

THE APPELBAUM

DAILY CURRICULUM

Age 3-5



JULY

Dear Subscriber,

It's July! We are in the heart of summer. We have lots of activities for you and the children. We know that many of you will probably be closed for the 4th of July, but just in case you are open, we gave you some activities for July 4th and 5th.

Have a wonderful July filled with smiles, learning, love, and laughter.

Appelbaum Training Institute

PS. We welcome you join the over 100,000 early childhood providers who get our free daily messages of classroom management tips and inspiration, Monday thru Friday from Maryln via email. Go to <https://www.atiseminars.org/mfm>

PSS. Check out our online webinars for topics that interest you. Go to: www.atiseminars.org

Below is a sample letter you can use to ask parents to bring some items from home to assist you with activities. Feel free to edit it based on your needs.



Dear Parents,

We have a great month planned for your children. Our July themes are:

- Red, White, and Blue
- Ocean Critters
- Wonderful Water
- Our Beautiful Sky
- Does It Jump, Wiggle, or Fly?

Here are a couple special requests for July:

- Please have your children dress in red, white, and blue for Monday, July 1st
- Have them bring a white pillowcase on Tuesday, July 2nd.
- Have them bring an old pair of white tube socks on July 25th.

Thanks so much. Looking forward to a great month. Thank you for sharing your child with us.

Sincerely,



THE APPELBAUM DAILY CURRICULUM

Best practice activities during the COVID pandemic may vary depending on your location, community, or state.

Alter or eliminate activities as deemed necessary by local conditions, policies, licensing, government mandates and CDC guidelines.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 Red, White, and Blue	"Parades" 	"Declaration of Independence" 	"Fireworks" 	"Flag-" 	"Statue of Liberty-"
Week 2 Ocean Critters	"Whales" 	"Octopus" 	"Dolphins" 	"Starfish" 	"Lobster"
Week 3 Wonderful Water	"Float a Boat/Ball" 	"Splish Splash" 	"Brushing Teeth" 	"Washing Hands" 	"Washing Hair"
Week 4 Our Beautiful Sky	"Kinds of Clouds" 	"Sun" 	"Moon" 	"Stars" 	"Colors of the Sky"
Week 4 Jump, Wiggle, or Fly	"Jumping Frogs" 	"Wiggle Worms" 	"Bees" 	"Fireflies" 	"Ladybugs"

Remember to plan ahead and use alternative activities for those with food sensitivities/food allergies as needed.

Theme for the Week



Red, White, and Blue

Activities for "Parades"

Materials Needed: Picture of USA flag (provided), 12X18 white construction paper, red and white paints, blue paper, pre-cut red rectangles, pre-cut white squares, pre-cut blue stars



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Explain to the children that parades often take place to celebrate events and holidays like the Fourth of July. Tell them that the Fourth of July is the birthday of the USA. Children sing Happy Birthday to the USA. Show children pictures of parades (provided) to see that people in parades walk in a line and usually play instruments and hold flags. Children share which instrument they would want to play in a parade and pretend to play it and march around the room and sing Happy Birthday USA.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Letter Parade

Give each child a piece of white 12X18 construction paper with the letter of their first name largely written in pencil. They trace over the letter with paste. Then they cover the letter with torn pieces of red and blue paper to create a textured letter shape. They parade around the room with their letters and take turns saying their names. Example: "My name is Steven and my first letter is S."



FUN ART

Flying Flags

Children paint paper towel tubes with red, white and blue finger paint. Then they paint a ½ sheet of 9X12 white construction paper with red and blue paints. Tape the painted paper to the paper towel tube so it looks like a flag. Save for Music today.



MATH

Number Parade

Give each child a piece of white 12X18 construction paper with a large number from ten to twenty written on it. They tape the corresponding number of red and blue ribbon pieces to the paper. Then they line up in numerical order and parade around the room with their decorated number signs.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing Ten Little Flags (tune of "Ten Little Indians")

In advance, ask children to wear red, white and blue to child care today. Wave flags from Art today while marching in a class parade: One little, two little, three little flags. Four little, five little, six little flags. Seven little, eight little, nine little flags. Ten little flags for the USA. One little, two little, three little children. Four little, five little, six little children. Seven little, eight little, nine little children. Ten little children flying flags for the USA.



SOCIAL SKILLS

Teacher Leader Parade (Following Directions)

Children line up behind you and follow you around the classroom. They repeat your words and actions. Example: Say, "I am special." Jump up. Say, "I live in the USA." Clap three times. Say, "Red, white and blue are the colors of our flag." Pretend to wave a flag. Say, "I am lucky to have so many friends." Give high fives to the child in front of and behind you.

"Celebrate the greatness in each child."



Parades



Theme for the Week



Red, White, and Blue

Activities for "Declaration of Independence"

Materials Needed: Pictures of Jefferson writing drafts of the Declaration and the actual Declaration of Independence (provided), plain paper, crayons, children bring old white pillowcases to child care to be cut, finger paints, calendar, stickers, stapler

CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Walk to each child and say, "I declare you are important!" Explain that to declare is to announce something to others. Tell them that a long time ago on July 4, 1776 the USA wrote an important paper and declared that the USA was to be a country independent from any other country. Explain that another country wanted to be in charge of the USA. Once the Declaration was written, the USA was in charge of itself. Show them a book and point out the name of the author on the cover. Tell them that the author wrote the words in that book. Tell them that Thomas Jefferson wrote the words in the Declaration of Independence. Show them pictures of Jefferson writing drafts of the Declaration and the actual Declaration of Independence (provided).



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

We are Authors Too

Pre-write on plain paper for each child: I declare the best part of child care is _____.

Each child tells you what to write in the blank. Then they draw a picture to go with it.

Staple all of the pages together for a class book.



FUN ART

Fabric Flags

Children bring old white pillowcases to child care. Cut them in half lengthwise so each side can be used. Children finger paint the pillowcase fabric to resemble the USA flag.

Save for Music today.



MATH

Birthday Math (Learning About Calendars)

Remind children that July 4th is the birthday of the USA because that is the day the Declaration of Independence was signed many years ago. It is 244 years old this year (1776-2020). Children show on their fingers how old they are. Tell them the month and day of their birthdays. Go through a 2024 calendar and have each child put a sticker on their birthday on the calendar. Sing the months of the year from January to December.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Chant and Act Out Hip, Hip Hurray!

In a parade we march along ... (March in place.) And cheer for the USA, "Hip, hip, hurray!" (Wave hands in the sky.) We wave our flags and sing this song. (Wave flags from Art today.) Happy Birthday to the USA! Happy Birthday to you. We do love the USA! We do. We do. We do.



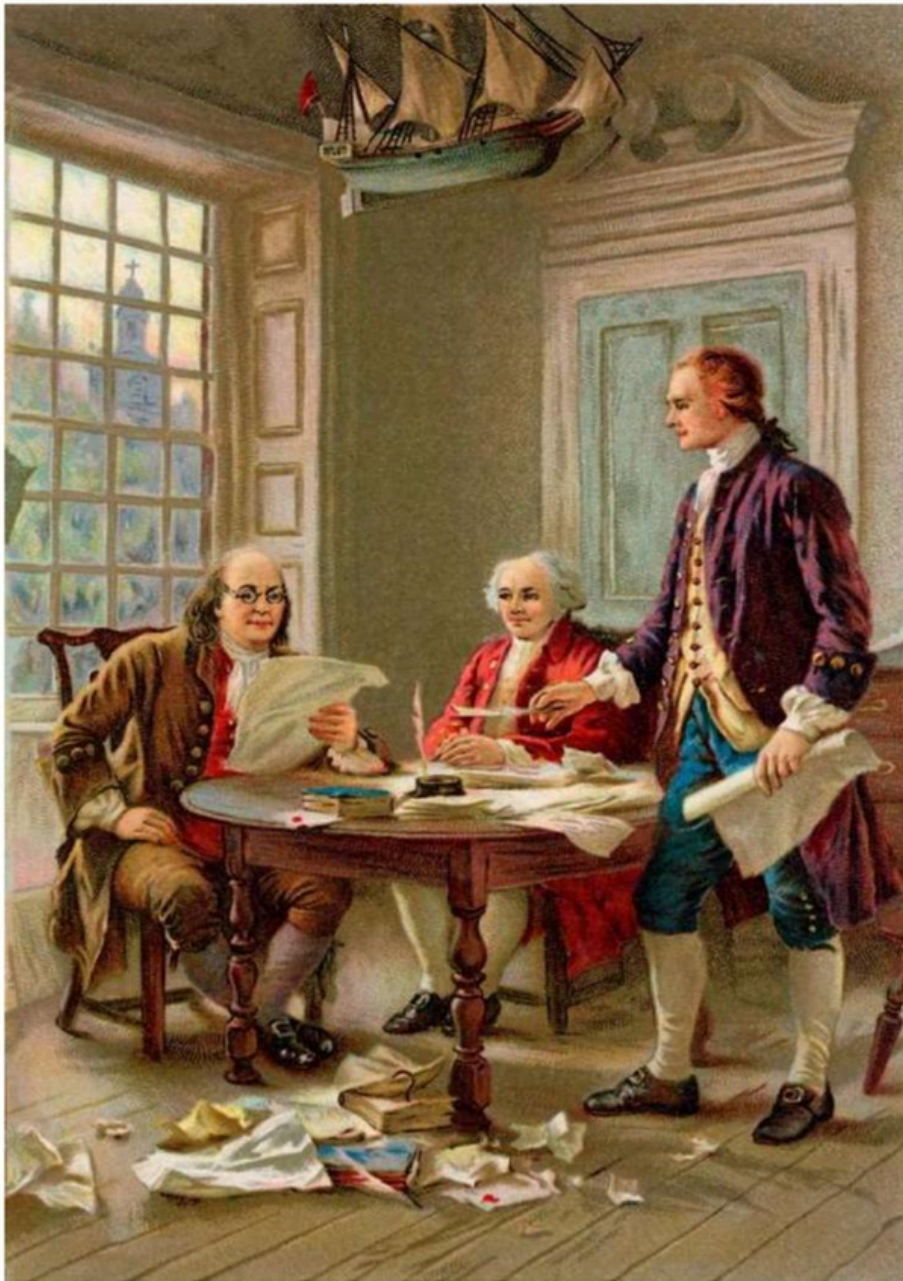
SOCIAL SKILLS

1 Declare (Giving Compliments)

Children take turns giving a declaration to their friend sitting beside them. Pass a rolled up piece of paper as a pretend Declaration of Independence around the circle. The person holding the paper has a turn to speak and give a compliment. Example: The child says to a friend, "I declare you are fun to play with/pretty/kind to me, etc." They all hold hands and chant: We declare we are friends!



"ATi declares teachers are difference makers."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a solemn Appeal must be made to the Supreme Judge of the world for the Rectitude of their Intentions: — We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness — That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all experienced Men have contemplated Sufferance long enough, to enable them to judge of the most probable Effects of a Change. And whereas the frequent Change of Forms of Government has a Tendency to inject Insecurity into the Minds of the People, and to allow them to fall into the Power of a few unprincipled Men, who, by the Force of their Influence, may oppress the People, and deprive them of their Rights: — We the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, solemnly publish and declare, that the thirteen united States of America, are free and Independent States, that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of Right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Confidence on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

John Hancock
Samuel Adams
John Adams
George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Thomas Jefferson
Francis Pickens
John Jay
George Clinton
John Mifflin
George Taylor
James Wilson
Gt. M^r
Caesar Rodney
George Ross
Charles Carroll
George Mason
George Meade
Richard Bland
John Banister

Benjamin Franklin
Thomas Mifflin
John Morton
Robert Morris
George Ross
George Taylor
James Wilson
Gt. M^r
Caesar Rodney
George Ross
Charles Carroll
George Mason
George Meade
Richard Bland
John Banister

John Adams
Samuel Adams
John Adams
George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Thomas Jefferson
Francis Pickens
John Jay
George Clinton
John Mifflin
George Taylor
James Wilson
Gt. M^r
Caesar Rodney
George Ross
Charles Carroll
George Mason
George Meade
Richard Bland
John Banister

John Adams
Samuel Adams
John Adams
George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Thomas Jefferson
Francis Pickens
John Jay
George Clinton
John Mifflin
George Taylor
James Wilson
Gt. M^r
Caesar Rodney
George Ross
Charles Carroll
George Mason
George Meade
Richard Bland
John Banister

Source: Wikimedia Commons

PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME

Theme for the Week



Red, White, and Blue

Activities for "Fireworks"

Materials Needed: Pictures of fireworks (provided), bubbles, black 12X18 construction paper, paste, glitter, pipe cleaners and ribbon of different colors, white construction paper for Math



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children pictures of fireworks (provided). Explain that fireworks can only be lit by an adult and watched in the sky from a distance. Fireworks come in many colors and shine very brightly in the night sky. They also make a loud booming sound. You can see and hear them on the Fourth of July in many cities. Children share if they have ever seen fireworks. They take turns clapping their hands like a firework boom and then telling the color they would like to see in the sky.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Word of the Day: sparkle

Tell children that fireworks sparkle and shine in the sky. Sparkle means to flash, glitter, light up and be bright. Can they see anything in the room that sparkles? Jewelry can sparkle. Glitter sparkles. Bubbles can have a sparkle too. Children make bubbles in the sink and/or outside and look for the sparkle.



