

# 5 Thanksgiving Centers Included

## 2 math centers

### Counting

Number Sense

**Math Center**

Counting is a key mathematical idea on which all other number concepts are based. It needs to be practiced daily and in a variety of meaningful ways.

**Objectives:**

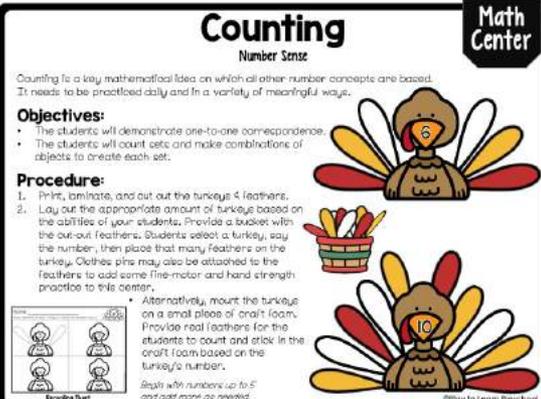
- The students will demonstrate one-to-one correspondence.
- The students will count sets and make combinations of objects to create each set.

**Procedure:**

- Print, laminate, and cut out the turkeys & feathers.
- Lay out the appropriate amount of turkeys based on the abilities of your students. Provide a basket with the cut-out feathers. Students select a turkey, say the number, then place that many feathers on the turkey. Clothes pins may also be attached to the feathers to add some fine-motor and hand strength practice to this center.

Alternatively, mount the turkeys on a small piece of craft foam. Provide real feathers for the students to count and stick in the craft foam based on the turkey's number.

Begin with numbers up to 5 and add more as needed.



Recording Sheet

### Computation

Subtraction

**Math Center**

Developing an understanding of computation is an important skill for young learners. Building on counting skills, computation involves combining and separating groups of objects as a precursor to addition and subtraction.

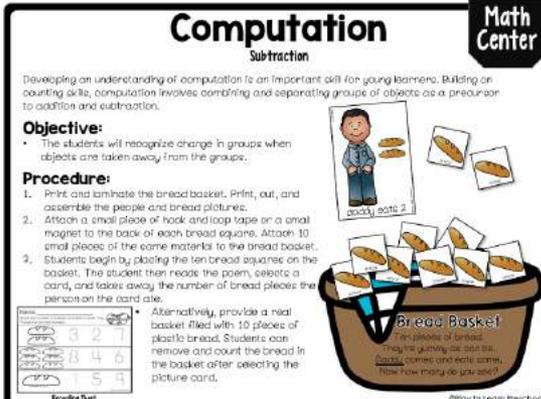
**Objective:**

- The students will recognize change in groups when objects are taken away from the groups.

**Procedure:**

- Print and laminate the bread basket. Print, cut, and assemble the people and bread pictures.
- Attach a small piece of hook and loop tape on a small magnet to the back of each bread square. Attach 10 small pieces of the same material to the bread basket.
- Students begin by placing the ten bread squares on the basket. The student then reads the poem, selects a card, and takes away the number of bread pieces the person on the card ate.

Alternatively, provide a real basket filled with 10 pieces of plastic bread. Students can remove and count the bread in the basket after selecting the picture card.



Recording Sheet

## 2 literacy centers

### Letter Recognition

Apple Pie Letters

**Literacy Center**

Letter knowledge is essential to the start of reading and writing. Success in reading can be seen in connections of understanding the relationship between functions of letters and writing.

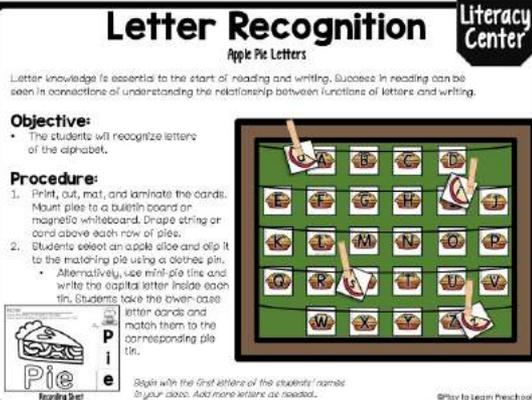
**Objective:**

- The students will recognize letters of the alphabet.

