

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC. (RMDC)
HEAD START
HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Policy: RMDC Head Start will ensure that all activities in the classroom will be supportive and culturally relevant to all children. RMDC Head Start understands that each family's traditions surrounding holidays may vary and that holidays are not universal to all cultures. We will invite children to *learn* about holidays and traditions, rather than *celebrate* them in the classroom. RMDC will work with families on an individual basis to ensure that no activity or lesson in the classroom will exclude a child due to beliefs and/or traditions.

Procedure:

1. Information will be gathered from all families upon acceptance into the program regarding their beliefs and preference in regards to celebrations and holidays. This will happen during each families Initial Classroom Visit. This information is listed on the Initial Classroom Visit Documentation Form.
2. Staff will ensure that all beliefs and traditions are represented in the classroom.
3. Activities will be developmentally appropriate and inclusive of all children and families.
4. Classrooms will have no more than one (1) day celebrating each holiday (examples: holiday party, holiday programs.) These events will include opportunities for families to plan, attend, and celebrate with their children.