

Activity Ideas for Classrooms & Nurseries

Linked to **Whenever You Miss Me at Christmas, Look for the Moon** by Penelope Willis

■ Moon Connection Craft

Children draw or paint a picture of the moon. Inside, they write/draw who they'd like to feel close to at Christmas. Display as a "Moon Wall" with all children's pictures glowing together.

Learning links: Expressive Arts & Design, PSED, Literacy

■ Christmas Eve Role Play

Create a cosy corner with blankets, fairy lights, and the book. Children take turns pretending it's Christmas Eve: leaving cookies, cuddling a toy, looking out at the "moon."

Learning links: Communication & Language, Understanding the World, Imaginative Play

■ Feelings Circle Time

After reading, invite children to share: "Who would you look for in the moon?" Use emotion cards or simple prompts (happy, sad, excited, missing). Encourage children to listen respectfully to each other.

Learning links: PSED, Communication & Language

■ Moon & Stars Collage

Provide silver foil, tissue paper, glitter, and black card. Children create night-sky collages. Add the book's quote: "Whenever you miss me at Christmas, look for the moon."

Learning links: Fine Motor, Expressive Arts & Design

■ Story Sequencing

Print out key illustrations/pages. Children work in pairs to put them in order. Older groups can retell the story in their own words.

Learning links: Literacy, Communication & Language

■ Moon Walk Outdoors

Take children outside on a clear evening or show photos of the moon. Talk about how everyone around und the world sees the same moon. Extend into a science link: phases of the moon, why it glows.

Learning links: Understanding the World, Awe & Wonder

■ ****Whenever You Miss Me at Christmas, Look for the Moon**** is available now in hardback and paperback.

By Penelope Willis

www.booksbypenelopewillis.co.uk