

5 Kwanzaa Centers Included

2 math centers

Number Sense

Counting Muhindi (corn)

Math Center

Muhindi (pronounced moo-HEEN dee) means corn and represents the African children and the promise of a future they bring to their community. This counting activity will help students recognize and develop a strong sense of numbers. Daily protocols and playing with numbers will help strengthen a child's number sense.

Objective:

- The students will identify numbers and produce sets.

Procedure:

- Copy the corn stalk page. Copy, mat, out, and laminate the number and corn cards. Place a basket on the table (or use the provided basket pages.) The student chooses a number card and places it on the basket. The student "picks" that many pieces of corn off the stalk page.
 - Alternatively, place small bowls with numbers attached to the side on the table. Provide fruit counters for the children to fill the bowls with the appropriate number of counters.

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Number Order

Mazao Bowl

Math Center

Mazao (pronounced mah-ZAH-on) represents the crops gathered by a community, such as fruit, vegetables, and nuts. This fruit bowl game will help students develop an understanding of numbers and number sense. Daily experiences with counting help build children's number strength.

Objective:

- The students will identify numbers.

Procedure:

- Copy the fruit bowl pictures and cut them apart on the dotted line. Glue down the fruit cards inside a file folder. Place the bowl cards in a pile on the table.
 - Alternatively, place small bowls out with numbers on the side. Provide fruit counters for the children to fill the bowls with the appropriate number of fruit counters.
- The students will identify the missing number on the fruit and locate the correct numbered bowl.

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2 literacy centers

Writing Practice

Kwanzaa Words

Literacy Center

Young children's attempts at drawing and scribbling help them to understand writing as a means of communication. Using various materials to do this will help the student progress.

Objectives:

- The students will write letters.
- The students will draw and imitate the act of writing.

Procedure:

- Copy each page and place them into a plastic sleeve or print on cardstock, laminate and into strips.
 - Alternatively, place the laminated word strips in a sensory bin filled with loose, dried corn and have the students use their fingers to trace the letters.
- Students use a dry eraser marker to trace the words.

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M & K Sound Sort

Beginning Sounds

Literacy Center

Letter knowledge is an indicator of children's understanding of the alphabet and the connection to printed words.

Objectives:

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

Procedure:

- Copy the picture cards. Glue the cover on the front of a file folder and the sorting mats on the inside. Cut and laminate the smaller pieces.
 - Alternatively, gather objects that begin with M and K and have the student sort them between two baskets labeled "M" and "K".
- Students sort the pictures by their beginning sound.

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1 fine motor center

Gross Motor

Mizka (mat) Yoga

Gross-motor Center

The mizka (mat) is one of the symbols of Kwanzaa, representing the notion that everything needs to be built on a strong foundation. We can use a mat to stretch our bodies and keep them strong and healthy.

Objectives:

- The students will show balance while moving.
- The students will show persistence in approaching tasks.

Procedure:

- Print, cut, and laminate the yoga cards. Affix them to a bulletin board in a less busy corner of the classroom. The cards could also be assembled by punching a hole in the corner of each 1/2 page and connecting the cards with a loose leaf book ring.
 - Place a yoga type mat on the floor near the cards on the bulletin board. The students stretch and do the different yoga poses.

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Number Sense

Counting Muhindi (corn)

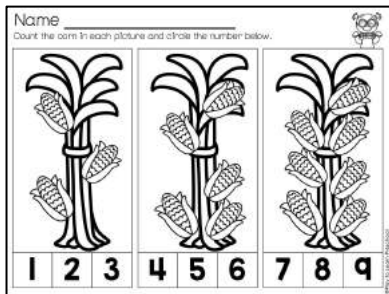
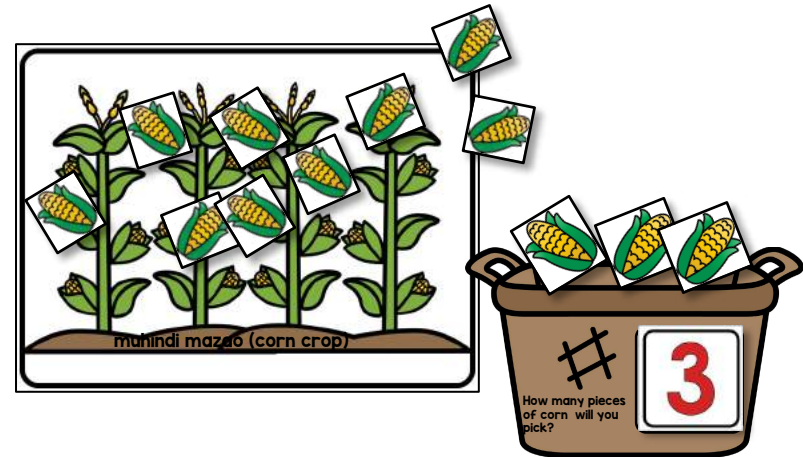
Muhindi (pronounced moo-HEEN-dee) means corn and represents the African children and the promise of a future they bring to their community. This counting activity will help students recognize and develop a strong sense of numbers. Daily practice and playing with numbers will help strengthen a child's number sense.