FUN ART

Sparkling Fireworks

Children finger paint with paste all over a 12X18 black construction paper. Then they sprinkle different colors of glitter. Next, they roll different colors of ribbon and/or pipe cleaners in paste and place them on the black paper too. It will resemble a night sky filled with vibrant fireworks.



MATH

High Ten for Fireworks

Trace both hands of each child onto black construction paper and then cut out their hand shapes. Have them count with you the number of their cut out fingers from one to ten. Children squirt paste on each paper finger while counting from one to ten again. Add a dollop of paste to their paper palms. Lastly, they sprinkle glitter over the paste to create firework hands.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Chant and Act Out Fireworks

Fireworks go boom, boom, boom! (Stomp feet loudly three times.)

Fireworks go zap, zap, zap. (Snap three times.)

Fireworks make me clap, clap, clap. (Clap three times.)

Fireworks are fun, fun, fun on the Fourth of July. (Shout "Yay!")



SOCIAL SKILLS

Pledge of Allegiance (Showing Respect)

Tell children that they can also often see fireworks at sporting events after the national anthem is sung. Tell them that the national anthem is a song for the USA. When this song is sung or the pledge of allegiance is said, they show respect and honor by standing up, removing caps, and placing their right hands over their hearts. Children practice standing with their hands over their hearts and saying, "I pledge allegiance to the USA."

"Your smile is like a firework - lighting up a dark day for others."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME

Theme for the Week



Red, White, and Blue

Activities for "Flag"

Materials Needed: A real flag if available, Picture of USA flag, (provided), 12X18 white construction paper, red and white paints, blue paper, pre-cut red rectangles, pre-cut white squares, pre-cut blue stars



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children a real flag (if available) and a picture of a flag (provided). Ask children to name the three colors they see on the flag. Tell them that it is the flag for the country they live in, the United States of America. Anyone wearing red stands up. Anyone wearing white stands up. Anyone wearing blue stands up. Children chant: We can see red, white and blue. Red, white and blue are on the flag too!



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Color Sentences

Remind children that the colors of the flag of the USA are red, white and blue.

Children take turns finding a red object in the classroom, holding or pointing to it, and saying, "This book is red." Repeat with white. They say, "This paper is white?" Repeat with blue. They say, "This toy car is blue."



FUN ART

My Flying Flag

Give each child a 12X18 piece of white construction paper. They finger paint red lines across the paper. (Be sure the paper is turned landscape style.) Help children paste a blue square paper in the top left corner. Lastly, children make white finger prints onto the blue square to be the stars of the flag. Tape the flags onto sticks. Save for Music today and Social Skills on Day 5.



MATH

Red, White and Blue Sort

Pre-cut several red rectangles, white squares, and blue stars in different sizes.

Children sort them by color. Then children sort them by shape. How many are there of each shape? Name the shapes.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing Look at Our Flag (tune of "You're a Grand Old Flag")

Children wave their flags made in Art today while singing and marching:

See our grand old flags. Look at our flying flags. And forever their colors will wave.

Red, white and blue for you and for me.

The flag of the U, S of A.



SOCIAL SKILLS

I Pledge Allegiance (Showing Respect)

Tell children that standing with their hands over their hearts is a way to show respect. Have them practice standing, placing their hands over their hearts and saying, "I pledge allegiance to the flag." They can look at the class flag or a flag they made in Art today.

"Children learn respect by watching others' actions."



FLAG FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY

Theme for the Week



Red, White, and Blue

Activities for "Statue of Liberty"

Materials Needed: Picture of the Statue of Liberty (provided), paper plates, green paint, yellow and orange tissue paper, tape, pre-cut paper squares, safety scissors

CIRCLE ACTIVITIES



Have children stand up and move. Say, "Statue," and they freeze in place. Have them sit down and show children a picture of the Statue of Liberty (provided). Tell them that this very special statue was given to the USA and it sits in the water in New York City. Say, "Like the USA flag and the bald eagle the statue is a symbol of America. Chant: Flag and Statue of Liberty. These are American symbols we can see."

LANGUAGE-LITERACY



Right and Left

Show children the picture of the Statue of Liberty again. Ask, "Which hand is she raising in the air?" Her right. Children put their right arm in the air and chant: This is my right arm. Children put their left arm in the air and chant: This is my left arm. Repeat with wiggling right and left legs and touching right and left ears.

FUN ART



Statue of Liberty Torch

Children paint a paper plate green. Cut it in half. Roll the half plate into a cone shape and tape it closed. Stuff with yellow and orange tissue paper coming out of the paper plate to be a pretend torch. Save for Music today.

MATH



The Crown's Triangles

Show the picture of the Statue of Liberty again. Point to her head. Ask what she is wearing. A crown. What shapes are on the ends of her crown? Triangles. Count them. Six triangles. Give each child a pre-cut paper square. Show them how to fold in half on the diagonal. It makes two triangle shapes. They cut the diagonal line to now have two paper triangles.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT



Frozen Statues of Liberty

Model for the children the posture of the Statue of Liberty. They practice with you. Play fun, upbeat music while children march/dance around the room holding their torches from Art today. When the music stops they freeze in the position of the Statue of Liberty with their right arms holding their torches in the sky.

SOCIAL SKILLS



Welcoming Torch

The Statue of Liberty is on an island and holds a torch up high in her right hand. When people come to America on a ship, they see her holding her arm out in welcome. Have children get partners A and B. B holds a pretend torch from Art today while A walks toward B. B says, "Welcome to our class." Then A and B reverse roles.

"Teach children to give gifts from their hearts: kind words, hugs and sweet smiles."



STATUE OF LIBERTY FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY

Theme for the Week



Ocean Critters

Activities for "Whales"

Materials Needed: Pictures of whales (provided), chart paper, whale shape (provided), heavy paper, foil, safety scissor, paste, blue fingerpaint, light blue construction paper, 100 feet of masking tape or string, pencils



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children pictures of whales (provided). Tell them whales live in the ocean. They are unlike other fish in that they breathe air like us. That is why they jump up out of the water to get air. Children hold their breaths, and then take a deep breath of air as whales do when they come out of the water. Tell them there are all different sizes and shapes of whales. The blue whale is the largest animal in the world today. Chant: Whales live in the ocean and come up for air.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Riding on a Whale's Tail

Show children a picture of a whale's tail (previously provided). Tell them to pretend that they are sitting on the whale's tail going for a ride in the ocean. Would they be going fast or slow, up or down, in the water or out of the water? What would they wear for their whale tail ride? Would anybody be riding with them? What would they see under water? Write all of their responses on chart paper. Once everyone has shared, point to each word as you read their story back to them from the chart paper.



FUN ART

Shiny Whale

In advance, copy a whale shape (provided) onto heavy paper and cut it out. Children place the whale cut out onto foil. They trace around it with a pencil. Help them cut out the shape with safety scissors. Next, they finger paint an ocean with dark blue finger paint onto light blue construction paper. Paste the foil whale shape in the painted ocean.



MATH

Largest and Smallest

Remind children that whales are very large. The blue whale is the largest animal in the world. Look around the room. What is the largest object in the room? Look outside. What is the largest object outside? Place three objects on the floor (such as a block, book and chair). Which is the largest? The chair. Which is the smallest? The block. Repeat several times with a new grouping of objects each time.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Be like Whales

Explain to children that whales love to sing! They sing a song over and over. Eventually, they tire of that song and then sing another. Children sing their favorite song from child care several times. When they tire of that song, they sing: I'm a big, big whale, swimming in the sea. In a minute you will see me. Out of the water, I will jump. You will see my back as a big hump.



SOCIAL SKILLS

Longer Than All of Us! (Working Together)

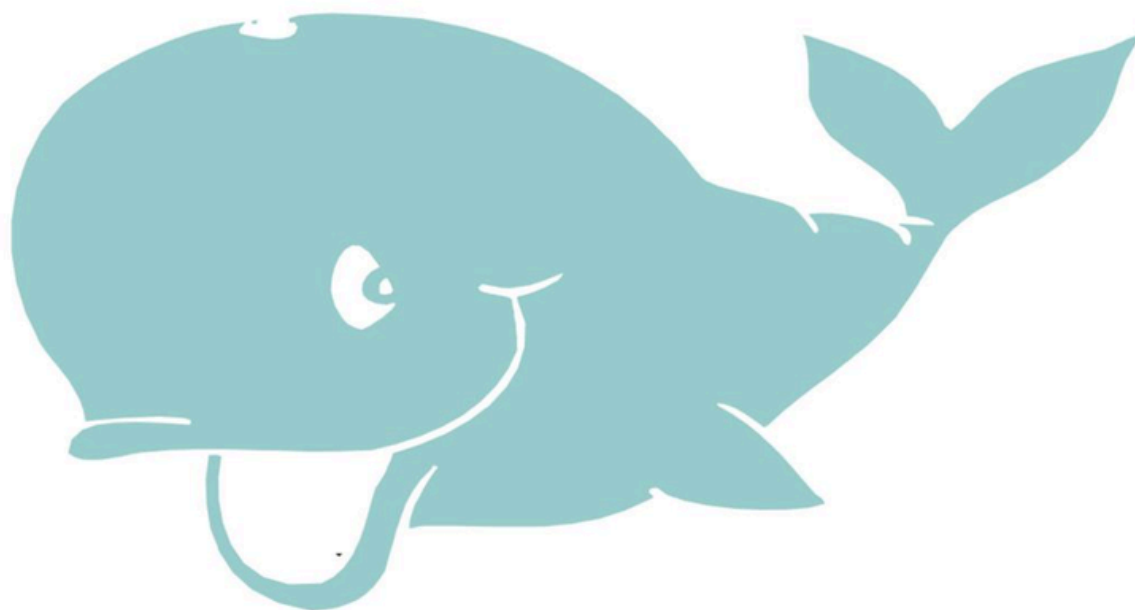
Explain to children that a whale can be over 100 feet long. Measure each child's length. Add up all of their heights. How much bigger is a whale? To help them visualize this, stretch 100 feet of masking tape or string across the playground. Children lay head to toe across the marked area. There will still be several feet left. They chant: We worked together to see the size of a whale.

"Sing along with children every day."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE AND LITERACY

Copy this whale shape onto heavy paper. Cut it out to use as a stencil for the art activity.



PICTURE FOR ART ACTIVITY

Theme for the Week



Ocean Critters

Activities for "Octopus"

Materials Needed: Picture of octopus (provided), drinking straws, pipe cleaners, lunch sacks, paper to crumble, tape, non-toxic paints, safety scissors, three feet of butcher paper.



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children a picture of an octopus (provided). Point out the suction cups on their limbs. They have eight limbs. Children hold up eight fingers. Each limb has 240 suction cups! (That is 1,920 total!) They use their suction cups to move and taste. They can change colors to blend in to their surroundings and they can also see well at night. Children point to their eyes, tongue and hands. Say, "Octopuses can see, taste and touch very well." Children touch their ears. Say, "Octopuses are deaf. They cannot hear." Children pat their heads. Say, "Just like you, octopuses are super smart." Chant: Octopuses have eight legs and are so very smart!



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Word of the Day: invertebrate

Remind children that they learned about the skeletons of dinosaurs last month. Tell them a skeleton is made up of bones that give people and many animals their shapes. Explain that octopus do not have a skeleton. They are invertebrates. Invertebrates do not have bones. Have them bend straws in different positions. Then put a pipe cleaner through a straw. Have them bend the straw again. Does it bend the same way? Invertebrates are like the straw with no pipe cleaner inside to give support. Children take turns feeling their own backbones and the backbone (spine) of a friend. They are vertebrates because they do have bones to give them a shape.



FUN ART

Lunch Sack Octopus

Children paint a lunch sack any color they choose (as octopuses change colors to match their surroundings). They crumble a piece of paper into a ball shape and drop it in the bag. Then they close the bag around the ball shape and tape it closed. Next, cut the hanging area of the sack into eight strips. They now have an octopus! Draw eyes onto the head shape or paste googly eyes.



MATH

The Measure of an Octopus

Most octopuses are two to three feet long. Explain that one ruler is one foot.

