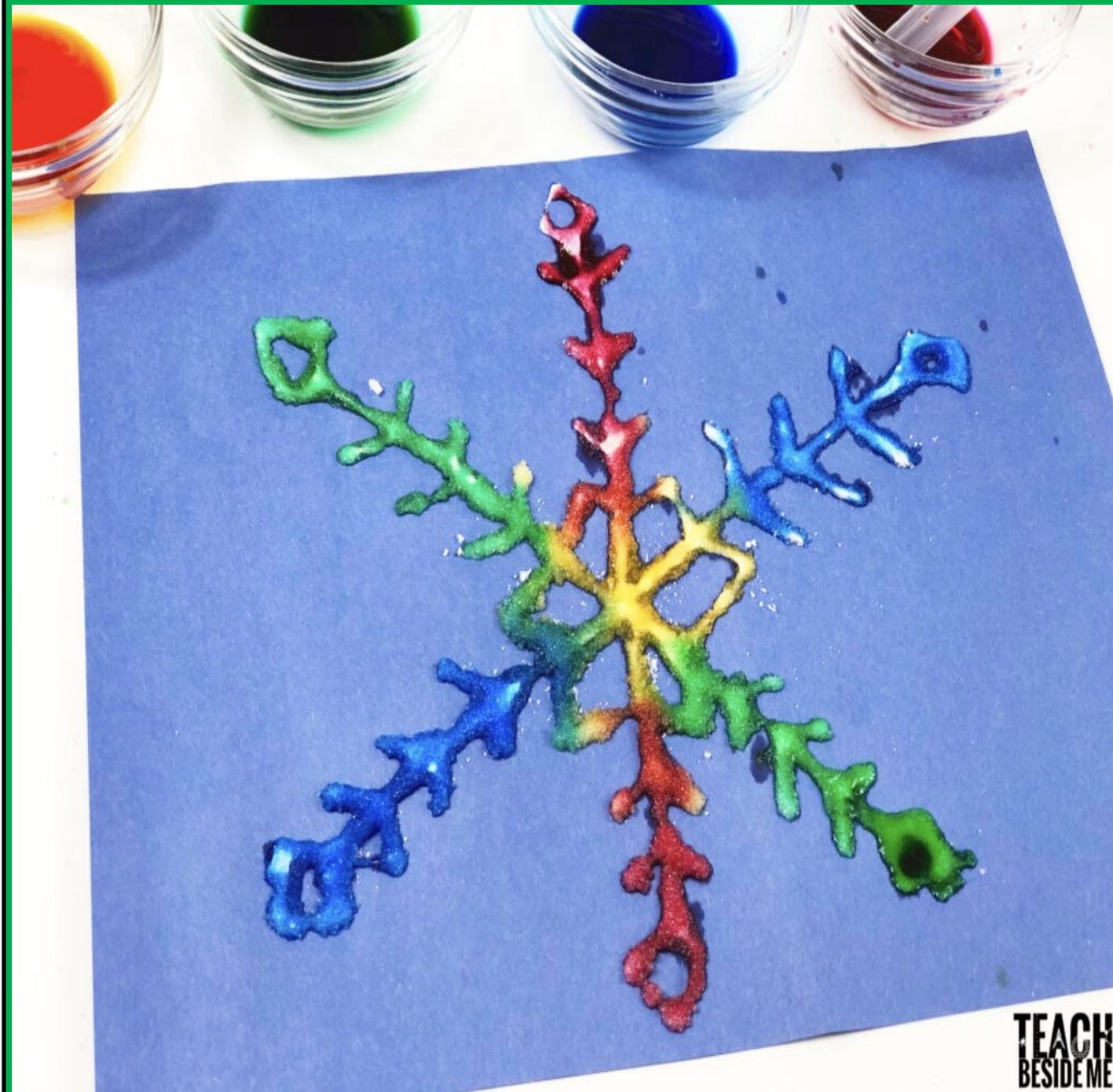
October-December 2022 Referrals

| Castle Rock | | Highlands Ranch | | Parker | |
|---------------------|----|---------------------|----|---------------------|----|
| Under 18 months | 11 | Under 18 | 15 | Under 18 | 14 |
| Full Time: | 9 | Full Time: | 3 | Full Time: | 14 |
| Part Time: | 2 | Part Time: | 12 | Part Time: | 0 |
| Over 18 months | 7 | Over 18 | 11 | Over 18 | 8 |
| Full Time: | 5 | Full Time: | 3 | Full Time: | 2 |
| Part Time: | 2 | Part Time: | 8 | Part Time: | 6 |
| School Age | 0 | School Age | 0 | School Age | 0 |
| Drop In | 0 | Drop In | 0 | Drop In | 0 |
| Total | 18 | Total | 26 | Total | 22 |
| | | | | | |
| DCCCA WEBSITE | 10 | DCCCA WEBSITE | 17 | DCCCA WEBSITE | 18 |
| Colorado Shines | 8 | Colorado Shines | 0 | Colorado Shines | 0 |
| DCCCA Referral Line | 0 | DCCCA Referral Line | 0 | DCCCA Referral Line | 0 |
| PROVIDER | 0 | PROVIDER | 1 | PROVIDER | 1 |
| OTHER: | | OTHER: | 7 | OTHER: | |

| EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ADDITIONAL DCCCA VOLUNTEERS | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| President | Angela Rosales | 303-766-9241 | amagr8rose@q.com |
| Vice President | Vickie Scholl | 303-707-0812 | gtscholl@hotmail.com |
| Secretary | OPEN | | |
| Treasurer Membership | Susan Moberly | 303-841-5899 | susantboada@comcast.net |
| | | | |
| | Referrals | Volunteers | |
| Castle Rock | Sabrina Fulks | 303-660-5584 | sabricus-tomemb@gmail.com |
| Highlands Ranch Lone Tree Acres Green Centennial | Cathleen Zeiler | 303-791-3386 | highlandsranchereferral@gmail.com |
| Parker/Elizabeth | Joanne Payne | 303-805-0824 | tjsspayne@msn.com |
| Election Coordinator | OPEN | | |
| Continuing Education Committee | OPEN | | |
| Continuing Education Committee | OPEN | | |