Objective:

- The students will identify numbers and produce sets.

Procedure:

- Copy the corn stalk page. Copy, mat, cut, and laminate the number and corn cards. Place a basket on the table (or use the provided basket pages.) The student chooses a number card and places it on the basket. The student "picks" that many pieces of corn off the stalk page.
 - Alternatively, place small bowls with numbers attached to the side on the table. Provide fruit counters for the children to fill the bowls with the appropriate number of counters.



Recording Sheet

Number Order

Mazao Bowl

Mazao (pronounced mah-ZAH-oh) represents the crops gathered by a community, such as fruit, vegetables, and nuts. This fruit bowl game will help students develop an understanding of numbers and number sense. Daily experiences with counting help build children's number strength.





Objective:

- The students will identify numbers.

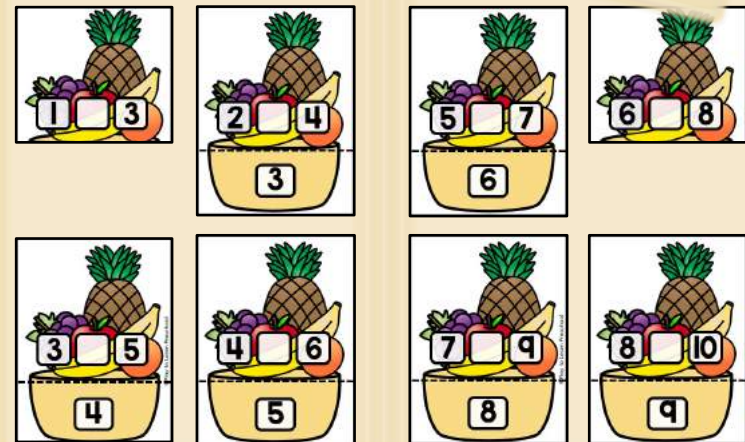
Procedure:

- Copy the fruit bowl pictures and cut them apart on the dotted line. Glue down the fruit cards inside a file folder. Place the bowl cards in a pile on the table.
- The students will identify the missing number on the fruit and locate the correct numbered bowl.

- Alternatively, place small bowls out with numbers on the side. Provide fruit counters for the children to fill the bowls with the appropriate number of fruit counters.

Name _____					
Count and circle the correct number of fruit in each section.					
					
2	3	4	7	8	9
					
5	6	7	1	2	3

Recording Sheet



Number Order

Writing Practice

Kwanzaa Words

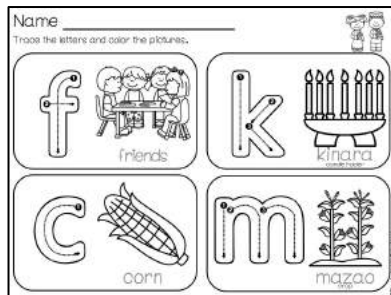
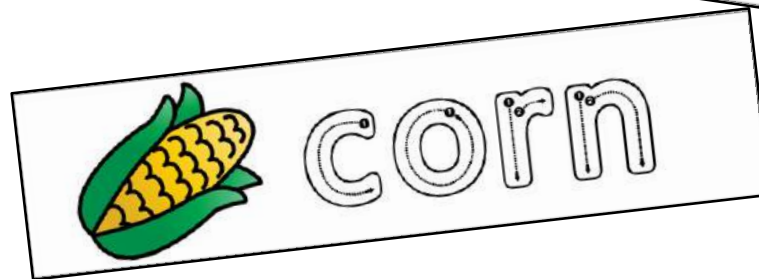
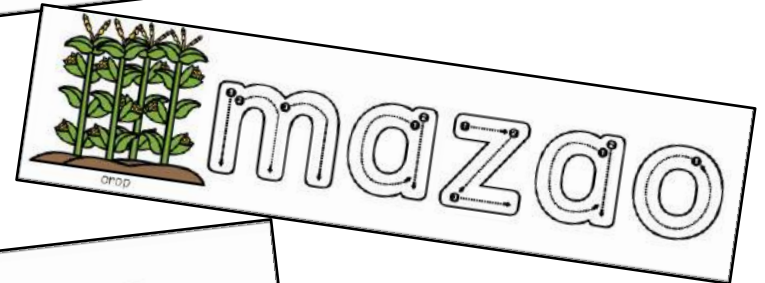
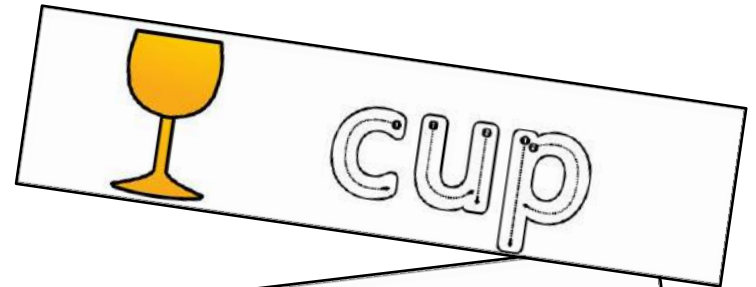
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Objectives:

- The students will write letters.
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Procedure:

1. Copy each page and place them into a plastic sleeve or print on cardstock, laminate and into strips.
2. Students use a dry eraser marker to trace the words.
 - Alternatively, place the laminated word strips in a sensory bin filled with loose, dried corn and have the students use their fingers to trace the letters.