Measure three feet of butcher paper and cut it. Children look for items in the room that are about three feet long using the paper to compare.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Backwards Swim Dance

An octopus is very good at swimming backwards. Children slowly walk backwards, moving their arms, pretending to be an octopus swimming in the ocean. They sing:

Have you seen an octopus on the floor of the ocean? It can swim all around with eight arms in motion. It lives among coral and rocks. I wonder if it wears eight tiny socks!



SOCIAL SKILLS

What Makes You Turn White? (Understanding Emotions)

Explain to children that octopuses turn white when they are scared. Explain that people do not change colors when they are scared, but their bodies get tense and their facial expression changes. Children take turns sharing something that scares them now or has scared them. What can they do when if they feel scared? They can talk to an adult, get a hug, hold a stuffed animal, yell for help, etc.

"Teachers are like an octopus - able to reach and touch so many areas."



PICTURE FOR CIRCLE TIME

Theme for the Week



Ocean Critters

Activities for "Dolphins"

Materials Needed: Pictures of dolphins (provided), craft sticks, tape, fingerpaints, blue 9X12 construction paper, light blue and dark blue tissue paper, paste, dolphin shape for Art (provided), gray watercolors



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children pictures of dolphins (provided). Explain that dolphins live in the ocean too. Do they look more like a whale or an octopus? They are more like a whale. They have a backbone like a whale and also need to come up from the water to get air. They have blowholes on top of their heads that give them air when swimming at the water surface or jumping out. Dolphins are also very smart animals and playful. Children pretend to be dolphins bending down and then straightening up to get air.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Dolphin pals

In advance, tape a picture of a dolphin (provided) on a craft stick for each child. Explain that dolphins are very social animals and like to talk. Children take turns holding their dolphin puppets and saying what they think dolphins may say while swimming and playing in the ocean.



FUN ART

Dolphin in the Water

Children place a yellow handprint in the top left corner of a light blue 9X12 construction paper to be a sun. They tear several pieces of light and dark blue tissue paper and paste them on the 9X12 paper, being sure to cover the bottom half of the paper to be the ocean. Next, the children each receive a pre-cut dolphin shape (provided). They paint it with gray watercolor. Then they tape their painted dolphins on the 9X12 paper to be jumping out of the water.



MATH

Jumping Out of Water

Children push their arms into the air in an arc pretending to be a dolphin jumping out of the ocean. Say, "Show me three jumps." They make three jumping motions with their arms while counting each jump. Repeat with different numbers.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing I'm a Little Dolphin (tune of "I'm a Little Teapot") I'm a little dolphin, in the sea, Here is my big tail, here is my fin. When I get all happy, hear me shout, Jump from the water I am out!

SOCIAL SKILLS

Who Lives in the Ocean? Not You! (Water Safety)

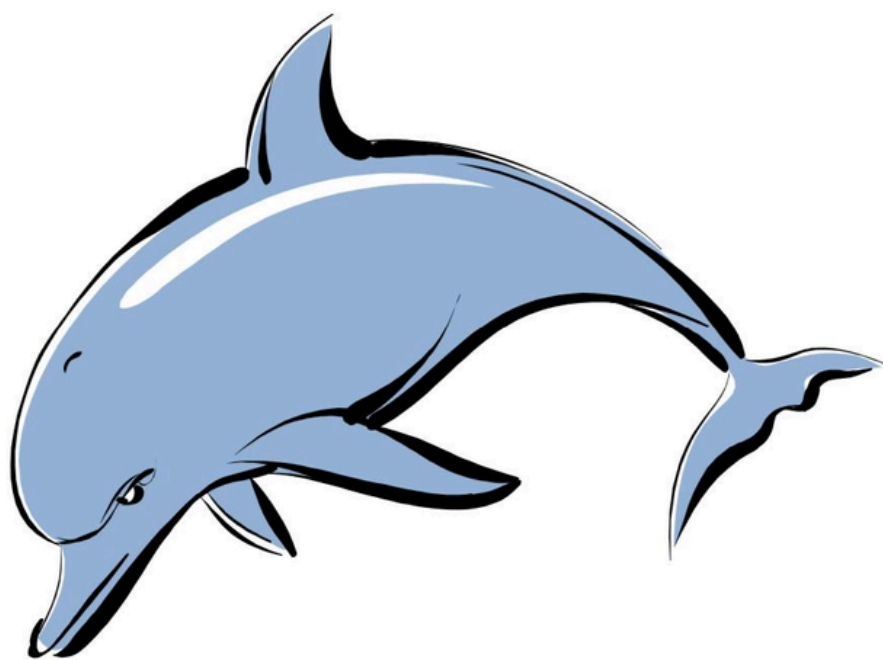
Explain that this week they are learning about animals whose home is in the ocean. They were made to live in the ocean and know how to live there. We were made to live on land and we can play in the ocean. Explain that they must always, always be very careful near water. If they go swimming, who should be with them? An adult. Children share the name of an adult they can have with them to be near water. Children hold hands and chant: It is fun to play in the water. An adult must always be with me!



"Play with children every day."



PICTURE FOR CIRCLE TIME



DOLPHIN FOR LITERACY PUPPET



DOLPHIN FOR ART ACTIVITY

Theme for the Week



Ocean Critters

Activities for "Starfish"

Materials Needed: Pictures of starfish (provided), chart paper, magnetic letters, Cheerio cereal, bowls and/or food processor, non-toxic paste, star shapes (provided), masking tape, pictures of whale, octopus, and dolphin (previously provided).

CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children pictures of starfish (previously provided). Count all five legs. Explain that starfish look like stars and live on the bottom of the ocean. They cannot swim like fish. Look closely at the suction cups on the bottom side picture. The suction cups allow them to walk. Children spread open their hands onto the floor. They pretend their hands are starfish and "walk" them around the floor in the area where they are sitting. Chant: Starfish are really not fish. They cannot swim.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Let's Rhyme Star!

Write STAR largely onto chart paper. Children take turns putting magnetic letters over ST to make rhyming words like bar, car, far, and tar. Explain what each word means. Children act out the following story: I was driving far in my new car while eating a candy bar. My car drove in sticky tar and I couldn't drive far anymore. Then children name the type of pretend candy bar they were eating on their pretend drives.



FUN ART

Cheerio Stars

Children mash Cheerio cereal by smashing it in a bowl or watching you crush it in a food processor. Then they paint paste using non-toxic paste over a star shape (provided). They cover the star shape with crushed Cheerios. Save for Music today.



MATH

How Many Suction Cups?

Give each child a new pre-cut starfish shape (previously provided). They pretend that whole Cheerios are suction cups. How many suction cups can they place on a starfish? They count as they place Cheerio cereal on the star shape.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing I'm a Little Brown Starfish (tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb")

Hold starfish from Art today while singing: I'm a little brown starfish. Brown starfish, brown starfish. I'm a little brown starfish. Walking on the ocean floor.



SOCIAL SKILLS

Walking Across the Ocean (Working Together and Listening Practice)

Tape six star shapes with masking tape on the floor. Tape a picture of a different ocean animal (previously provided) in each one. Children hold hands with a partner and take turns "walking across the ocean" as they name the ocean animal. You can see children play a version of this game with shapes at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VKj9n0ip2M>



"Teachers help children become shining stars."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME



STAR FOR ART AND MATH

Theme for the Week



Ocean Critters

Activities for "Lobster"

Materials Needed: Pictures of lobsters (provided), chart paper, red washable paint, blue water colors, white 9X12 construction paper, black crayons, googly eyes, photo sample for Art provided, index cards, pictures of lobsters for Math, paste



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children pictures of lobsters (provided). Point out the area of its throat. That is where lobsters have their brains! Where are the brains of the children? In their heads. Ask children how they breathe and hear. With their ears and noses! Point to the legs of a lobster. Explain that lobsters hear and breathe with their legs! Children point to their tongues. That is how they taste. Lobsters taste with their feet. Point to the eyes of a lobster. They use their eyes to see like us, but they do not see very well.

Chant: Lobsters are odd critters of the ocean!



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Lobster Story Telling

Chant and Act Out "I'm a Lobster." Point to each word on chart paper.

I'm a lobster sitting in the sea. Would you like to sit by me? I can walk on eight legs to play with you.

I have two pinchers too. I'm a lobster, watch me play. Munching on fish and crabs every day.

Lots of lobster friends play with me. We have fun in the great big sea.

FUN ART

Lobster Pinchers and Feet

Children first water color a piece of 9X12 white construction paper blue. Let it dry. They dip one foot into red washable paint to make a footprint on the bottom center of their ocean painted paper. They finger paint eight legs off of their footprints (the lobster's body). Then they place two red handprints above their footprints to become the lobster's pinchers. Add antennae and googly eyes. See photo sample (provided) as a guide.

MATH

Counting Lobster Cards

Number ten index cards from one to ten. Print several small pictures of lobsters (provided). Pre-cut the pictures. Children paste the lobsters onto numbered index cards to correspond with the number pre-written on the index card.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing Red Lobster (tune of "Three Blind Mice")

Red lobster, red lobster. See how you walk, see how you walk.

You swim in the shallow and deep ends. With two pinchers that you bend.

I'd love to meet you and be your friend. Red lobster, red lobster.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Red Hide and Seek Fun

Hide several red objects, including a picture of a lobster, in the room. Children find the hidden red objects with a partner. They practice walking together and helping "spy" the red objects. Once all items are found they say to each other,

"Thank you for helping me." "You are a fun friend."

"Teachers provide a safe harbor for children."

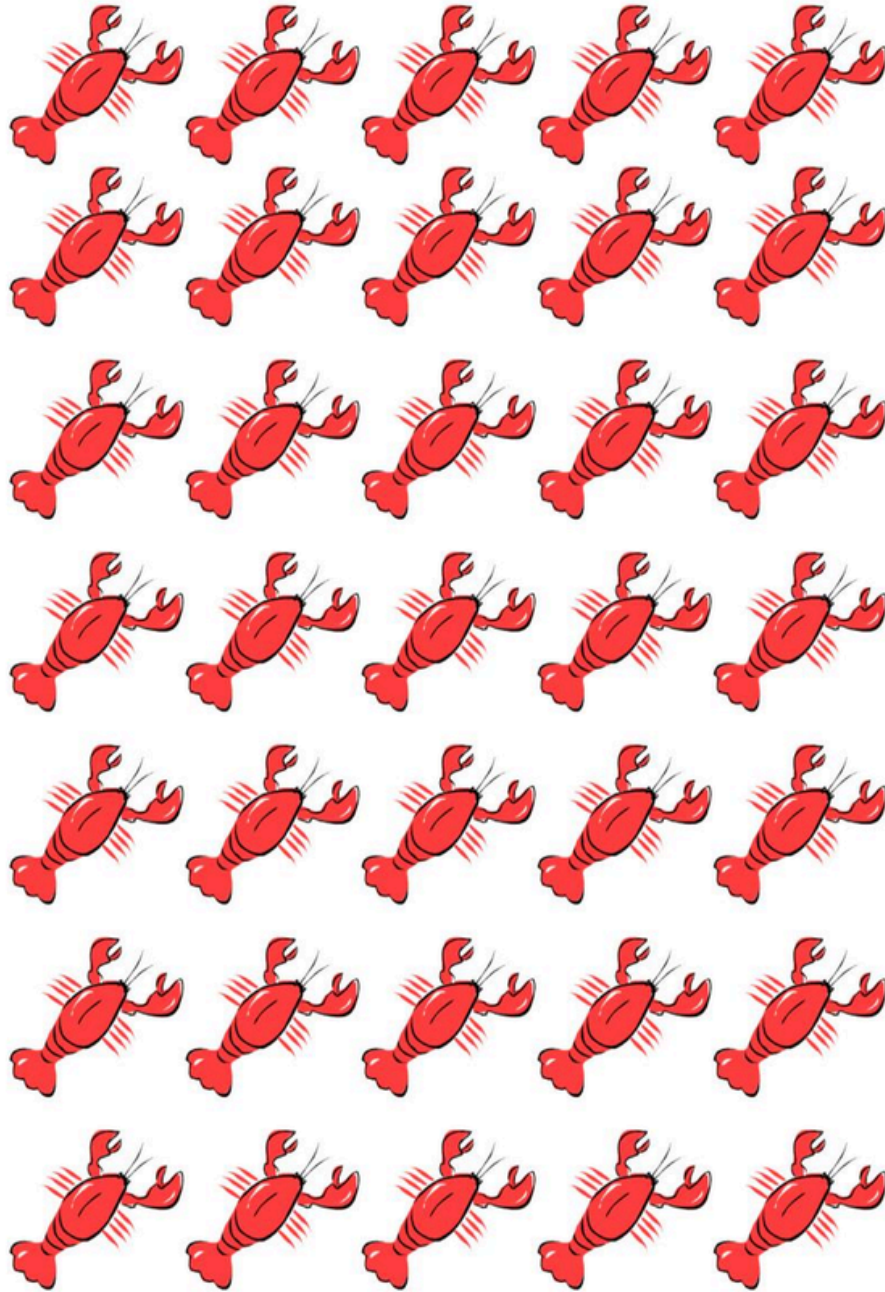


PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME



PHOTO SAMPLE FOR ART

Print two copies for math



PICTURES FOR MATH

Theme for the Week



Wonderful Water

Activities for "Float a Boat/Ball"

Materials Needed: Pan of water, ball that floats, toy boat to float; special note to teachers (provided), chart paper, clean sponges, water colors, paint brushes, pre-cut small square papers for Art, pipe cleaners, water droppers, small paper bowls, masking tape, beach ball, flat sheet, variety of "float" and "sink" objects, small floating balls



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Sit with a pan of water in the circle. Place a ball that will float in the water. Does it sink or float? Place a toy boat in the water. Does it sink or float? Explain to the children that an object that stays on top of the water is floating. If it goes to the bottom, it is sinking. Children chant: A boat can float on the water.

