**Infant and Toddler Lesson**

**Special Learning Lesson**

**Everyone is Special**

**Teach your child how everyone is unique and special!**

**Purpose**

It is very easy, especially for young children, to believe that the world revolves around them. It is eye opening to learn that we are all on this earth for the same reason, to gain experience and become more like Heavenly Father. We are all different and because of that we all have different trials in our lives to test us. Teach your children from a young age that even though we are all different, we are all children of our Heavenly Father, who loves us. We need to lead and teach our children by example through loving and serving others, no matter how different they may be.

 “My dear friends, you are a royal generation. You were preserved to come to the earth in this time for a special purpose. Not just a few of you, but all of you. There are things for each of you to do that no one else can do as well as you.” ~ Bishop H Burke Peterson

**Preparation**

Pull up any links you might need for the lesson – look at the Family Night website for quick links

Mark Doctrine and Covenants 18:10

Prepare for the Activities you want to do.

Print off Coloring Page: “It’s a Small World” Coloring page found on spoonful.com

Prepare Treat ~ Star shaped rice crispy treats

**Everyone is Special**

**Opening Song** ~ We are different (Primary Hymnbook; Hymn 263)

**Opening Prayer**

**Scripture** ~ Open Scriptures to D & C 18:10, and read. To reinforce the idea that goes with the lesson you can say, “Everyone is Special to Heavenly Father.”

**Scripture Story** ~ ~ New Year! ~ Not so much a scripture story this time

We just celebrated the New Year!

Every year has lots of days in it.

(Show child with calendar all the different days)

There are special days in the year like Easter and Christmas!

(talk about those and other special days on the Calendar)

Everyone has a special day in the year that is their birthday!

(Show your child his/her birthday)

**Activity** ~ Hand Tracing

Have everyone in your family trace their hands on paper. Compare all the different ones when you are finished. Talk about how they are all different and special to the person who made it. Also bring up how no hand print is better than the other handprints, they are all special in their own ways!

**Coloring Page** ~ “It’s a Small World” Coloring page found on spoonful.com

**Closing Song** ~ Every Star Is Different (Primary Hymnbook; Hymn 142)

**Closing Prayer**

**Treat** ~ Star Shaped Rice Crispy Treats!

**Extra Activities for This Lesson ~**

 **1** ~ Mark the Calendar!

Go through your calendar and mark all the birthdays in your family! Stickers are always fun, show your child where to place them on the calendar! Talk to your child about how everyone has their special day!

 **2** ~ New Year Goals!

Make a family goal for this year together! It can just be a small goal, but make sure it is “SMART” Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Results Focused, and Time-Bound.

 **3** ~ Personal Collage

Find some old magazines or newspapers and cut out different pictures – have them precut before the activity to save time. Have everyone pick pictures they like the best to paste onto their sheet of paper. Look at them when they are finished and talk about how they are all different and special, just like we are!