

Tiny Scholars Academy

November Curriculum Guide

Theme: Gratitude, Community & The World Around Us

Month:	November
Theme:	Gratitude, Community & The World Around Us
Age Groups:	Infants (6 wks–12 mo) • Toddlers (12–36 mo) • Preschool (3–5 yrs)
Standards:	Rhode Island Early Learning & Development Standards (RIELDS)

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MONTHLY OVERVIEW & LEARNING GOALS — NOVEMBER

Big Idea: November invites a spirit of thankfulness and global curiosity. Children explore what it means to be grateful, discover traditions from around the world, and build deep empathy and social awareness. We celebrate Native cultures with respect and accuracy.

Monthly Theme Weeks

Week 1 Thankful Hearts

Week 2 Families & Traditions Around the World

Week 3 Native Peoples: Land, Story & Respect

Week 4 Giving & Generosity

Guiding Questions

- What does gratitude mean? What are you thankful for?
- How do different families celebrate and give thanks?
- Who are Indigenous peoples and how do we honor their stories?
- How can we help others in our community?
- What does it mean to be a good neighbor and community member?

■ Infant Room — Monthly Goals

- Experience warmth and security through consistent nurturing care
- Develop social awareness through responsive caregiver interactions
- Explore rich sensory textures of the fall harvest season
- Build language foundations through thankfulness narration
- Strengthen bilateral motor skills through reaching/grasping play

■ Toddler Room — Monthly Goals

- Learn vocabulary of gratitude: thank you, grateful, kind, give
- Explore family traditions through multicultural books and dramatic play
- Develop empathy: 'How does that person feel?'
- Practice prosocial behaviors: sharing, helping, encouraging
- Build number sense 1–10 through Thanksgiving counting games

■ Preschool Room — Monthly Goals

• RIELDS integration through gratitude, culture, and giving themes
• Write and illustrate 'Thankful Books' (D2,D3)
• Explore world cultures: food, language, celebration (D6)
• Count and compare objects in multicultural stories (D4)
• Build scientific inquiry: Where does food come from? (D5)
• Practice perspective-taking and empathy building (D1,D9)

INFANT CLASSROOM (6 wks–12 mo) — NOVEMBER 4-WEEK CURRICULUM

Curriculum Approach: All infant learning is embedded in responsive caregiving routines. Ratios, safe sleep, and RIDOH licensing standards are maintained at all times. Outdoor time occurs daily in the buggy or on a supervised blanket.

Week	Theme	Objectives	Activities	Materials	Assessment
Wk 1 Thankful	Warm Connections	Secure attachment; positive affect; responsive caregiving	Warm snuggle reading time; face-to-face gratitude narration; soft family photograph exploration	Family photos, soft books, cozy blankets, gentle music	Document attachment cues; note positive affect responses
Wk 2 Families	Cultural Textures	Sensory exploration; language bath; new stimuli tolerance	Multicultural fabric textures; world music sensory movement; food-scent pouches from different cuisines	Fabric swatches, world music, food scent pouches	Note tolerance of new stimuli; document sensory engagement
Wk 3 Nature & Story	Earth Tones	Nature sensory; visual tracking; vocalization	Nature-inspired sensory bin: pine cones, smooth stones, dried corn; earth-tone mobile; animal sound tracking	Pine cones, stones, dried corn, earth-tone mobile	Document motor engagement with natural materials
Wk 4 Giving	Social Joy	Social smile; imitation; giving/receiving	Passing a soft 'gift' ball; peek-a-boo giving game; simple sharing songs	Soft ball, giving/sharing books, peek-a-boo toys	Note social initiation; document imitation of giving gesture

TODDLER CLASSROOM (12–36 mo) — NOVEMBER 4-WEEK CURRICULUM

Curriculum Approach: Movement, language, and sensory learning drive the toddler experience. Centers rotate weekly with the theme. Predictable routines support autonomy and emotional regulation.

Week	Theme	Objectives	Activities	Materials	Assessment
Wk 1 Thankful Hearts	Gratitude Practice	Gratitude vocabulary; fine motor; art expression	Thankful turkey handprint; 'I am thankful for...' dictation; gratitude stone painting; thank-you song	Handprint paint, gratitude stones, construction paper, feathers	Document gratitude language; note fine motor quality
Wk 2 Families Around World	Cultural Exploration	Cultural vocabulary; dramatic play; counting	World food tasting (with allergy check); cultural dress-up corner; count items from different countries	Cultural foods, dress-up items, counting objects, world map	Note cultural vocabulary; observe dramatic play
Wk 3 Native Peoples	Land & Story	Respectful vocabulary; listening; nature connection	Accurate Indigenous story time; beading fine motor; nature weaving; 'We are all connected' web game	Accurate books, beading materials, weaving supplies	Note listening engagement; observe fine motor in beading
Wk 4 Giving	Kindness Project	Prosocial behavior; planning; language	Class care package for community; making cards; food drive sorting; kindness chain	Card supplies, donation box, kindness chain strips	Observe prosocial behaviors; note planning language

PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM (3–5 yrs) — NOVEMBER RIELDS-ALIGNED CURRICULUM

Standards Note: All activities are mapped to the 9 Rhode Island ELDS domains. Domain codes (D1–D9) appear in each activity. See the RIELDS Domain Reference in the June Curriculum Guide.