(Special Note to Teachers: This week's activities involve water play and summer months often bring more water-related activities. Please remember to always practice extra caution with children around water.)

Try additional objects that sink or float as well in the demonstration.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Sink or Float

Gather a variety of objects from the classroom to test if they will sink or float. Write SINK and FLOAT on top of chart paper. List each item tested in the appropriate column.

Children say after testing an object, "The block sinks. The ball floats." After testing all items, point to each word on the chart paper and read the two columns.



FUN ART

Sponge Sail Boats

Give each child a clean sponge. They water color a sail by painting a pre-cut square piece of paper (about half the size of the sponge). Poke a pipe cleaner through their paper sails and then place the pipe cleaner in the sponge. Voila! Each child now has a floating sail boat. Fill cake pans of water and let them float their boats. Save for Math today.

MATH

Fill a Bowl

Children use water droppers to fill small paper bowls. They count 20 drops at a time.

Once the bowl has enough water to float their sponge boats from art today, they float their boats again. Then they float small balls in their water bowls.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Numbered Beach Ball

Write the numbers 1 - 20 on pieces of masking tape. Then place the 20 pieces of tape all over a beach ball. Children toss the beach ball to each other. The number touching their right hand is told to the class. They do a dance move that number of times. Once the game is over, children float the beach ball in a pan of water.



SOCIAL SKILLS

Floating on Shakes (Working Together)

Children all stand around a flat sheet and pick it up. They shake the sheet to make waves.

Now place a beach ball on the sheet. Children make waves to move the ball around on the sheet.

Children chant: Floating a ball across the sheet. This is a fun treat! Hurray!



"Structure plus love can bring smooth water to sail through a day."

Theme for the Week



Wonderful Water

Activities for "Splish Splash"

Materials Needed: Pictures of wet and dry (provided), multiple sponges to cut in fourths, cake pan of water, index cards, empty water bottle for each child with all labeling removed, non-toxic paint, paintbrushes, bowls of water, ice trays, dried beans



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children pictures of wet and dry (provided). Children describe if the items/people in the pictures are wet or dry. Splashing water can make people and objects become wet. Where have they splashed water before? In the bath tub, in a swimming pool, etc. Children sing: Splish splash, we have fun in the bath. Splish splash, in a pool we love to laugh. Splish splash, water is a lot of fun. Splish splash, let's go play in the sun!



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Floating Names

Make a name card for each child on an index card. Then pre-cut multiple sponges into fourths. Letter each sponge piece with the letters of each child's name. (You will end up with lots of sponges.) Float the lettered sponge pieces in a cake pan of water with the letters facing up. Children look for the letters of their names. They take them out, put them together, and say, "This is my name."

FUN ART

Recycled Water Bottle Art

Children paint empty plastic water bottles however they choose. (Be sure to remove the labels beforehand.) Remind them to recycle and reuse all plastic water bottles. Add dried beans and put the lid on to create a noise shaker. Have a "Splish Splash" parade around the room using the shakers. (Note: Be cautious with children using small beans.)

MATH

Splish Splash Solid

Fill a small bowl with water. Show children how you can splash it with your hands. Pour the bowl of water into ice trays. Children dip their fingers in the ice trays to feel that the water can still be splashed. Place the ice trays in a freezer. Set a timer for an hour. Check the ice trays each hour. Children dip their fingers in the ice trays each hour. Talk about how the splashing water is becoming solid ice.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Chant and Act Out Splish Splash I Was Taking a Bath

Splish splash I was taking a bath. (Pretend to wash arms.) Rubber duckies lined up in a path. (Hold a rubber duck or pretend duck.) Water, water went splish splash. (Pretend to splash water.) So much fun getting clean in the bath. (Pretend to clean face.)

SOCIAL SKILLS

Splish Splash Safety

Children feel a dry table. Splash some water on the table. They feel it again. Note how it is now slippery because it is wet. Explain that when they play around water it can make any walking surface slippery too. It is important to always walk slowly and carefully on wet surfaces. Children practice walking slowly and carefully around the class room.

"Make each day a splash of fun for children in your care."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME

Theme for the Week



Wonderful Water

Activities for "Brushing Teeth"

Materials Needed: Pictures of brushing teeth (provided), toothbrush, toothpaste, several old toothbrushes to use as paint brushes, non-toxic paints, non-menthol shaving cream, food coloring, an apple or other solid food like a cracker, construction paper, oval shape (provided), child-safe hand mirrors, pink paper, non-toxic paste, miniature marshmallows, white egg cartons, a large mouth shape (oval), tooth brushes from home or ask a local dentist to donate



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Ask children what they do when they wake up in the morning. Does anything they do need water? Brushing teeth! Children smile real big to show you their teeth. Explain that their teeth are important and need special care. Show children toothpaste and a toothbrush. Put toothpaste on the toothbrush. Say, "Now you brush, brush, brush all of your teeth. Then you rinse all the toothpaste off with water." Chant: We brush our teeth and it is fun.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Vocabulary Words: Liquids and Solids

Show the children an apple. Ask them if they need teeth to eat it? Tell them that's because an apple is a solid food. That means you have to chew it. Have them tell you some other solid foods like pretzels, hot dogs, etc., that they have to chew. Then ask them if they have to chew with their teeth a glass of milk. They'll say "no," and you tell them that's because it's a liquid. They can drink it without chewing it. Ask them what other liquids they drink? Chant, "We chew solid foods, and we drink liquids."



FUN ART

Toothbrush Art

Children use old toothbrushes as paintbrushes! Remind them that this is a fun, creative way to use toothbrushes and can only be done when toothbrushes are old and no longer good to brush teeth. Make pretend toothpaste by putting non-toxic shaving cream on the toothbrush paintbrushes and add food coloring to change the color of "paint."



MATH

How Many Teeth?

Children look into child-safe hand mirrors at their mouths that are opened wide. They try to count their teeth. How many do they see? Tell them that children have 20 baby teeth and they start losing them about age 6. Give each child a pre-cut oval (provided) on pink paper (to resemble the inside of a mouth). Children wash their hands well and count out 20 miniature marshmallows. They fold the oval in half to make a mouth shape. Then they use non-toxic paste to place the "teeth" into the oval mouth, counting each tooth.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing Brush, Brush, Brush Your Teeth (tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat") Brush, brush, brush your teeth. Gently when you wake. Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, great day I will make. Brush, brush, brush your teeth. Gently in the night. Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, to bed snuggled up tight.



SOCIAL SKILLS

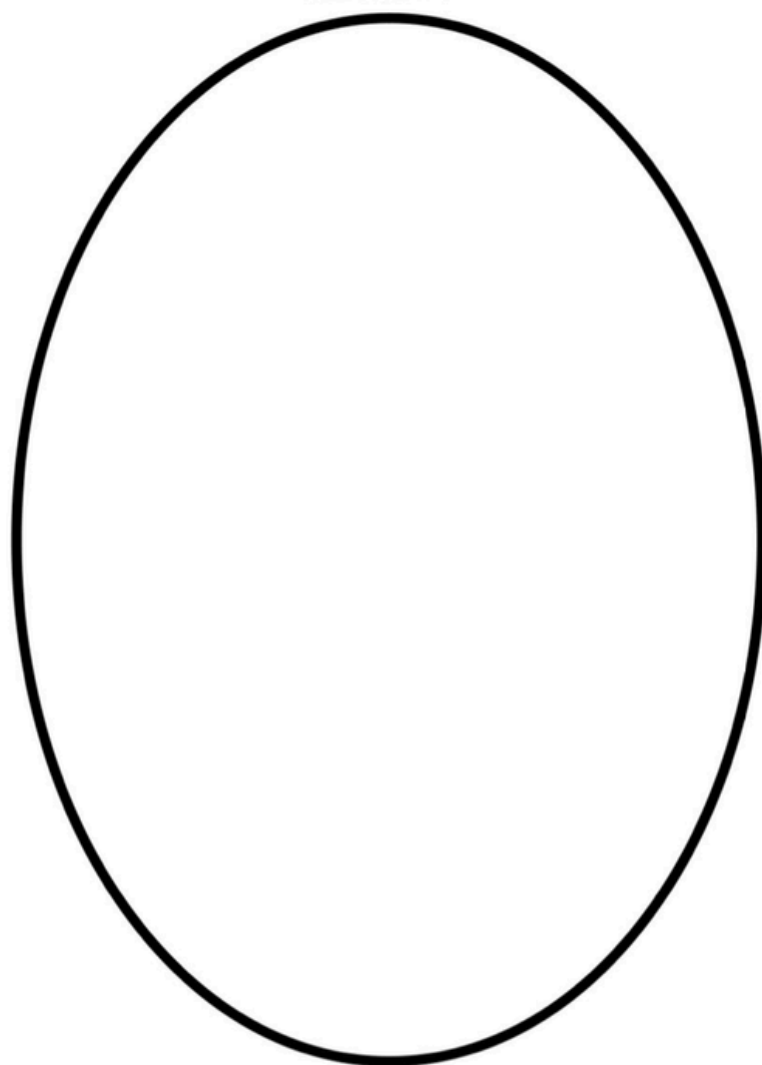
Brush All Around (Practice Teeth Brushing)

Pre-cut white egg cartons in half so that each child has six egg holders in a row. They place the egg holders with the bump side up to be a pretend set of teeth. They put real toothpaste on a real toothbrush and practice brushing their egg carton teeth, being sure to brush all around and over each "tooth."

"Teachers help children learn skills for life."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME



OVAL FOR MATH

Theme for the Week



Wonderful Water

Activities for "Washing Hands"

Materials Needed: Non-toxic washable paints, several large pieces of butcher paper, construction paper, crayons, beach ball, plates, paintbrush

CIRCLE ACTIVITIES



Ask children what they do before they eat. Explain that it is important to always wash their hands before they eat. Explain that germs can get on their hands and those germs can make them sick. Other times to wash hands are: after using the restroom, anytime they get dirty like after playing outside, and if they are around someone who is sick. Children share what is needed to wash their hands. Soap and water! They pretend to wash their hands and chant: Washing hands is so grand. I use soap and water while at the sink I stand.

LANGUAGE-LITERACY



Vocabulary Words: Washing Off Letters

Children stand with palms up. You walk by and paint a letter that is in their name, in each of their hands with washable paint. Children take turns waving their hands and naming the letter in their palms and its sound. Then they practice handwashing and clean off the letters

FUN ART

Hand Painting

Children use finger paints to hand paint. They dip both of their hands completely in plates of finger paint and make designs on large pieces of butcher paper. Then they practice hand washing.

MATH

Clean High Fives

Children wash their hands, hold them up and say, "Here are my clean high fives." They walk around and give clean high fives to each other. Trace each child's hands on paper, being sure their hands are spread apart so that you can trace each finger. Number each finger with the child as they count 1 - 10. Children color each hand a different color. Hang their numbered and colored hands in the bathroom to remind them to keep their hands clean.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing and Act Out Hand Washing Dance

I touch outside, my lips, my eyes.

I go to the sink for soap as a prize.

I wash my hands with suds and rinse.

Staying clean like a healthy prince(ess)!

SOCIAL SKILLS

Circle of Friends

Children sit in a circle. One child rolls a beach ball to another child and says, "Hi kind Name of Child), will you be my friend?" The child receiving the ball replies, "Of course I will until the very end." Now the child who received the ball rolls it to a new person. Play continues until all children have had the ball rolled to them. Chant: We are friends with clean hands!