M & K Sound Sort

Beginning Sounds

Letter knowledge is an indicator of children's understanding of the alphabet and the connection to printed words.

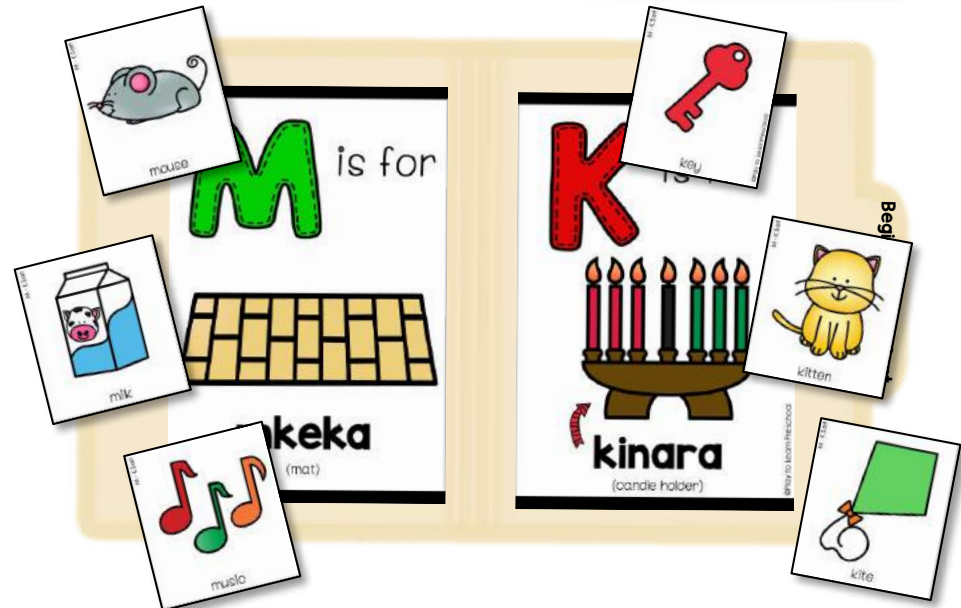
Objectives:

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

Procedure:







- Copy the picture cards. Glue the cover on the front of a file folder and the sorting mats on the inside. Cut and laminate the smaller pieces.
- Students sort the pictures by their beginning sound.
 - Alternatively, gather objects that begin with M and K and have the student sort them between two baskets labeled "M" and "K".

Beginning Sound Sort



Name _____

Cut out the pieces at the bottom and glue them to the correct beginning sound side.

Things that begin with M	Things that begin with K
 meka (mat)	 kinara (candle holder)
 milk	 kitten
 musko	 kite

Recording Sheet

Gross Motor

Mkeka (mat) Yoga

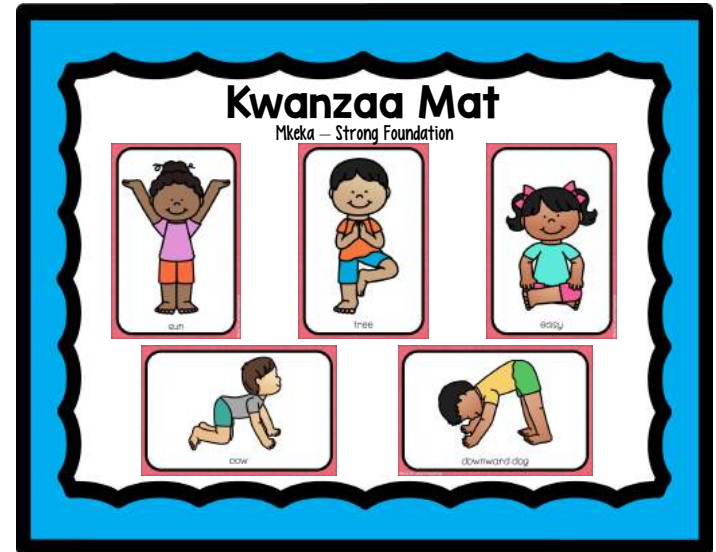
The mkeka (mat) is one of the symbols of Kwanzaa, representing the notion that everything needs to be built on a strong foundation. We can use a mat to stretch our bodies and keep them strong and healthy.

Objectives:

- The students will show balance while moving.
- The students will show persistence in approaching tasks.

Procedure:

1. Print, cut, and laminate the yoga cards. Affix them to a bulletin board in a less busy corner of the class room. The cards could also be assembled by punching a hole in the corner of each ½ page and connecting the cards with a loose leaf book ring.
2. Place a yoga type mat on the floor near the cards on the bulletin board. The students stretch and do the different yoga poses.



Name _____

Write celebrating kwanzaa, mkekas are used to symbolize a strong foundation.
Colour each picture other completing each yoga pose.

 tree	 cow	 sun	 cat
 mountain	 airplane	 cobra	 easy

Recording Sheet