| State Representative | OPEN | | |
| State Representative | OPEN | | |
| Hospitality | Maria Ciurczak Violy Lindner Rita Predmore | 303-470-8909 720-344-4505 303-690-0610 | |
| Newsletter Editor | Vickie Scholl | | |
| Douglas County Zoning | OPEN | | |
| Employer Identification | EIN# | 1-800-829-4933 | http://www.irs.gov/businesses/smallbusinessesself-employed/employer-idnumbers |

| LICENSING SPECIALIST INFORMATION AND OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS | | |
|---|----------------------|---|
| Supervisor | Christa Ferrari | 720-425-6294 Christa.Ferrari@state.co.us |
| Highlands Ranch 80124, 80126, 80129 | Sam Nikui | 720-600-8641 Samantha.Nikui@State.co.us |
| 80134 | Jennifer Girdler | 720-688-2381 Jennifer.girdler@state.co.us |
| Castle Rock: 80101, 80104, 80108, 80109, 80135, 80116,80118 | Heather Sporrer | 720-237-2298 heather.sporrer@state.co.us |
| Parker: 80138, 80130, 80125 Centennial: 80112 | Tina LePage | 719-619-6260 Tina.LePage@state.co.us |
| Douglas County/QRIS Level 3-5 Coach/Navigator | Katie Nester | 303-258-6245 ececon- sultingwithKatie@outlook.com |
| QRIS Level 1-2 Coach/ Navigator/PDIS/Licensure | Beth Burke | 720-287-9882 Beth.Burke@rrcc.edu |
| Colorado Department of Early Childhood | 1-800-799-5876 | https://cdec.colorado.gov/ |
| 24 Hour Child Protective Line | 303-271-4131 | |
| Immunization Line | 303-237-7178 | |
| Rocky Mountain Poison Control | 303-222-1222 | |
| NAFCC (National Association for Family Child Care) | 800-359-3817 | |
| Child Find for Douglas County | 720-433-0020 | https://www.dcsdk12.org/cms/ One.aspx? portalId=220484&pageId=5759334 |
| | Food Programs | |
| Kids Nutrition Company | 303-987-4851 | |
| Southwest Food Program | 719-573-2246 | |
| Wildwood Food Program | 303-730-0460 | |