Theme for the Week



Wonderful Water

Activities for "Washing Hair"

Materials Needed: Bottle of kids' shampoo, white paper, masking tape, non-toxic paints, paint brushes, yarn, paste, Dawn dish liquid, measuring cup, measuring tablespoon, tall plastic cups, store bought bubble wands and/or pipe cleaners to make wands, have children bring their own brush or comb from home for Social Skills



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Have children pat the tops of their heads. Ask, "What is growing on your heads?" Hair! Explain that just like their teeth and hands they need to keep their hair clean too. Unclean hair can invite bugs and they need to keep all parts of their bodies healthy and clean. How can they wash their hair? With soap and water. Show children a bottle of kids' shampoo. Children share how they wash their hair with shampoo and dry it at their homes.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

So Many Words About Hair

Tell the children there are so many words they use about hair. Give them example: Long or short, and children tell you which theirs is. Ask them other words about hair, like the colors, straight or curly, thick or thin hair, etc. Make up a rhyme about hair. Ask them to describe the hair on dogs, cats, their family. Chant: Different, different, our hair may be, but we are all one family."



FUN ART

Pretty Hair Friend

Children crumble white paper into a ball shape. Then they wrap masking tape all around it. Roll it around in a paint color of their choice. Let it dry. Next, they paint eyes, ears, nose and mouth onto their ball head. Lastly, they paste yarn onto their ball heads to make a full head of hair.



MATH

Soapy Bubble Recipe

Children measure one cup of water and one tablespoon of Dawn dish liquid in a tall plastic cup. They stir together to make a bubble mixture. (Option: Add a drop of food coloring and/or peppermint extract for added sensory fun.) Children go outside and use their mixture to blow bubbles with store bought wands or ones made from pipe cleaners bent into various shapes.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

How I Wash, Wash, Wash My Hair

Wet, wet, wet my hair in the tub. Squirt shampoo in my hands and rub.
Lather, lather, lather the shampoo in my hair.
Rinse, rinse, rinse with water everywhere. Wonderful water with soap gets me clean.
Now I am ready to be seen!



SOCIAL SKILLS

How Many Brush Strokes? (Grooming)

Have children bring their own brush or comb from home. Explain that just as it is important to wash their hair, they need to comb or brush it also to keep looking pretty and handsome. They practice combing/brushing their hair while counting strokes. Then they say, "I am so pretty/handsome and it is important to take care of important me!"

"Teachers can help children stay healthy and happy."

A	B	C	D	E	F
G	H	I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X
Y	Z				

LETTERS FOR LITERACY

Theme for the Week



Our Beautiful Sky

Activities for "Kinds of Clouds"

Materials Needed: Pictures of cloud (provided), non-toxic nonmenthol shaving cream, construction paper 12X18 white construction paper, blue fingerpaint, white chalk, cotton balls, blue construction paper, white butcher paper, fun music and player



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children pictures of clouds (provided). When can you see clouds? In the daytime. Clouds can be white or gray. Clouds are made up of water droplets.

Gray clouds have lots of water (rain) inside of them. Cirrus is the name of clouds high in the sky and white in color. Alto clouds are mid-level and blue to gray in color. Stratus clouds are low and gray. Chant: Cirrus, alto and stratus are cloud names. (Move hands high, medium and low as naming the clouds.)



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Write in the Clouds

Spray non-toxic non-menthol shaving cream in puffs on a tabletop. Children write their names and/or other letters in the "clouds." Then they erase them, and start again practicing writing in the clouds.



FUN ART

Bright Blue Sky with Clouds Floating By

Children paint a piece of 12X18 white construction paper blue. Let it dry. Then they use white chalk to make clouds shapes. They fill the cloud shapes with cotton balls.

MATH

High, Middle and Low

Children place cotton balls on blue paper. Say, "Place three clouds high (cirrus) on the paper sky. Place two clouds in the middle (alto) of the sky. Place one cloud low (stratus) in the sky?" Ask them to count how many clouds altogether on the paper sky. Then they remove the cotton ball clouds and do again with new numbers.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Cloud Dance

Pre-cut several large cloud shapes out of white butcher paper. Scatter them on the floor. Play fun music. Children stand on a cloud shape and dance. They walk to a new cloud shape and do a new dance movement. Stop the music and they freeze.

They hold hands with the friend(s) in the same cloud and dance together.

SOCIAL SKILLS

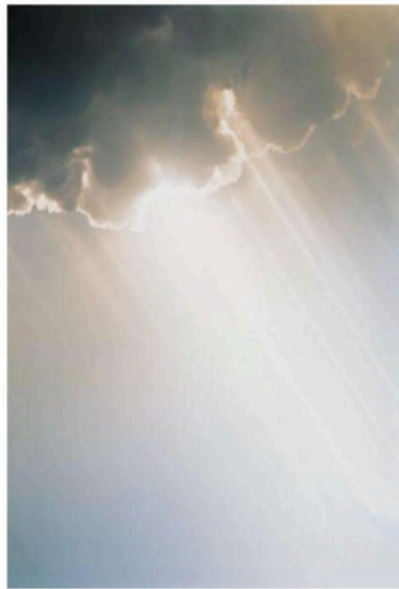
Catch a Cloud

Children stand with a partner. They toss a "cloud" (cotton ball) back and forth.

They cheer for each other when they catch the cloud. They say, "Good try," when they miss the cloud.



"May your day be clear skies and fluffy clouds of joy."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME

Theme for the Week



Our Beautiful Sky

Activities for "Sun"

Materials Needed: Sunscreen, sunglasses, craft sticks, tape, pre-cut circle shapes (provided), pre-cut triangle shapes (provided), yellow finger paint, orange paper strips, yellow butcher paper, black crayons

CIRCLE ACTIVITIES



Children tell you the opposite of on, over, and high. Then say, "What is the opposite of night?" Day. Ask, "What is in the sky during the daytime to give light?" The sun! Explain that the sun is a super bright star that lights up the day. The sun can be dangerous for your skin and eyes. Show children a bottle of sunscreen and a pair of sunglasses. Explain that they can protect their skin and eyes from the sun by wearing sunscreen and sunglasses. Chant: We can have so much fun playing in the sun!



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Sun Letter Puppets

Letter each sun puppet from Art with a pencil. Children then trace over the letters with a black crayon. They move the sun letters around to make words and spell their names.



FUN ART

Sun Puppets

Children finger paint the circle and triangle shapes from Math today yellow. They paste the triangles around a circle to become rays of a sun. Paste the now sun shapes onto craft sticks. Save for Literacy today.

MATH

Circle and Triangle Sort

Copy circle and triangle shapes (provided) onto heavy paper. Pre-cut a circle and five triangles for each child. Children describe the circle: round, no sides. They describe the triangles: three sides, three points. They sort the two shapes. How many in each group? Which group has more? Less? Make patterns such as: circle, triangle, triangle, circle, triangle, triangle, etc. Save the shapes for Art today.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Chant and Act Out Good Morning Sunshine

Good morning sunshine, how are you? (Wave to the sky and clap twice.)

Good morning sunshine, how are you? (Clap twice.) It's so great to see you today, And we're hoping that you will stay. (Jump twice.) We love you sunshine, yes we do! (Clap twice.)



SOCIAL SKILLS

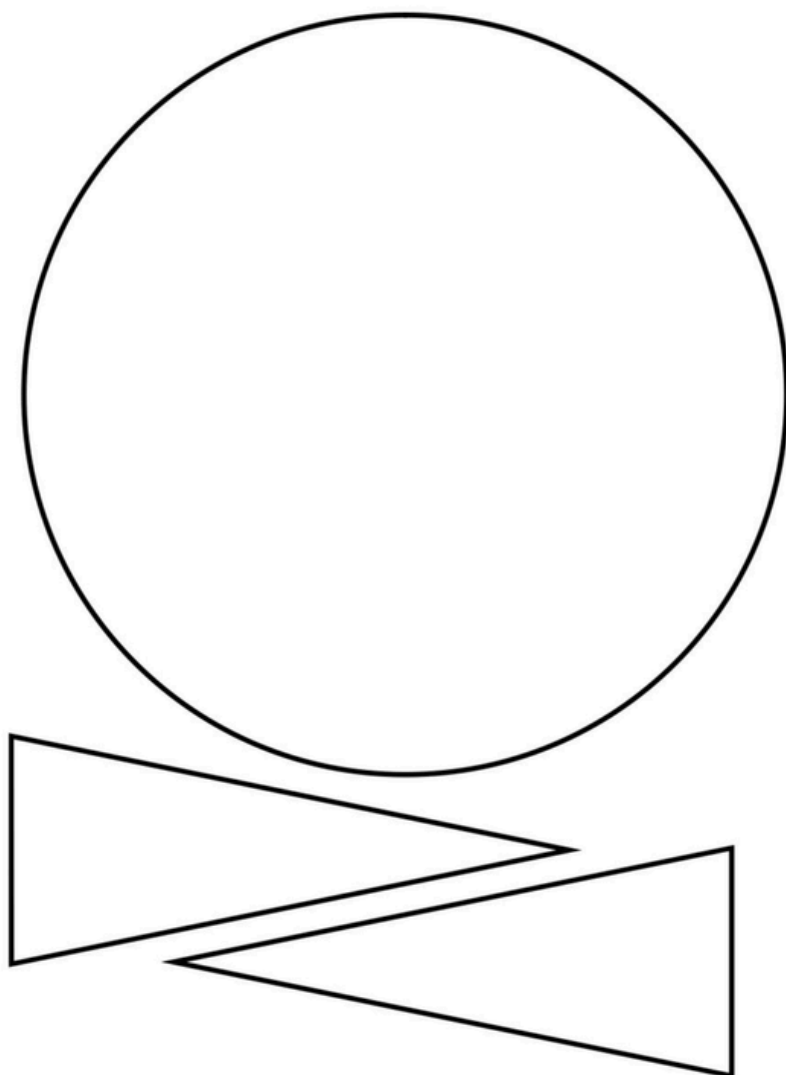
Rays of Sunshine (Giving Compliments/Words of Kindness)

Pre-write each child's name on a strip of orange paper. Place a large yellow butcher paper circle in the center of the class circle. Say, "Kind words are like rays of sunshine." Children take turns saying a kind word about the friend sitting beside them.

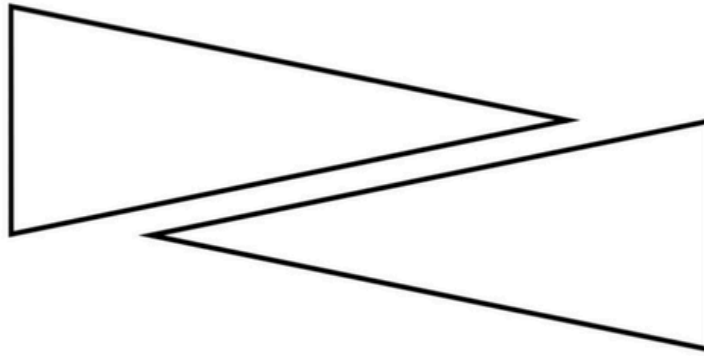
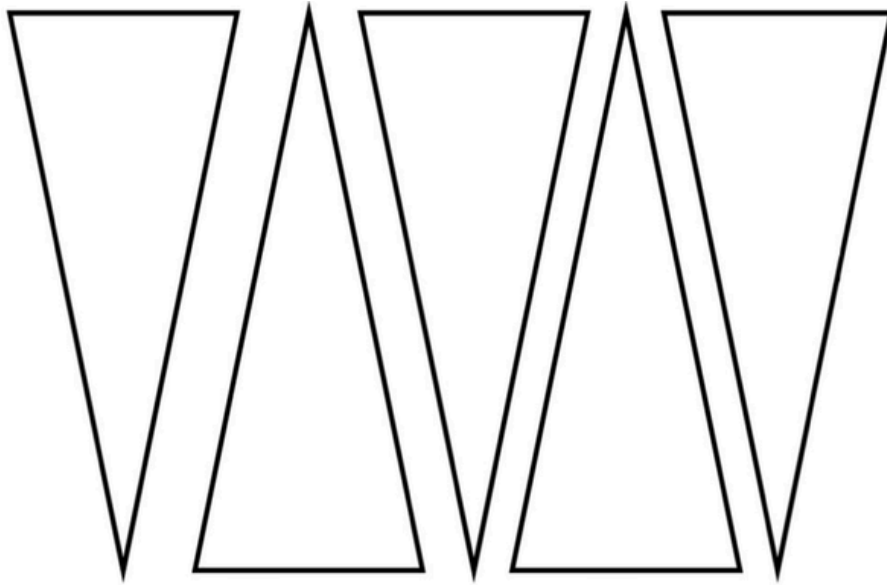
The child receiving the compliment says, "Thank you," and places his/her orange strip of paper on the yellow circle to become a sun ray. Once all children have received a compliment the sun will be complete. Hang it on the bulletin board as a reminder to speak "sunny" words of kindness to each other.



"Share your sunny smile with others."