**Procedure:**

- Print, cut, mat, and laminate the cards. Mount pie to a bulletin board or magnetic whiteboard. Drape string or cord above each row of pies.
- Students select an apple slice and slip it to the matching pie using a clothes pin. Alternatively, use mini-pie tin and write the capital letter inside each tin. Students take the cover-caps letter cards and match them to the corresponding pie tin.

Begin with the first letters of the students' names in your class. Add more letters as needed.



Recording Sheet

### Beginning Sounds

Puzzles

**Literacy Center**

Letter knowledge is an indicator to children's understanding of the alphabet and the connection to printed words. Exposure and play with words is key to student progression.

**Objective:**

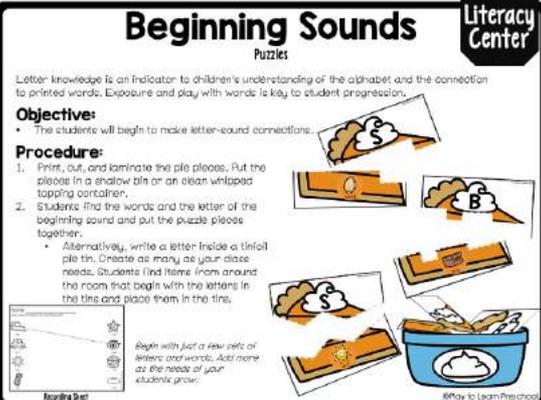
- The students will begin to make letter-sound connections.

**Procedure:**

- Print, cut, and laminate the pie pieces. Put the pieces in a shallow bin or an elvan wrapped taping container.
- Students find the words and the letter of the beginning sound and put the puzzle pieces together.

Alternatively, write a letter inside a foil pie tin. Create as many as your class needs. Students find items from around the room that begin with the letters in the tin and place them in the tin.

Begin with just a few sets of letters and words. Add more as the needs of your students grow.



Recording Sheet

## 1 fine motor center

### Thanksgiving Squares

Cutting

**Fine Motor Center**

Fine Motor refers to the small muscles in our bodies - fingers & hands, toes, lips & tongue, and even eyes. In preschool, young children need to practice these essential fine motor skills that are crucial to their reading and writing success in school later on.

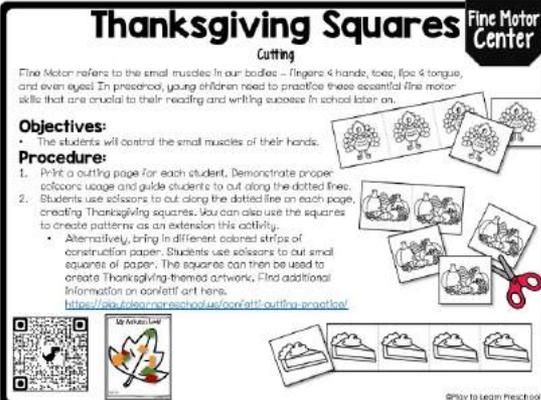
**Objectives:**

- The students will control the small muscles of their hands.

**Procedure:**

- Print a cutting page for each student. Demonstrate proper scissors usage and guide students to cut along the dotted lines.
- Students use scissors to cut along the dotted line on each page, creating Thanksgiving squares. You can also use the squares to create patterns as an extension this activity.

Alternatively, bring in different colored strips of construction paper. Students use scissors to cut small squares of paper. The squares can then be used to create Thanksgiving-themed artwork. Find additional information on content art here: <https://www.playtolearnpreschool.com/content-art-ideas/>



Recording Sheet

# Counting

## Number Sense

Counting is a key mathematical idea on which all other number concepts are based. It needs to be practiced daily and in a variety of meaningful ways.

### Objectives:

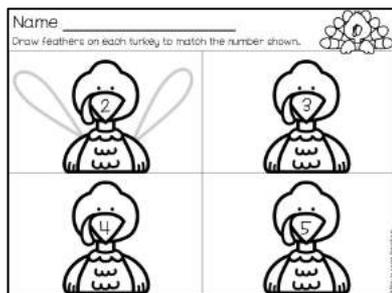
- The students will demonstrate one-to-one correspondence.
- The students will count sets and make combinations of objects to create each set.

