

## FEBRUARY THEMATIC UNIT : FRIENDSHIP

### Main concepts during this month:

- Explore some of the inventions by African Americans
- Learn about friends and friendship
- Learn to write a Valentine's letter/postcard.
- Learn how the Post Office delivers mail.
- Practice using friendly words.

### Learning Objectives We Will Be Observing

#### Scientific Thinking and Problem Solving

- Shows interest in learning
- Uses nonstandard measurements to determine height and length.

#### Personal and Social Development

- Participates successfully as a member of a group.

#### Creativity & The Arts

- Matches designated rhythms

### BOOKS WE WILL BE READING

La Sopa

¿Qué hay para cenar?

Tiempo salvaje

I'm Getting a Checkup

El cuerpo

Quiero mi plátano

Cuidemos a nuestro perrito nuevo

La oruga muy ambrienta

Apples and Orannges:going bananas

Llévame a casa, osito polar

Abuelita fue al Mercado

Los gatitos

Mi primer pez

Los cachorros

### Learning Objectives We Will Be Reviewing

#### Math & Logical Thinking

Recognizes geometric shapes: circle, square, triangle, diamond heart. Orders objects by size.

#### Scientific Thinking & Problem Solving

Describes Fall and Winter seasons. Identifies and describes de uses of the five senses

#### Language and Communication Development

Enjoys listening to and responding to literature. Speaks clearly and understandably to express ideas, feelings and needs.

#### Creativity and the Arts

Participates in creative activities including music, dance, movement and art.

#### Fine Motor Skills

Reproduces some recognizable shapes, letters and numbers.

#### Personal & Social Development

Chooses new as well as familiar activities. Uses words instead of actions.

### THIS MONTH ...

Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>

Field Trip to the Post Office

February 11 & 14

Valentines Day / Tea Party

February 21

Holiday – President's Day

[Forbes magazine](#) takes a peek at Valentine's Day around the world and includes Mexico, Brazil and Guatemala in its sweep.

Valentine's Day, or the day of "love and friendship" (*amor y amistad*), as it's called here in Mexico City, is a hit with many Mexicans.

"According to Jennifer Hirsch, professor of socio-medical sciences at Columbia University, the 'red rain' begins as soon as Christmas is over. It is common for Mexican men and women to exchange flowers, red balloons and anything red and heart-shaped. The gift-giving is an expression of love and prosperity, says Hirsch, especially among migrant laborers."

The Brazilians, on the other hand, celebrate Dia dos Namorados ("the day of lovers") on June 12, not Feb. 14, in honor of St. Anthony, patron saint of matchmaking and marriage.

"Single women perform rituals, like writing the names of their crushes on pieces of paper the night before, folding them up and then opening one on the big day to determine who they should marry," [reports Forbes](#).

And in Guatemala, El Día del Cariño, "the day of affection," is much like Valentine's Day in the U.S, only broader.

Guatemalans exchange flowers, chocolates and cards, but the day is also about showing fondness for friends and colleagues.