SHAPES FOR MATH



TRIANGLES FOR MATH

Theme for the Week



Our Beautiful Sky

Activities for "Moon"

Materials Needed: Pictures of the moon (provided), white butcher paper, corn starch, ½ cup measuring cup, bowls to mix moon dough, ball, pre-cut paper circles (Welcome Kit), safety scissors, white pillow case

CIRCLE ACTIVITIES



Children tell you the opposite of hot, up, and forward. Then say, "What is the opposite of day?" Night. Ask, "What is in the sky during the night time to give light?" The moon! Explain that the moon changes shape throughout the month from a full moon to a half moon. Show children pictures of the moon (provided). Show them the mountains and the craters. Children share something they like to do inside when it is dark outside.

LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Blast Off to Moon Locations



Tell the children that people (astronauts) have gone to the moon. The moon is not smooth. It has big holes called craters. Place a large white paper circle on the floor to be a pretend moon. Children take turns pretending to "blast off" and go to the moon. When the child gets there, the child can stand on top of the moon or next to the moon. The other children watch and name the location of the child. Example: Nolan is standing on the moon. Tiwana is standing next to the moon.

FUN ART

Moon Dough



Children each mix ½ a cup of water with ½ a cup of cornstarch. They explore with the texture of their moon dough making a moon shape with craters and mountains. Refer back to the picture from Circle Time to see that the moon's surface has mountains and craters on it.

MATH

Half Moon or Full Moon



Show children a full moon by holding up a large white paper circle. Have them say, "That is a full moon like a full circle." Now cut it in half in front of the children. Hold up the half moon. Have them say, "That is a half moon." Continue showing children full and half examples with items such as: full and half glass of water; full and half box of toys, etc. Give each child a pre-cut paper circle moon. They cut it in half with safety scissors to make a half moon. Then put the two halves together to make a full moon again.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing and Act Out Hey Diddle Diddle



Children take turns playing the role of a child, cow, horse and pig. Place a ball wrapped in a white pillow case on the floor to be a pretend moon for the cow to dance around in the song. Hey little little, a child with a fiddle. A cow was dancing around the moon. Little horsey neighed to see such a sight, and the little piggy ran away with a spoon.

SOCIAL SKILLS

A Trip to the Moon (Learning About Each Other)

Children sit in a circle. They take turns sharing, "If I went to the moon, I would take _____ with me." They tell what they would pack for a trip to the moon and who they would bring with them.

"Children need love to the moon and back."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME

Theme for the Week



Our Beautiful Sky

Activities for "Stars"

Materials Needed: Picture of night sky with stars (provided), yarn, star shapes for Literacy/Art/Math (provided), crayons or finger paints, heavy paper, dry pasta, foil, paste, basket



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children a picture of the night sky with stars (provided). Tell children that stars share the night sky with the moon. Sing the traditional song Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star. Explain that stars do shine brightly in the night sky. The children can also shine brightly with their smiles. They share smiles with each other to brighten up the room. Chant: We are like stars shining brightly with our smiles.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Lettered Stars in the Sky

Hang pieces of yarn from the ceiling randomly around the room. (Make the lengths long enough for you to reach the end.) Children fingerpaint pre-cut star shapes (provided) yellow. Let them dry. Then you or the children write individual letters on each star. Say each letter sound together with the children. Attach the lettered stars to the yarn hanging from the ceiling. Children chant, "We have letter stars in the sky."



FUN ART

3-D Stars

Trace a star shape (provided) onto heavy paper for each child. They fill the star shape with painted pasta pieces and crumbled foil. Save for Music today.



MATH

Star Equations

Give each child four pre-cut star shapes (provided). They paint or color each star a different color: red, yellow, green, blue. Place everyone's stars in a basket. Say, "I would like to have two yellow stars and three blue stars." Remove two yellows and three blues. Place them on the floor. Say, "Let's count two and three altogether. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Two and three together makes five." Repeat with different number and color combinations.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing New Version of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star Children hold their stars from Art today while singing:

Twinkle, twinkle little star. The night sky is where you are.
In the sky with the moon high. Thousands of stars in the sky!
Twinkle, twinkle little star. The night sky is where you are.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Wishes and Kindness

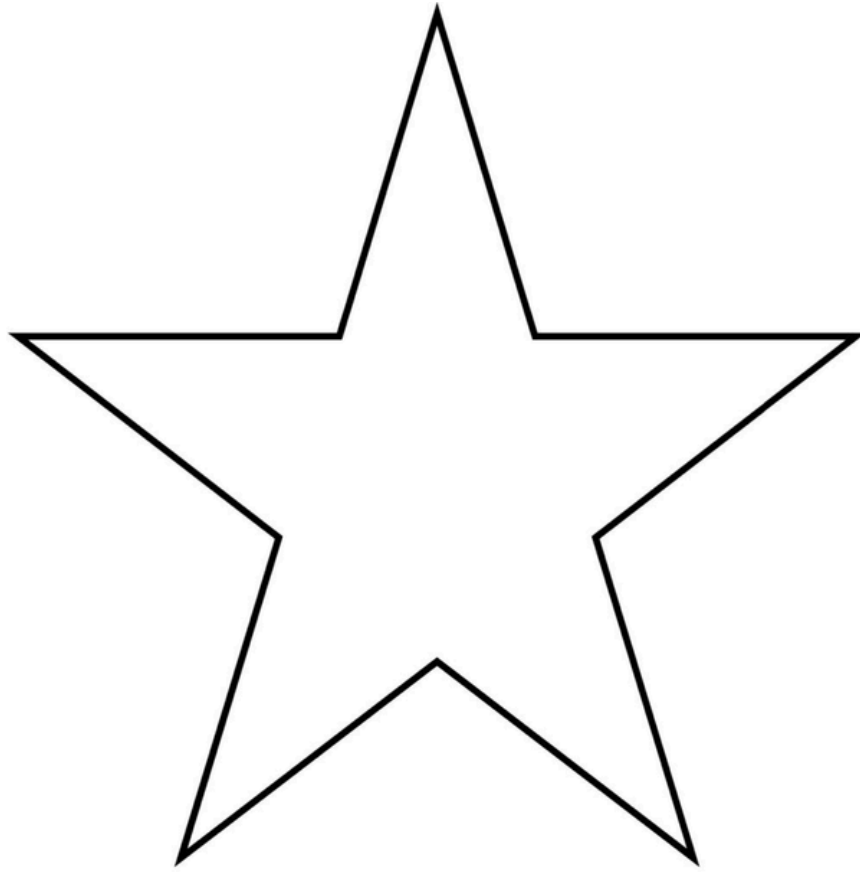
Children recite the poem below and share a wish they have for child care. Then repeat and have them share a wish for their homes. Stars out shining oh so bright. I see you all out tonight. Here my wish I say right now. I hope it comes true somehow. For Kindness, place a large sheet of black paper on the wall. When the children do something kind for someone else, write their names on a paper star and tape it to the black butcher paper to light up the night time sky.



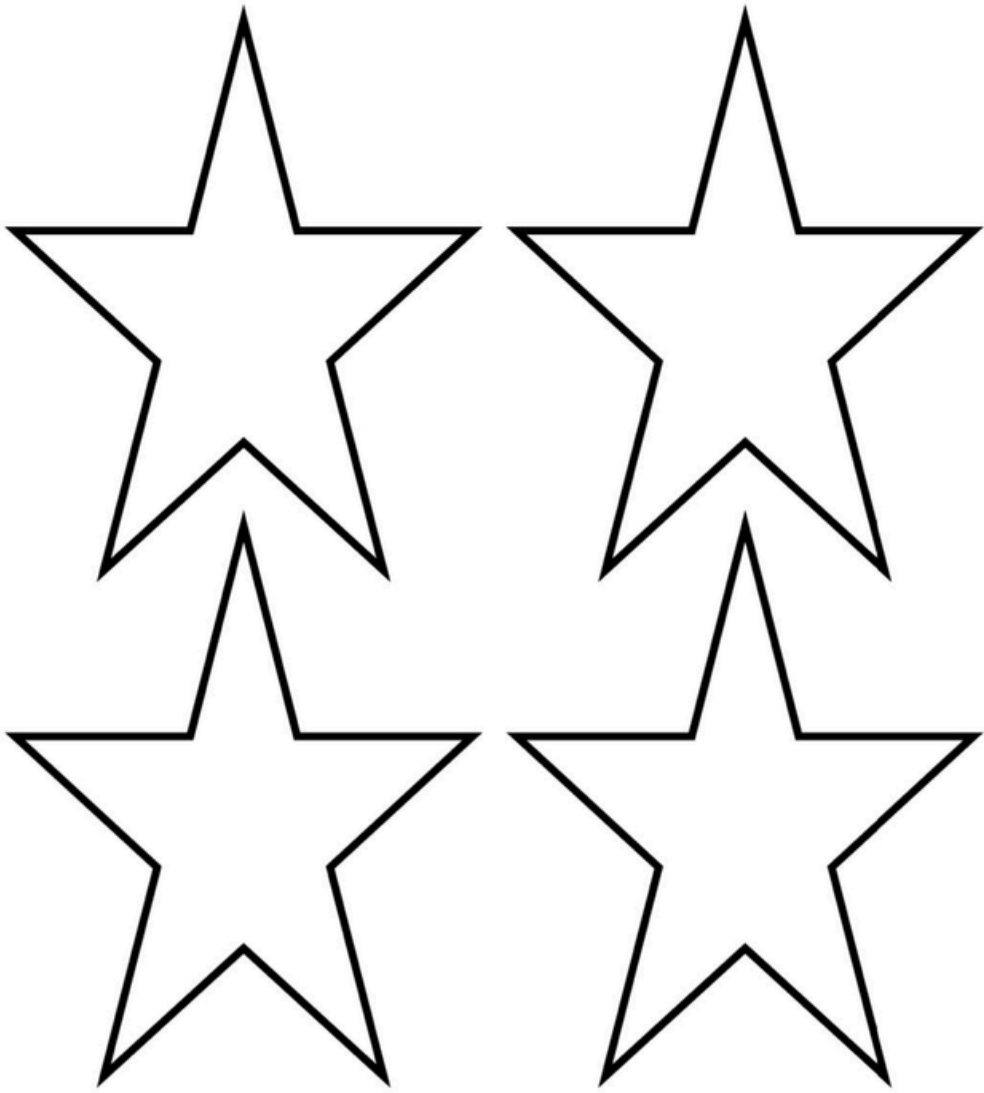
"Teachers are shining stars."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME



STARS FOR ART AND SOCIAL SKILLS



Theme for the Week



Our Beautiful Sky

Activities for "Colors of the Sky"

Materials Needed: Pictures of the sky (provided), white construction paper, fingerpaints, paste, cotton balls, colored chalk, light blue construction paper, colored papers for Music, index cards



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children different pictures of the sky (provided). What are the colors in the sunrise and sunset? Have children rise up and then sit down. Explain that as the sun rises to a new day there are colors in the sky. When the sun sets (goes down) at the end of the day, more colors are seen in the sky. Ask children if they have ever been awake early in the morning to see the sun rise for the new day. Have they ever seen a sun set before bedtime in the evenings? Chant: The sun rises and sets and paints the sky with beautiful colors.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Letters in the Sky

Children name colors of the sky. Put out those colors of finger paints. Children dip their thumbs into the fingerpaints and each make thumb prints on their own white construction paper. They wash their hands and let the thumbprints dry. Then they write letters they know on each thumbprint. When done, they add clouds on the lettered sky by pasting cotton balls on top of their paper.



FUN ART

Chalk Sunrise or Sunset

Children use colored chalk to create a sunrise or sunset on white construction paper. They can use the pictures from Circle Time as a guide or freely color the sky colors they like to see.



MATH

Numbers in the Sky

Number index cards from one to twenty for each child. Children sit with a piece of sky blue construction paper. Say, "Put the number 5 in the sky." Children look through their cards and place the number five card on their light blue sky papers. Repeat by calling out different numbers.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Chant So Many Colors

Children hold up colored papers as they sing the color words in this song.
Red and orange, purple and blue.
Lots of yellow too.
So many colors that I love, Paint a beautiful sky up above.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Acting as a Color (Learning About Others and Using Imagination)

Children take turns naming their favorite color in the sky. They act out how that color makes them feel. Chant: Just like all the colors make a beautiful sky, all of us make a beautiful class of friends!

"Children add bright and beautiful colors to each day."