### Procedure:

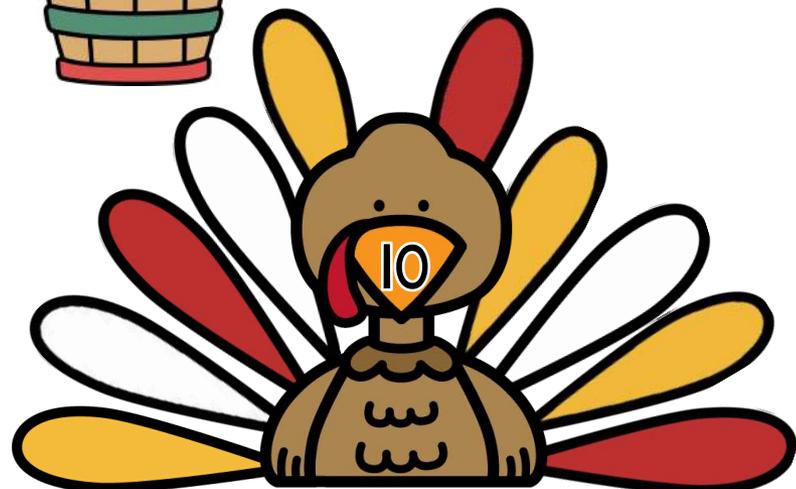
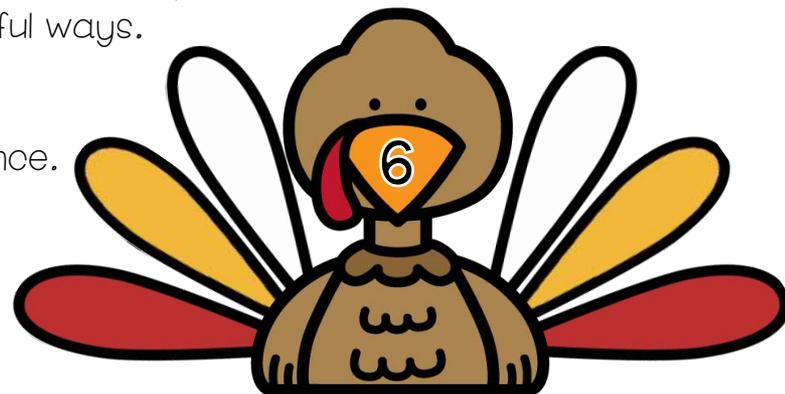
1. Print, laminate, and cut out the turkeys & feathers.
2. Lay out the appropriate number of turkeys based on the abilities of your students. Provide a bucket with the cut-out feathers. Students select a turkey, say the number, then place that many feathers on the turkey. Clothes pins may also be attached to the feathers to add some fine-motor and hand strength practice to this center.

- Alternatively, mount the turkeys on a small piece of craft foam. Provide real feathers for the students to count and stick in the craft foam based on the turkey's number.

*Begin with numbers up to 5  
and add more as needed.*



Recording Sheet



# Computation

## Subtraction

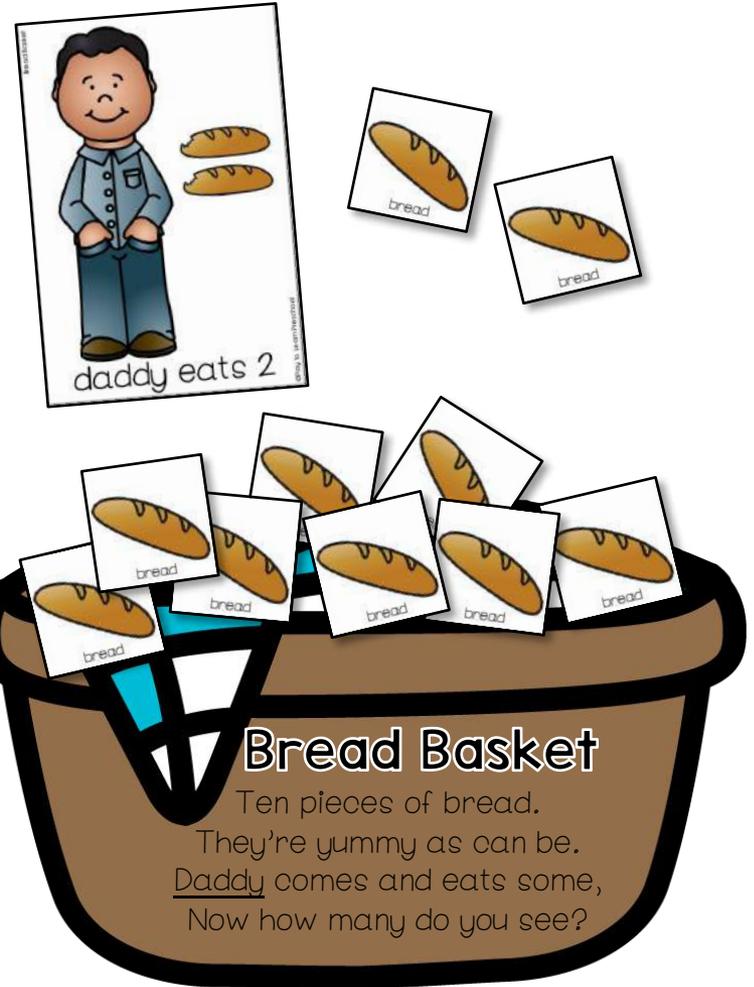
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### Objective:

