

September 1, 2016

Dear Parents,

September is already here and the children are adjusting beautifully to our TK routine. Here are some skills and activities we will be working on during the next month.

Reading/Language Arts

We will take about a month and review the letters (capital and lowercase) of the alphabet and their sounds. Since everyone learns differently, we will practice “writing” the letters different ways: by tracing them in shaving cream, making them with pipe cleaners, writing them with markers on dry erase boards and by printing them on paper. The children will be working on writing their first names on lined paper. We have talked about the “big, important” letters of their first names and how the others are smaller.

A few of the books we will focus on this month include, Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See and Ten Apples Up On Top. We have been learning about the difference between an author and an illustrator and what “fiction” means. The children have started using their reading workbooks. Occasionally, a paper book will come home which we have worked on “reading” in class. These will be sent home for you to keep and to practice reading!

Math

Some skills we will be working on include patterns, graphing and sequencing. We have been discussing positional words such as above, below, top, middle and bottom. The children are practicing counting how many objects in a set up to 10. We are also practicing writing our numbers correctly 1-10. Each day during calendar time we review the days of the week, identify numbers and count by 1's to 50. We have also started working on pages in our math workbooks.

Science

We will be discussing apples, the five senses and weather in science. I try to do hands-on activities which correspond to what we are learning about. This week we started reading about apples. We will be making a chart with words which describe the five senses. The children will also do a taste test with red, yellow and green apples. After we are finished tasting, we will graph the results. We will also be making applesauce!!

Other

-The children will be starting computer class twice a week and gymsters once a week beginning the week of Sept. 12th.

-The children are welcome to bring water bottles and keep them with their snack, this way they can get a drink when needed without having to wait in the drinking fountain line!

-We have started using centers in the morning during arrival time. This way the children are able to choose what activity they would like to do each day. The ipad center seems to be the most popular (go figure!), so Mrs. Oddis and I will keep track of who uses that center in order to give each child a turn on the ipads each week.

-We have an egg and a sesame allergy in our class this year. Eggs are still fine to use in baked goods such as cookies, cupcakes and brownies. The sesame allergy would include things such as bagels, hummus and certain crackers.

-Each child has a writing journal and has already completed the first two pages!

-We will also be working on one or two poems a month and will keep them in the children's folders at school.

I have really enjoyed getting to know your children! Each one brings a different personality to our classroom and has wonderful things to offer! Thank-you so much for all your support during the first two busy weeks!

Lori Shindle

“Children are great imitators. So give them something great to imitate.” Anonymous