SUNRISE



SUNRISE



SUNSET



SUNSET

PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME

Theme for the Week



Jump, Wiggle, or Fly

Activities for "Jumping Frogs"

Materials Needed: Pictures of frogs (provided), pictures of lily pads (provided), paper plates, fingerpaints green tissue paper, paste, frog shape (provided), craft sticks, plastic cups, green pompom balls or cotton balls, green pieces of paper, fun music and player, tape



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children pictures of frogs (provided). Ask, "Do frogs walk, run, jump or twirl to move around?" They jump. Model for children how a frog jumps on all fours. Children do a frog jump on all fours. They sit down afterward. Chant: Ribbit. Ribbit. Today we will pretend to be jumping frogs



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Word of the Day: lily pad

Teach children the word lily pad. Show children pictures of lily pads (provided). Explain that a pad is a word for something to sit upon. Lilies are flowers. A lily pad is a big leaf that grows in the water with flowers called lilies. Frogs like to sit on them. Children name items they sit on like a chair, blanket, etc. Children pretend to be frogs sitting on a lily pad. They "croak/ribbit" to sing the ABC Song. (Example: A, B, C, D ribbit ribbit. E, F, G. Croak, croak. H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P ribbit, ribbit. Q, R, S, croak, croak. T, U, V, ribbit, ribbit. W, 4, 1 and Z. Ribbit, ribbit.)



FUN ART

Frog on a Lily Pad

Children paint a paper plate green to become a lily pad. Cut a small slit in the center of the plate for a craft stick to poke through. Children paste torn green tissue paper on a frog shape (provided) to create a textured frog. Tape the frogs to the craft sticks. Then place the craft sticks through the holes in the plates so the frogs are sitting on the paper plate lily pads.



MATH

Jump Into the Cups

Number 12 plastic cups from one to twelve. Give children 12 green pom pom balls each (or cotton balls) to be pretend frogs. They "jump" (toss) the corresponding number of frogs into the cups. Example: Toss three green pom pom "frogs" into the cup numbered three.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Lily Pad Jumps

Scatter several green papers outside to be pretend lily pads in a pretend pond. Play music. Children jump from lily pad to lily pad while chanting: Ribbit, ribbit, this is fun. Jumping with my frog friends in the sun! When the music stops, they stand and stretch. Repeat several times.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Frog Feelings (Expressing Feelings)

Children jump around the room like frogs as you name the following:

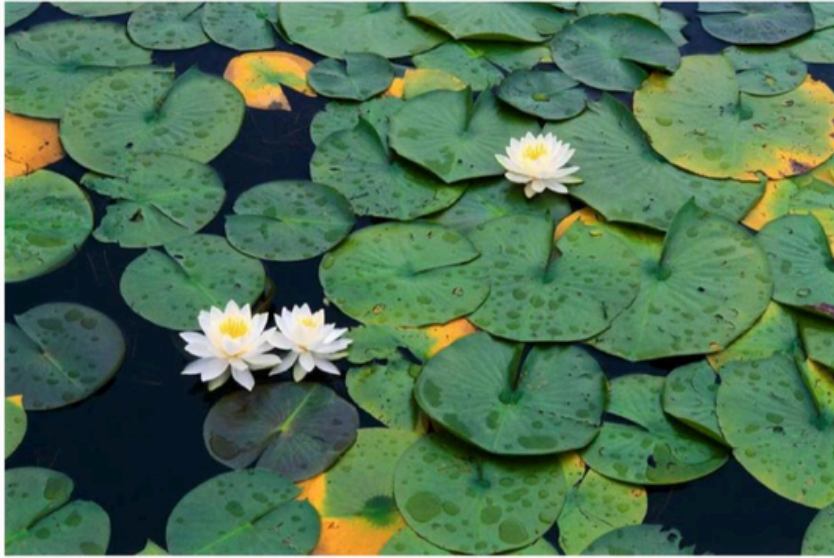
Jump with a smile. Jump with a laugh. Jump with a frown. Jump with a yawn. After each jump, ask them to share how the frog was feeling when jumping with a smile. Why was the frog feeling that way?



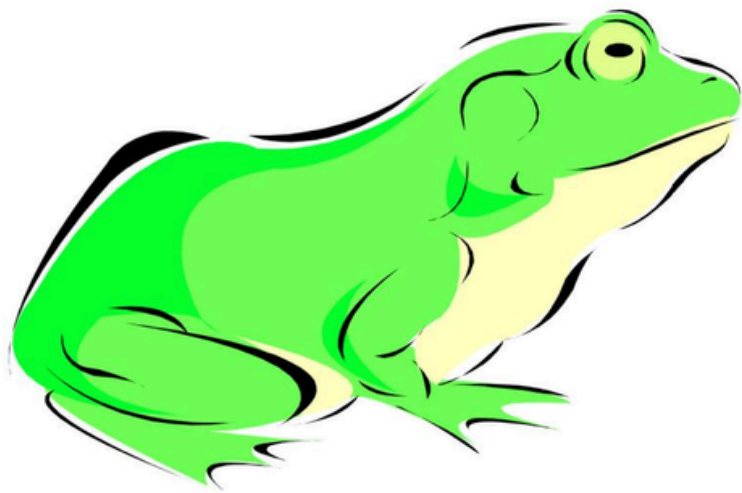
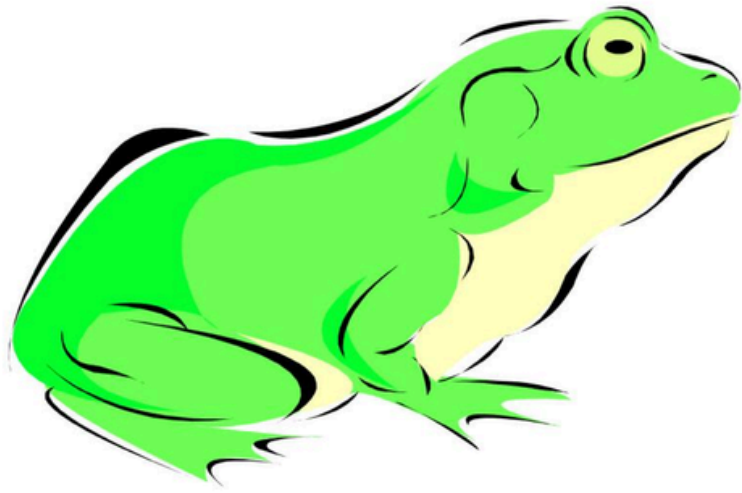
"Think of one blessing and jump with joy daily."



PICTURES FOR CIRCLE TIME



PICTURES FOR LITERACY



FROG SHAPE FOR ART

Theme for the Week



Jump, Wiggle, or Fly

Activities for "Wiggle Worms"

Materials Needed: Picture of a worm (provided), curvy shapes (provided), pans of sand, have families donate old pairs of white tube socks, non-toxic paints, craft sticks, pipe cleaners



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children a picture of a worm (provided). Do they have feet or legs? No. How do they move? They wiggle. Children wiggle their bodies while remaining seated. Then they wiggle their arms and then their fingers. Chant: Wiggle is how a worm moves. Watch my fingers wiggle and groove.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Wormy Letters in the Dirt

Pre-cut several pieces of curvy paper (provided) to be pretend worms. Write one letter sound that children know on each worm and bury them in a tray of sand. Children dig for lettered "worms" and say what it is when they find it. Option: They can put several letters together to make words.



FUN ART

Worm Socks

Ask families to donate old pairs of white tube socks. Children paint each of their socks a different solid color. They add eyes in the toe area of the socks. Save for Music today.

MATH

Wiggle Into a Shape

Children make shapes (square, rectangle, triangle, etc.) out of craft sticks. Then they wiggle "worms" (curled pieces of pipe cleaners) into the shape named. Example: Tell the children to wiggle three "worms" into a rectangle. They move three small pieces of curled pipe cleaners into a rectangle shape they made with craft sticks.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing and Act Out Wiggle Worms

Children wear their sock worms from Art today on their hands/arms and wiggle them while singing: Wiggle, wiggle, wiggle worms, crawling in the dirt.

It would feel so silly if one was in my shirt!

Wiggle, wiggle, wiggle worms, squiggling all around.

Watch the wiggle worms crawl on the ground.

SOCIAL SKILLS

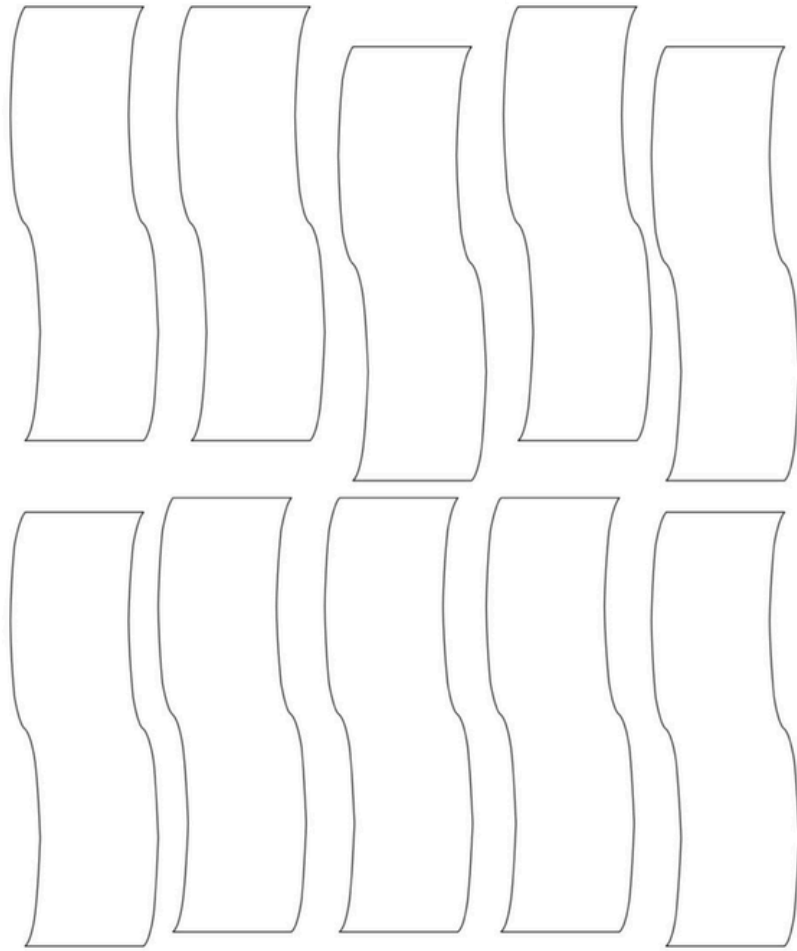
Can You Hear a Worm? (Sitting Quietly)

Explain to the children that worms do not talk or make sounds. They are very quiet. Tell them to wiggle their fingers like a worm to signal they want to speak. Children sit quietly. They take turns wiggling their fingers for a turn to speak. Then they softly share something about themselves.

"Wiggle, wiggle and giggle, giggle. Children are a delight."



PICTURE FOR CIRCLE TIME



CURVY SHAPES FOR LITERACY

Theme for the Week



Jump, Wiggle, or Fly

Activities for "Bees"

Materials Needed: Picture of bees (provided), jar of honey, crackers, index cards but in half, yellow paint, black construction paper, black marker, white chalk, picture of a honeycomb (provided), photocopy hexagons (provided)



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Tell children that today's flying bug is a bee. It flies and it also buzzes.

Everybody buzz. Buzzzzzzzzzz. Show pictures (provided) of a bee. Does it have six legs? Yes. Does it have antennae? Yes. Does it have three body parts? Yes. Is it an insect? Yes. Bees make honey. Show children a jar of honey. If there are no allergies let them taste honey on a cracker. Bees can also sting. Only male bees have a stinger. Be careful of bees so they don't sting you.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Letter Sounds Match Up

Take an index card and write a letter sound the children have learned on the left side of the card and the same letter on the right side of the card. Cut the card in half. Do this with more letter sounds the children know. Scatter all the letters on the floor. Children take turns buzzing around like bees to find two letters that match.



FUN ART

Thumbprint Bee Art

Children dip their thumbs in yellow paint that is blotted on a paper towel and make six yellow thumbprints onto black construction paper. Once dry, they use a black washable marker to add black lines to the body. Next, they use white chalk to add wings, antennae and legs.



MATH

Hexagon Honeycombs

Show children a picture of a honeycomb (provided). Look closely and count the sides of each hole. There are six. That makes it a hexagon.

Photocopy hexagons (provided) and give each child one. Have them color it yellow and count each side. Next, have them work together to put all of their hexagons together to make a big honeycomb.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Fingerplay Two Big Beehives

Two big beehives (Hold out two fists.)

Closed up tight, protecting sleepy bees (Rest head on hands.) All through the night.

When the early sun (Make circle with arms over head.)

Shows its light, ten baby bees (Hold out two fists.)

Take to flight. (Open fists and wiggle fingers away.)