- The students will recognize change in groups when objects are taken away from the groups.

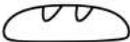
### Procedure:

- Print and laminate the bread basket. Print, out, and assemble the people and bread pictures.
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- Students begin by placing the ten bread squares on the basket. The student then reads the poem, selects a card, and takes away the number of bread pieces the person on the card ate.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Count the number of pieces of bread in each row.  
Trace the correct number.

	3	2	7
	8	4	6
	1	5	9

Recording Sheet

- Alternatively, provide a real basket filled with 10 pieces of plastic bread. Students can remove and count the bread in the basket after selecting the picture card.

# Letter Recognition

## Apple Pie Letters

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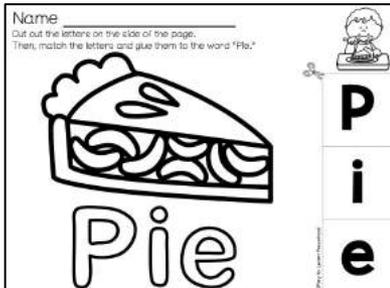
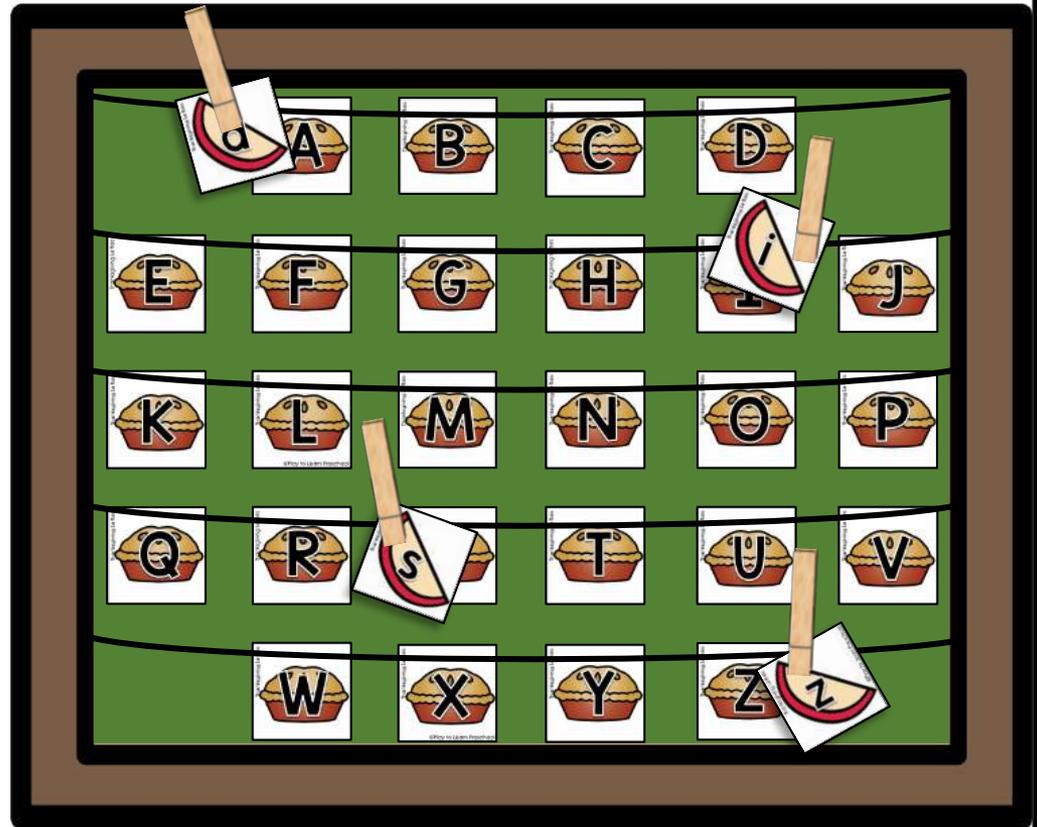
### Objective:

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### Procedure:

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- Students select an apple slice and clip it to the matching pie using a clothes pin.
  - Alternatively, use mini-pie tins and write the capital letter inside each tin. Students take the lower-case

letter cards and match them to the corresponding pie tin.



