

Counting Christmas Tree

Theme: Counting

Instructions

This project is all about counting.

Cut (or ask the child to attempt to cut) the Christmas tree template out of green paper and 5 baubles out of coloured paper. Ask the child to write the numbers 1 to 5 onto each paper 'bauble' (only the oldest children of this age group will be able to write numerals for themselves).

Next draw 1 dot onto the tree. Ask the child 'how many dots' and help them to count. Glue the bauble with the number 1 over one dot. Do exactly the same with 2 dots, 3 dots all the way to 5, helping the child to count the number of dots before gluing down the correctly numbered bauble. Alternatively, just glue baubles onto the white template over the printed dots.



EYFS Observations

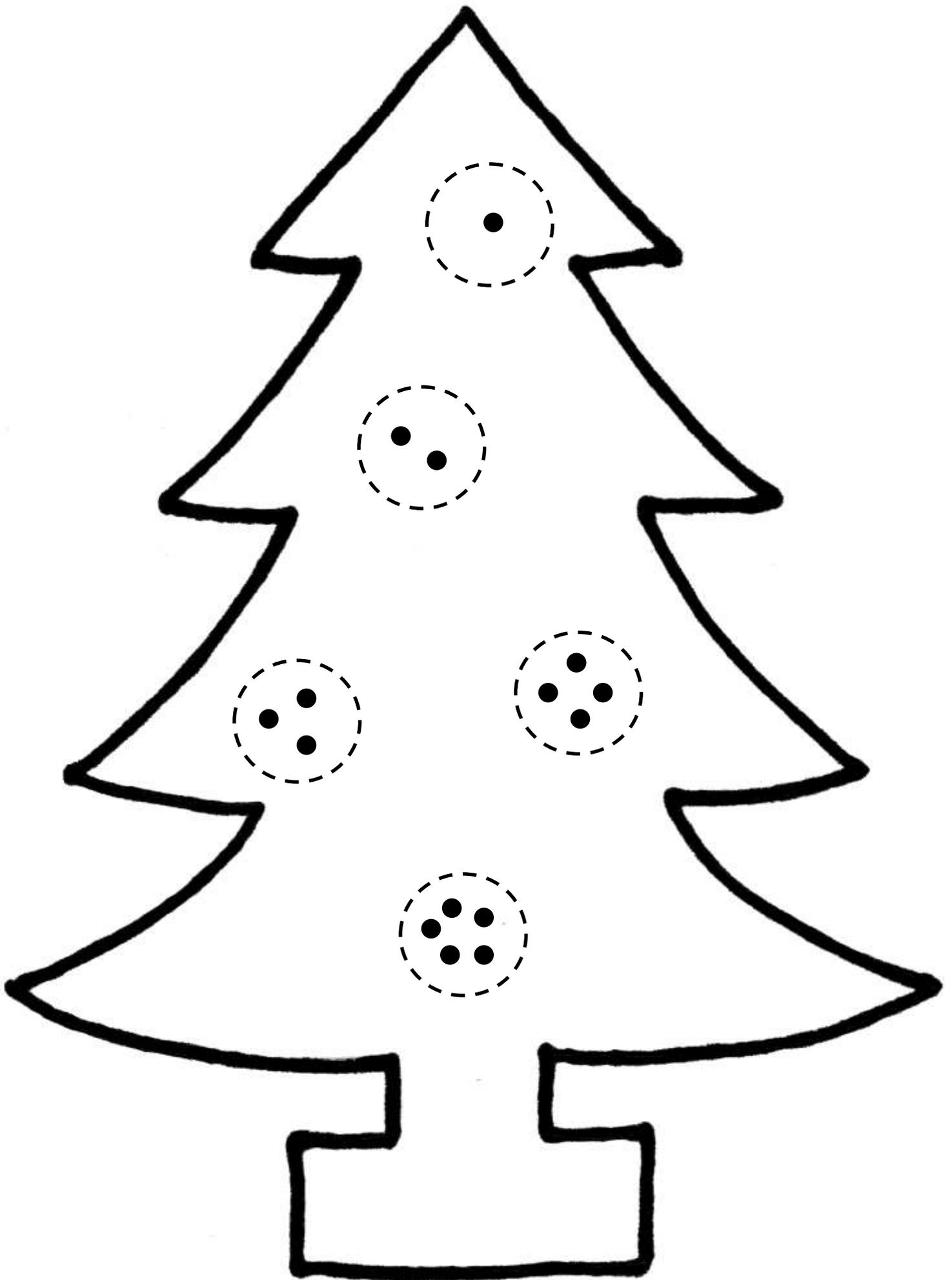
EYFS Learning and Development Area: Mathematics: Numbers

