

Theme: Canada

Gross Motor (Indoor & Outdoor):

- Children can pretend to be animals from Canada as you go on a walk outdoors (moose, deer, beaver, goose, horse)
- Do you have any stick horses? Children can gallop around the yard/playground pretending to be Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
- Keep the balloon in the air
- Ride tricycles, big wheels, etc.

Science Activities:

- Ships – sink or float.
- Animal footprints – match/identify
- Maple leaf under a magnifying glass

Math Activities/ Small Motor/ Manipulatives:

- Map of Canada puzzle
- Count maple leaf patterns on the flannel board; separate by colors
- Canada Bingo – create cards using figures reminiscent of Canada
- Count the coins – compare Canadian coins to our own
- Wood puzzles of wild animals
- Hide wild animals in the sand table for children to find

Snacks:

“C” foods:

chow mein, chicken, cheeseburger, cheesecake, chips, shop suey, corn, cornbread, corned beef, croissant, cabbage, cream cheese, crepe, cottage cheese, cornflakes, chocolate, caramel, catfish, cauliflower, cracker, carrot, cookie

Special Visual Aids/Room Set-Up/Field Trips:

Invite someone to come speak to the children about a trip to Canada, or someone who's from Canada, etc.

Songs & Fingerplays - Resources:

<http://www.preschooleducation.com/canada.shtml>
<http://www.first-school.ws/activities/places/caadaquilt.htm>
<http://www.fotosearch.com/clip-art/canada.html>
<http://www.coloring.ws/canada.htm>

Books:

The Kids Book of Canada, by B. Greenwood

ABC of Canada, by K. Bellefontaine & Per-Henrik Gurth

M is for Maple: A Canadian Alphabet, by M. Ulmer & M. Rose-Popp

Canada 123, by K. Bellefontaine & Per-Henrik Gurth

Canada's Maple Leaf: The Story of Our Flag, by A.M. Owens, & J. Yealland, & B. Slavin

Canada in Colours, by Per-Henrik Gurth

Violet the Pilot in Canada, by B. J. Bathe & B. Fortin

A Bloom of Friendship: The Story of the Canadian Tulip Festival, by A. Renaud & A. Spires

Find Out About Canada, by S. McMillan & T. Hutchinson

Our Song: The Story of O Canada! The Canadian National Anthem, by P. Kuitenbrouwer & A. Spires

Dramatic Play:

Add moose, goose, deer, beaver to the block play area.

Make paper-bag costumes for children to pretend to be Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Art:

- Display a copy of the coloring sheet found on <http://www.coloring.ws/canada.htm>. Let children draw and cut out their own versions of a beaver; display them all on the wall during the week. (Do not let children simply color the printout. Encourage their creativity by letting them do their own drawing. Allow freedom of expression from the children in their art.)
- Leaf rubbings – maple leaf
- Make a paper maple leaf quilt; display on the wall
- Color Canada flags with markers
- Paint around a beaver shape (or moose, goose, horse, deer) cut out from the middle of a page (hole-in-the-paper); it is interesting to see what children come up with.
- Spatter-paint over one of these shapes or a maple leaf shape onto a larger sheet of paper; children may do more than one shape on their paper.
- Make brown paper moccasins by lacing yarn around the edges; decorate. Child can walk around in them throughout the day.

Circle Time Activities:

- Use a beaver puppet to tell the children little tidbits of information about Canada. If you don't have a beaver puppet—or access to one—make your own from a brown paper sack.
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police: History is found on http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Royal_Canadian_Mounted_Police.aspx
- Climate range in Canada
- There are 10 provinces:
- Compare the size of Canada to the size of the United States on a map or globe.
- Play “hockey” with straws (for hockey sticks) and a milk bottle cap.
- Canadian flag – make paper ones for art, then display on wall.
- Ships –
- Show photos of Canada – print from internet, photos from books (hold up book and discuss pictures—let children tell you what they see in the pictures),
- Help children make “passports” by folding a piece of navy blue paper and pasting their photo (or a photo cut out of a magazine) inside, then take a pretend trip to Canada—pretend to be showing a passport to the ticket clerk to purchase a “ticket” to Canada, boarding a plane, and so on. Let children use their imaginations to describe to you what they “see” on their trip.
- Pretend to be camping in Canada and seeing the wildlife. Talk about the weather. Sit around a crepe-paper “campfire” and sing songs, do action rhymes, etc. “Let's Go on a Moose Hunt” instead of the traditional bear hunt.