*Begin with the first letters of the students' names in your class. Add more letters as needed..*

# Beginning Sounds

## Puzzles

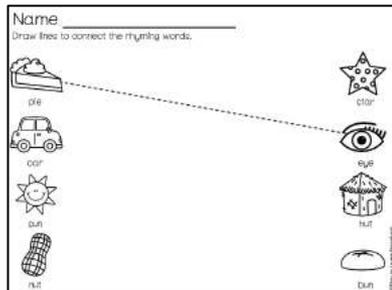
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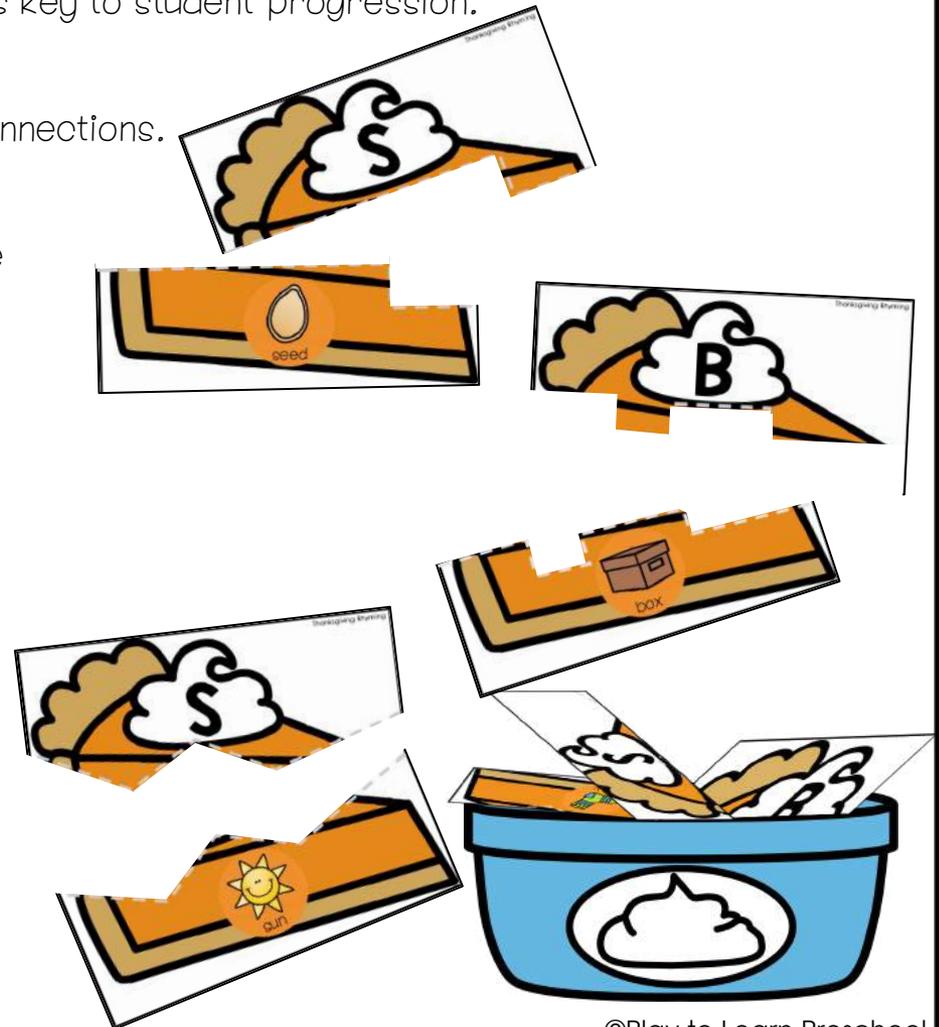
### Procedure:

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- Students find the words and the letter of the beginning sound and put the puzzle pieces together.
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Fine Motor  
Center

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<https://playtolearnpreschool.us/confetti-cutting-practice/>

