



MONTHLY PLAN



Department	Jordbærenga
Month	January 2018

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 1	1. New Year's Day Kindergarten is closed	2. Playing inside/outside	3. Playing inside/outside	4. PLAYING GROUPS across the children's ages	5. JOINT GATHERING All the children in the kindergarten gather together
Food:		Packed lunch	Fish balls	Wholemeal pancakes	Oven baked fish filet
WEEK 2	8. WALK/OUTDOOR DAY/GYM	9. TROLL GROUP MARIHØNE GROUP	10. TROLL GROUP MARIHØNE GROUP	11. PLAYING GROUPS	12. JOINT GATHERING
Food:	Packed lunch	Cooked salmon with pasta	Sausage stew	Herb marinated cod filet	Soup with meat
WEEK 3	15. WALK/OUTDOOR DAY/GYM	16. TROLL GROUP MARIHØNE GROUP	17. TROLL GROUP MARIHØNE GROUP	18. PLAYING GROUPS	19. JOINT GATHERING
Food:	Packed lunch	Fish cakes	Bolognaise and pasta	Chicken meatballs	Homemade soup with meat
WEEK 4	22. WALK/OUTDOOR DAY/GYM STUDENTS: 3rd year (Marta and Elin Marie)	23. TROLL GROUP MARIHØNE GROUP STUDENTS: 3rd year (Week 4-7)	24. TROLL GROUP MARIHØNE GROUP STUDENTS: 3rd year	25. LANGUAGE/ PLAYING GROUPS STUDENTS: 3rd year	26. JOINT GATHERING STUDENTS: 3rd year
Food:	Packed lunch	Chicken meatballs	oven baked cod	Chicken Provençale	Taco fajitas

Assessment of the previous period:

Our goal for relations

“See and acknowledge the children’s emotions and meet them in a helpful way”

We were supposed to have had an adjustment period, but changes made us bring this goal with us to January instead. December is a month with a slightly different content, so it is nice to focus on feelings around change. To focus on the children’s feelings and acknowledging them is something that is important all year around. In December, we spend more time at the department, and it is therefore important to see the children’s needs. We have often cooperated with Blåbæringa to give the children opportunities for playing at a different department. This has worked well and we see that they enjoy their time both with and without adults from Jordbæringa. The youngest have enjoyed their time at the department with a larger area for exploration and more available adults. The days have started the same way as other months, and instead of weekly routines, we have had Christmas workshops as a group activity. Using the groups is a nice way to facilitate for what the children’s interests and needs are.

Our goal for playing

“We will use playing to get to know each other better, but also to develop friendships and joint experiences.”

We have played in groups and everyone together. Because of the Christmas workshops, we have had extra focus on “free play” which has happened simultaneously. This has worked well considering we have had one child at the time to make Christmas presents, whilst the rest have played with the available toys that we have. The selection of toys has been quite similar as before, but we have changed some books to those with a Christmas topic.

Our goal for language

“The children will get to know the book “Snekker Andersen” (Carpenter Andersen)”

We have had several copies of “Snekker Andersen”. This book has been used a lot during gatherings and as a topic for conversation. We also put on a play by the employees about the story in the book. It seemed to be popular amongst both the youngest and oldest. The content of the book was mentioned several times by the children at their own initiative, and they also said which adults played which character from the book. An interesting and engaging topic throughout the entire month, and it seemed like the children understood the content.

Our goal for the subject area(s)

“Ethics, religion and philosophy”

We have tried to create a bit of a Christmas atmosphere at Jordbæringa this month. The decorations were put up with the children present and engaging. We wanted to have a little too much decorations rather than too little, exaggerations are fun for the children. To be allowed to help decorate also seemed to engage the children, and they had the opportunity to get a better personal relationship to this. We have also spoken about santas and Christmas porridge, and connected this to songs and fairy tales. We have done a lot of this throughout the advent gatherings that we had each day. The gatherings had the same structure and content each day, but we lit a candle each week, but lit all four of them the last week (short December this year). The children were active participants. We always ended the gatherings with wild dancing to Christmas music at the end, and we got to see some new sides from several of the children 😊

Our goal for the adults

“The adults shall participate in the children’s Christmas preparations and be conscious and listen to the children’s wonderings and expectations.”