Week 1 — Thankful Hearts ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy	Read: 'Grateful: A Song of Giving Thanks' / 'The Thank You Book' Create class Thankful Book — each child writes/illustrates a page (D2,D3)
Math	Thankfulness tally: what are we most thankful for? Bar graph (D4)
Science	Where does our Thanksgiving food come from? Farm-to-table map (D5,D6)
Art	Thankful heart: tissue paper mosaic in warm colors (D7)
SEL	Gratitude circle: share one thing grateful for each day; start gratitude journal (D1,D9)

Week 2 — Families & Traditions ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy	Read: 'Whoever You Are' / 'Last Stop on Market Street' Family traditions book: illustrate your family celebration (D2,D3)
Math	Multicultural counting: count items in books from 5 different cultures (D4)
Science	Food science: where do harvest foods grow? Climate and geography (D5,D6)
Art	Cultural pattern making: batik-inspired wax resist painting (D7)
Social Studies	Globe exploration: find our community; find 5 different cultures (D6)

Week 3 — Native Peoples: Land & Story ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy	Read: 'Fry Bread' / 'Encounter' by Jane Yolen (teacher-guided) Dictate: 'The land teaches us...' (D2,D3)
Math	Native star patterns: count and extend geometric patterns (D4)
Science	The Three Sisters: corn, beans, squash — companion planting science (D5,D6)
Art	Nature weaving with yarn and natural materials (D7)
SEL	Discussion: how do we show respect for all people's stories? (D1,D6)

Week 4 — Giving & Generosity ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy	Read: 'The Giving Tree' / 'Each Kindness' Write: 'I can give...' class pledge book (D2,D3)

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Math	Sort and count food drive donations; create pictograph (D4)
Science	What do people and plants need to thrive? Compare needs (D5,D1)
Social Studies	Community helpers: who helps our community? Build a helper map (D6)
Project	Class kindness project: create care packages for local shelter (D1,D6,D9)

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM — NOVEMBER

Week: Thankful Hearts

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM | Thankful Hearts

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Families & Traditions Around the World

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM | Families & Traditions Around the World

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Native Peoples: Land, Story & Respect

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM | Native Peoples: Land, Story & Respect

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Giving & Generosity

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM Giving & Generosity				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM — NOVEMBER

Week: Thankful Hearts

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM Thankful Hearts				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Families & Traditions Around the World

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM | Families & Traditions Around the World

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Native Peoples: Land, Story & Respect

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM | Native Peoples: Land, Story & Respect

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Giving & Generosity

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM | Giving & Generosity

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:

Reflections / Notes:	
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TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM — NOVEMBER

Week: Thankful Hearts

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM | Thankful Hearts

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:

Reflections / Notes:	
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Week: Families & Traditions Around the World

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM | Families & Traditions Around the World

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:

Reflections / Notes:	
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Week: Native Peoples: Land, Story & Respect

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM | Native Peoples: Land, Story & Respect

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Giving & Generosity

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM Giving & Generosity				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Welcome to November at Tiny Scholars Academy!

This month our theme is **Gratitude, Community & The World Around Us**. November invites a spirit of thankfulness and global curiosity. Children explore what it means to be grateful, discover traditions from around the world, and build deep empathy and social awareness. We celebrate Native cultures with respect and accuracy. Read on to see what's happening in each classroom and how to keep the learning going at home!

Infant Room: Our youngest learners explore the month's theme through all their senses! Ask your teacher about your baby's weekly sensory experiences.

Toddler Room: Toddlers dive into hands-on science, dramatic play, and language-rich activities. Send your child in clothes ready for messy, magical learning!

Preschool Room: Preschoolers engage with all 9 RIELDS domains through projects, investigation, writing, and creative expression. Portfolio updates go home at month's end.

Important Dates

- Nov 1 — Thankfulness Month Launch
- Nov 4 — Family Traditions Share Day — bring a cultural item!
- Nov 11 — Veterans Day — Honoring Community Heroes
- Nov 14 — Class Thankful Book Celebration
- Nov 27 — Thanksgiving — Academy Closed
- Nov 29 — Academy Closed (Holiday)

Learning at Home

- Start a family gratitude jar — add one thing you're thankful for each day.
- Read a book about a culture different from your own together.
- Cook a traditional family recipe with your child.
- Ask: 'How can our family help someone this month?'
- Watch a short video about Indigenous peoples with your child.

NOTE: Food Drive: We are collecting non-perishable food items through November 22nd.

This Month's Theme Weeks:

Week 1:	Thankful Hearts
Week 2:	Families & Traditions Around the World
Week 3:	Native Peoples: Land, Story & Respect
Week 4:	Giving & Generosity

With warmth and gratitude,

The Tiny Scholars Academy Team ■