Early Learning Goals: Count 1-20 objects; Read numbers 1-9

What to look for on this project:

- 16-26 months Observe how children use some counting words randomly. Can they distinguish between quantities? Can the children tell you which group of the dots is biggest?
- 22-36 months Can the children identify which has 'more' or 'a lot' of dots? Can the children count 1-2-3 dots if you ask them 'how many?'
- 30-50 months Can the children count out the number of dots correctly? Can they use the correct names for the numbers?
- 40-60 months Can the children count correctly up to 5 dots? Can they read the numbers 1-5? Can they write the numerals themselves?

Date	Child's Name	Observation	Area of learning (EYFS)	Where to next?



Christmas Cards

Theme: Understanding the World - Christmas

Instructions

Many children may not have heard the story of Christmas. Here is a very simple version you can tell to the smallest children and a picture you can illustrate and turn into a Christmas card. The youngest children may find the three kings with less detail easier to colour.

Talk to the children about their own families and their own Christmas (and other seasonal) celebrations. Encourage the children to ask questions that explore differences. Ask them: what is the same and what is different?



EYFS Observations

EYFS Learning and Development Area:

Understanding the world: People and Communities

Early Learning Goals:

Children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others.

What to look for on this project:

22-36 months

What do the children say about their own Christmas celebrations?

30-50 months

What do the children understand about each other's families? What do they say about their own Christmas celebrations? Do they show an interest in the differences between their family and the other children's families in your setting?

40-60 months

How much do the children understand about the things that make their families different and the things that make all families the same? Can they remember last Christmas? What do they tell you they will be doing this Christmas?

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The Christmas Story

A long time ago, God sent an angel with a message to Mary.

'Mary,' said the angel. 'You are going to have a baby. You will call him Jesus.'

Mary and her husband Joseph travelled to Bethlehem. They had to stay in a stable because there was no room at the inn.

That night, Mary had her baby. She didn't have a cradle so she put the baby Jesus into a manger.

On a hillside nearby were some shepherds. An angel appeared in the sky.

'Jesus has been born in a stable. He is God's son.'

The shepherds went to the stable to visit Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. They looked at the baby and said he must be a very special baby.

Many miles away a very bright star shone in the sky. Three kings saw the star and decided to follow it. The star led them to the stable in Bethlehem.

The three kings brought gifts with them to give to the baby Jesus. The gifts were: gold, frankincense and myrrh. They were gifts for a king.

THE END



Collected Natural Objects Collage

Theme: Collecting Natural Things

Instructions

This project is all about collecting things from the park or wood and making a collage while you walk along. To do this project cover a whole sheet of card with double sided sticky tape. Give one to each child. When the child finds a pretty leaf while you are walking along they can stick it straight onto their collage right there and then.

The idea for this project was contributed by Christine B, childminder from Kent who uses this idea with her own childminded children as part of her Forest Childcare weekly trips to the outdoors.



EYFS Observations

EYFS Learning and Development Area: Understanding the world: The world

Early Learning Goals: Children talk about the features of their own immediate environment.

What to look for on this project:

- 16-26 months Young children can become totally absorbed in a particular task. Which objects that they find seem to interest them the most?
- 22-36 months What questions do the children ask in response to what they find? What interests them the most?
- 30-50 months Which items do the children think are similar? Which are different? How do the items feel? What do the children think they are made of? How else do the children examine the objects to find out more about them?
- 40-60 months How do the children examine the different objects? What questions do they ask about them? If they hold the items closely and look at them, what do they see? How do the items feel? Which do they think are the same and which are different?

Date	Child's Name	Observation	Area of learning (EYFS)	Where to next?