We have done a lot of Christmas activities, and have focused on what we in Norway usually focus on around Christmas. At Jordbæringa, we have focused on Santa, mice, Christmas porridge and the book about Carpenter Andersen, baking of lussekatter (saffron buns) and gingerbread, Christmas decorations and decorating, and of giving something to someone you love. There has been enough content this month, but also just enough so that the children have not felt overwhelmed by the impressions and new things. The employees at the department have experienced it as a nice and not too stressful period, and we hope that this has influences the children positively as well.

What has happened this month:

Christmas time at our department is a nice time with lots of activities. We have made Christmas presents at the Christmas workshops, had advent gatherings each day, and we have had books with Christmas as the topic available at the department. We have spent time outside in the snow, and visited other departments inside. Rather than purchasing expensive theatre tickets and transport, the staff made their own Christmas show about "Carpenter Andersen". The children seemed engaged in the story and what happened on stage. The entire kindergarten participated at the marking of St Lucia with hot beverages and lussekatter (saffron buns), we were lucky with the weather this year as well. It was a lovely time where the parents had some time to talk to each other as well.



Exciting with a visit from Santa Claus...



Santa Claus has brought some goodies 😊

Goals for the period:

Topic	Goal	Reason	How to work on the goals
Relationships	We will focus on creating new relations and friendships amongst the child group.	With new and “old” children at the department, it is important to us to be able to see each child and their needs. We will provide a good opportunity to adjust to the child group for the new children. We also see that there is a great difference in what challenges the children needs every day. By focusing on this we can facilitate for good playing and relationship building.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will continue to start the day together at the department so that everyone gets used to seeing each other and playing in the same room. There are changes in the weekly rhythm so that we can focus on the adjustment period. - We will continue to divide the group when needed, but for now we will divide the group across the ages. - The oldest children (Troll group) will start up with groups from week 2. The youngest (Marihøne group) will be their own group until week 3.
Playing	We will use playing with animals to get to know each other better, but also to develop friendships and joint experiences.	In a playing community, we will create new relations and safe environments. The adults will be more active in guiding the playing now, since the adjustment period is over for most of the children. Since this month’s book is about the animals at the farm, and the song about five little monkey, ‘animals’ will be the overall topic. This is an initiative we have seen amongst the children in the last period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have had a varied choice of toys which has creates joint experiences on the children’s terms and through this, we have achieved contact and safety. We will further develop the playing environment both inside and use the outdoor space/gym hall more. - We will focus on the overall topic of animals in lots of different ways, through songs, books and toys.
Language	We will get to know the book: «Dyrene på gården» (The animals at the farm)	In accordance with the Framework Plan, we wish the children to experience a variety of fairy tales and stories. We want them to experience excitement and joy when being read to out loud and through conversations.	We will start by presenting the book during the gathering where we will look at pictures and talk about the plot of the book. Afterwards, we will begin to read out loud for the oldest children during “free play”, and then everyone who wants to can participate. We wish to use the book as a conversation topic around the food table, changing table and otherwise during our daily activities. We also have this month’s song which is also about animals.
Subject areas	“Body, movement, food and health” Focus on letting the children explore and express themselves in the gym hall so that they will want to be active and move their bodies. Facilitate for the individual child’s development at their own level.	The Framework Plan states that we shall provide the children with versatile freedom of movement. Amongst the youngest children, we wish that they shall learn to walk and experience joy by using their own bodies and experience development. We have chosen to let the youngest ones explore more inside this winter. We feel that they gain more from learning to walk steadily and experience achievement inside first, and then we will do more activities outside later. The oldest children are also active in their own ways when we are in the gym hall.	We will use the gym hall on Mondays. We wish that the entire child group participates since we want to focus on the joint sense of community, and will facilitate for the challenges that each individual child has or needs. Both the youngest and the oldest will spend more time outside other days of the week.
Adults	The adults shall be sensitive and	At the beginning of January, we have had a new	The adults will, daily, focus on how we talk with the children. This will

	acknowledge emotions in a welcoming way.	adjustment period, and the adults must be sensitive to the new child, and facilitate for daily activities for the whole group.	happen consistently throughout the days, and at the start, we will especially focus on this during playing situations transitions and at sleeping time. During the beginning, there are a lot of emotions and experiences. It is therefore important for the adults to be sensitive to show the children that we care and acknowledge their emotions, but can also put words to their emotions.
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This month's book	Dyrene på garden (The animals at the farm)
This month's song(s)	Fem små apekatter (Five little monkeys) (The children's initiative)