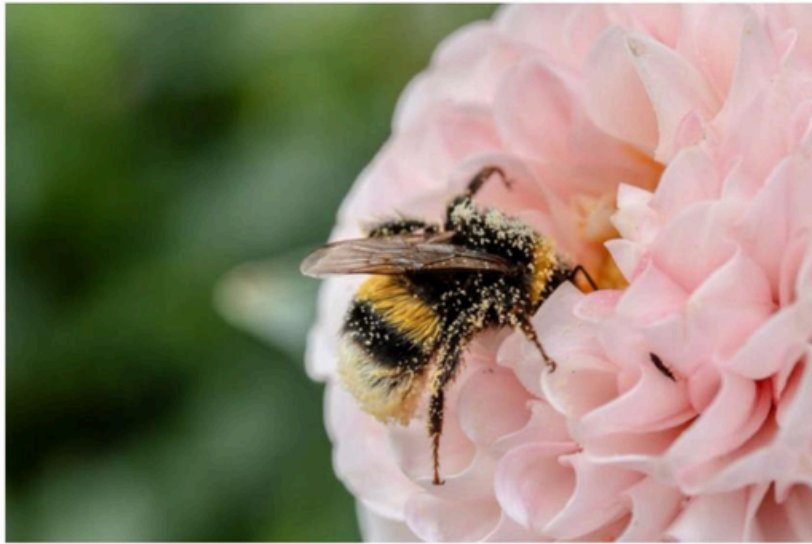


SOCIAL SKILLS

Speaking Honeycombs

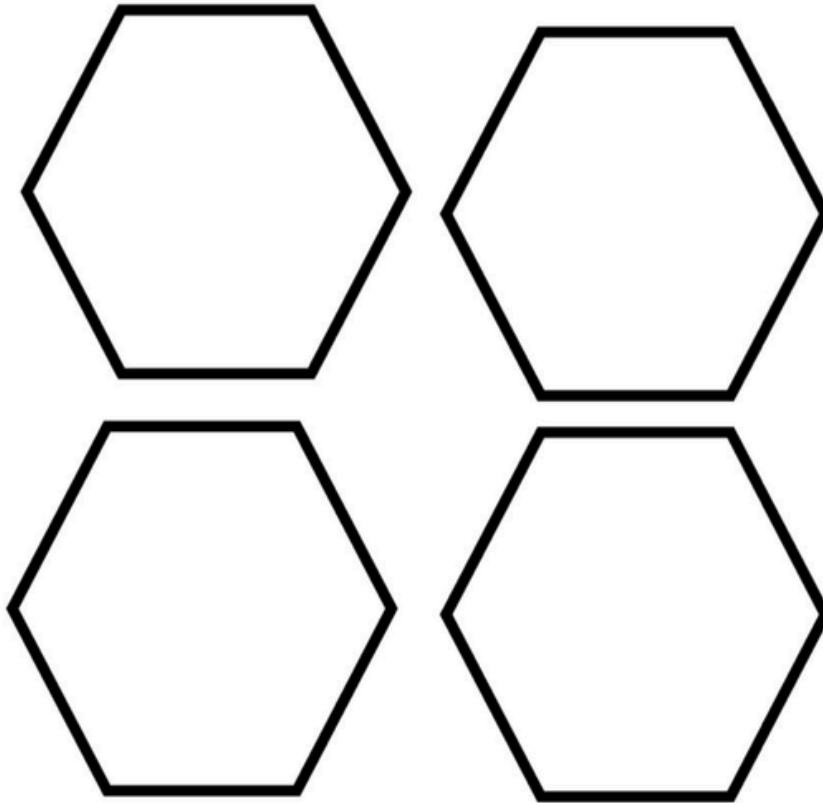
Honey is sweet. Let's say sweet words to our friends. One child sits in a special "bee chair" and the other takes turns telling the child in the chair sweet compliments.

"Sweet words to children make them feel loved and cherished."





BEEES FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY



Theme for the Week



Jump, Wiggle, or Fly

Activities for "Fireflies"

Materials Needed: Pictures of a firefly (provided), yellow spoons, tape, glue, Spoon Firefly shapes (provided), flashlight(s) picture of insects (provided)



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Tell children that today's flying bug is a firefly. It flies and it also lights up! Show pictures (provided) of a firefly. Does it have six legs? Yes.

Does it have antennae? Yes. Does it have three body parts? Yes. Is it an insect? Yes. Fireflies have a mixture of chemicals in their body that make light. You can see them light up at night.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Flashlight Writing

Write each child's name very large on white poster board with a black marker. Turn off the lights. Children trace their name with a flashlight.

If time permits, continue with letters and words.



FUN ART

Spoon Firefly Art (Shapes provided.)

Pre-cut shapes to form firefly. Glue or paste together. Tape to yellow spoon. If no spoons are available, use a small circle from Welcome Packet patterns. Color the circle yellow or use yellow construction paper and attach at the end of the body for the light on the firefly.



MATH

Skip Count by Twos

Look at several or all pictures of crawling and flying bugs that are insects. Count their legs in each picture, 1 - 6.

Show children how the legs are across from each other in twos. Count 2, 4, 6. Repeat this several times with each bug.



MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing Insects (tune of "Twinkle Twinkle")

Fireflies and butterflies, buzzing bees up in the sky.

Teeny, tiny little ants, crawling up and down the plants.

Many insects can be found, in the sky and on the ground.



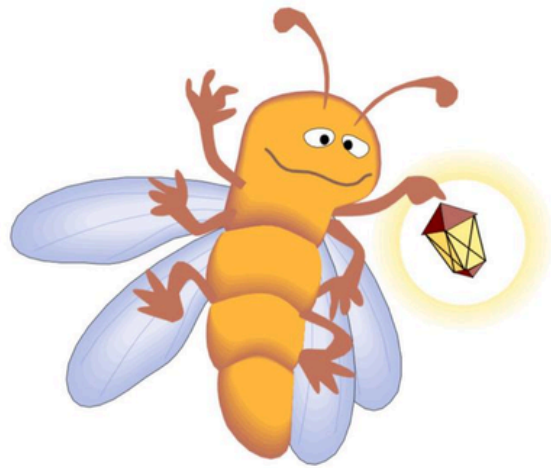
SOCIAL SKILLS

If 1 Were A Firefly

Children take turns sharing with the class: My name is _____ and if I were a firefly I would fly to _____ because _____. This is a great way for children to be creative and learn more about each other.

"You light a fire in the minds of children."

"You light a fire in the minds of children."

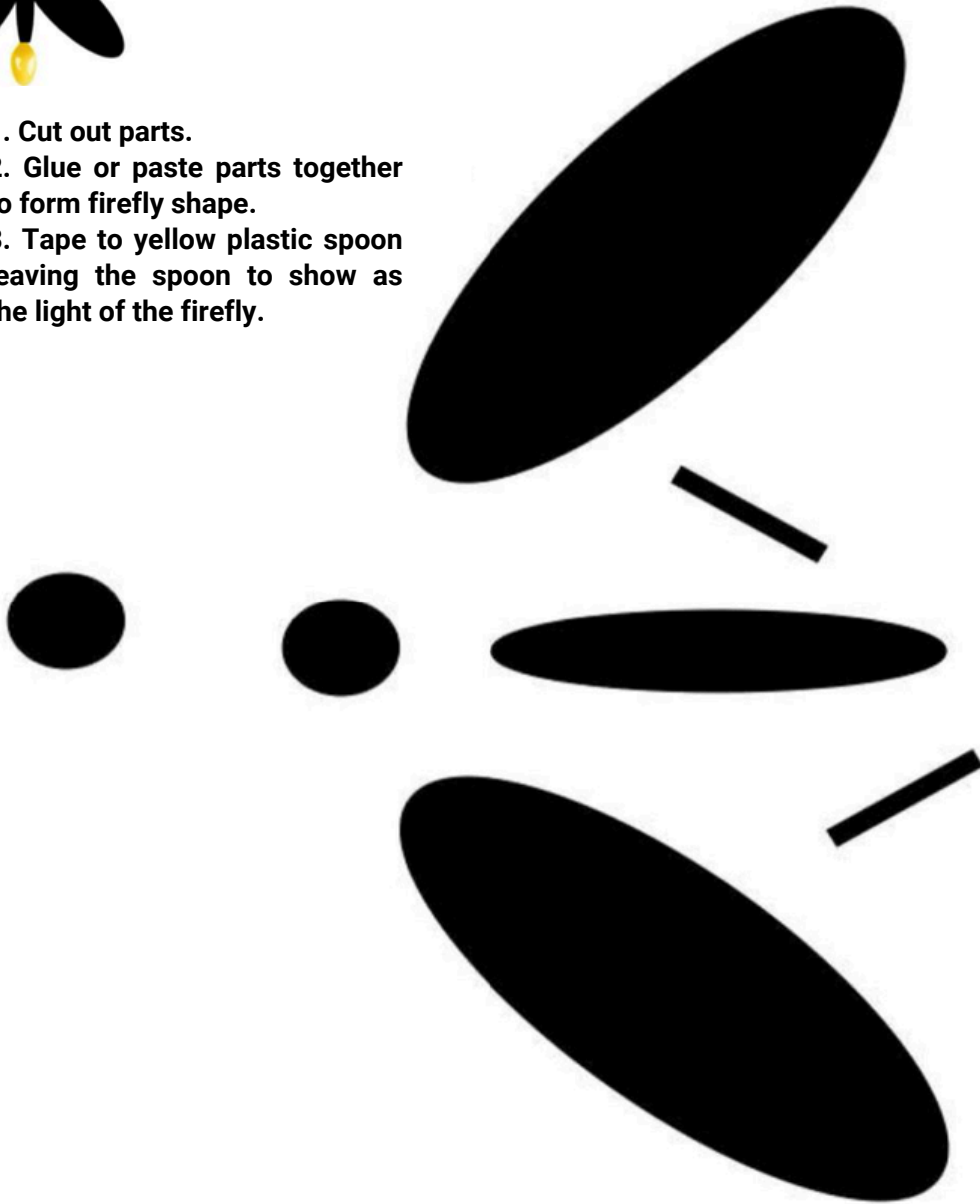


FIREFLIES FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY

SPOON FIREFLY



1. Cut out parts.
2. Glue or paste parts together to form firefly shape.
3. Tape to yellow plastic spoon leaving the spoon to show as the light of the firefly.



INSECTS



Theme for the Week



Jump, Wiggle, or Fly

Activities for "Ladybugs"

Materials Needed: Pictures of a ladybug (provided), large red circle, five (or more) pre-cut black circles for each child, white crayon or chalk, egg cartons, red paint, black markers



CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Tell children that today's flying bug is a ladybug. Show pictures (provided) of a ladybug. Does it have six legs? Yes. Does it have antennae? Yes. Does it have three body parts? Yes. Is it an insect? Yes. Ladybugs are known as very helpful bugs because they eat other harmful bugs. Kids are helpful too. Each child tells something they have done that is helpful to others.



LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Ladybug Letter Sounds

Place a large red circle on the floor. Precut black circles (the ladybug's dots) so that each child will have 3 or more circles. Before you give them to the children, use white chalk or a white crayon to write letters on all of the black circles. Make sure there are two of each letter sound. Pass them out to the children. Ask if anyone has the letter s that sounds like "s-s-s." If so, they tape it to one side of the ladybug. Then ask if anyone has the match of that letter. They tape it on the other side of the ladybug. Continue having children tape their letters on the ladybug. When they are finished, it is the "class ladybug."



FUN ART

Egg Carton Ladybugs

Give each child one single cup cut from an egg carton. Children paint it red. Let it dry. Using a black marker, children draw a head on the front, a stripe down the middle and dots on each side of the stripe.

MATH

Ladybug Count

Children color and paste buttons or construction paper circles on the lady bug to give it spots on the wings. Help them decide how many spots. Have children count how many spots in all. Help them write the number.

MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing and Act Out Ladybug, Ladybug Ladybug, ladybug, (Move fingers.)
Can I see you crawl, (Crawl slowly on all fours.)
Hurry after those hurtful bugs (Move quickly on all fours.)
And be careful, do not fall! (Fall over.)

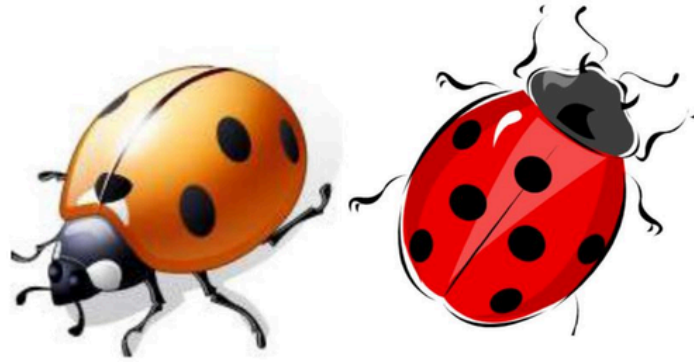
SOCIAL SKILLS

Being Helpful

Ladybugs are very helpful to gardeners because they like to eat bugs that cause problems in gardens. Who has helped you? Who would you like to help? How? Children share these answers with the class. This is a great way to teach what it means to be kind/helpful.



"Your care and support help children when they are hurting."



LADYBUGS FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY

LADYBUG COUNT

