PNC Tinkering for Tots: What are we learning about in December?

Habit of the month:

BE EMPATHETIC

Description: How would that make you feel? How do you think it makes another feel?

Story: What are we reading?

Title: Let’s Celebrate! Special Days Around the World
Author: Kate DePalma

Why we picked this book: Let’s Celebrate encourages children to experience 13 holidays from around the world with lyrical prose and beautiful illustrations. Understanding how other cultures celebrate helps children be empathetic.

Questions you can ask your young learner:
What do we do that is special for that holiday? What is your favorite of the holidays we read about in the book? What is your favorite holiday? Why?

Artifact of the day: Where are we going?

Name: Double Dial Calendar Shelf Clock and Holiday Pop-Up Display
Location: Clockworks and Holiday Pop-Up Display near the kitchens exhibit.

Short description: This type of Double Dial Calendar Shelf Clock was generally used in offices, stores and other public buildings. Its perpetual calendar automatically adjusted to months of different lengths and included February 29 in leap years. Our Holiday Pop-Up Display shows how we celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas, Winter Solstice, Kwanzaa and New Year’s with light and food.

Questions you can ask your young learner:
What is different about this clock than other clocks we have? How do we tell the time and the date at home? What do you think about using a clock like this? Would it be easy or hard? What are your favorite examples of celebrations from the display? Why is that your favorite? What is a new celebration we learned about from the display?

What to see next: See what other types of clocks are on display in Clockworks. Explain to your little learner how mass transportation runs on time schedules. Airplanes and trains leave at set times and are scheduled to arrive at set times. Stop at the Railroads exhibit to see the trains and Heroes of the Sky to see the Ford Tri-Motor and the DC-3, two planes that made passenger air travel safer and more available to all.

Take Home STEAM Activity: What are we doing?

Title: Double Paper Plate Clocks

Materials:
- 2 paper plates
- Number stickers 1-12
- Month stickers
- 2 paper brads
- 3 paper arrows
- 8" piece of yarn
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils (not included)
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Directions:
1. Place the number stickers on one paper plate in the order they appear on a clockface, with 6 directly below 12 and 3 and 9 directly across from each other. Make sure the hole punches in the paper plate are towards the bottom.

2. Place the month stickers on the second paper plate, with December directly opposite June. Make sure the hole punches in the paper plate are towards the top.

3. Using a paper brad, attach one long arrow and the shorter arrow to the numbered clockface through the center hole.

4. Using the second paper brad, attach the remaining arrow to the month clockface.

5. Using the yarn, tie the two clockfaces together through holes you punch along the edges.

Extension: Discuss what holidays your family celebrates. Identify what month you celebrate these holidays and decorate the corresponding month on your clock.