WATERCOLOR AND SALT SNOWFLAKES

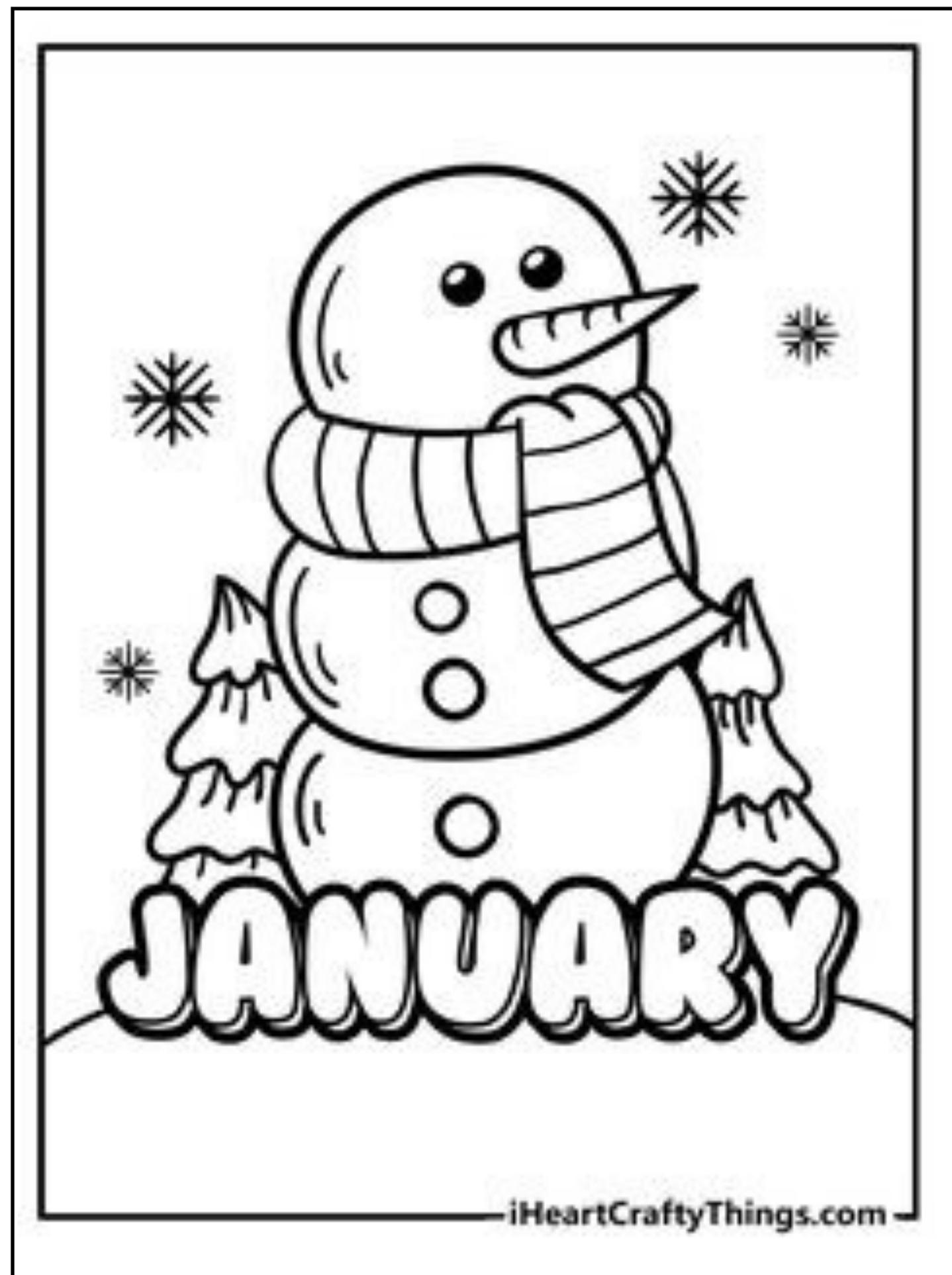


<https://teachbesideme.com/winter-craft-watercolor-and-salt->



Frozen Snack Mix

Everyday Savvy <https://everydaysavvy.com/disney-frozen-themed-food-svens-snack-mix/>



EASY Q-TIP PAINTED HEART ART



<https://www.projectswithkids.com/q-tip-painted-heart-art/>

Valentine Fruit Wands



<https://afewshortcuts.com/valentine-fruit-wands/>



twinkl

DIY Leprechaun Face Project

-CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY WITH THIS FUN ART PROJECT-



Free Kid's craft Ideas from **Woojr.com**

<https://www.woojr.com/paper-plate-leprechaun-craft-for-st-patricks-day/>



3 EASY INGREDIENTS

