2024-2025 Activity Schedule

Theme for Displays: Learning to Fly

		Infant and Toddler Classrooms Ages 0-3 Years	Preschool Classrooms Ages 3-5 Years	
Months	Themes	Color/Shape	Letters/ Numbers	Color/Shape
Sept.	All About Me Fantastic Fasteners		A, B, C I, 2, 3	
Oct.	Dino World Happy Harvest		D, E, F 4, 5, 6	
Nov.	My Imagination Helpful Habits		G, H, I 7, 8	
Dec.	Sun, Moon & Stars Winter Magic		J, K, L 9, 10	
Jan.	Rocking Rhymes Kitchen Helpers		M, N, O II, 12	
Feb.	Feeling My Best Rainforest Explorers		P, Q, R 13, 14	
Mar.	Silly Play I Spy Spring		S, T, U 15, 16	
Apr.	Arts Galore Nature Rocks!		V, W, X 17, 18	\bigcirc
Мау	Book Nook Honey, Hives & Flowers		Y, Z 19, 20	
June	Hello, Summer! Road Trip		Review	Review
July	Construction Zone Fishing Adventure	Review	Review	Review
Aug.	Fair Fun Ready, Set, Learn!	Review	Review	Review

Schedule is subject to slight change.

Infants and Toddlers Theme Summaries 2024-2025

FunShine Express[®] follows a four-year rotation of themes and activities. Themes for Buttercups[®] and Fireflies[®] are coordinated. Schedule is subject to slight changes.

September

Shape: Circle Color: Red Opposites: Big/Little

All About Me: Celebrate the unique qualities of each child as you welcome children into your setting. Develop skills across the learning domains as children explore the concepts of self, friendship, and family through songs, games, and more!

Fantastic Fasteners: Your little ones will enjoy investigating the fasteners and mechanisms on everyday items. Toddlers will explore hands-on learning with zippers, knobs, tape, glue, buttons, and more. This theme highlights the many ways fasteners help humans in everyday life!

October

Shape: Triangle Color: Orange Opposites: Big/Little

Dino World: Infants and toddlers tend to be drawn to the size and ferocity of dinosaurs. Explore the concepts of big and little as children admire these prehistoric creatures. Children will have fun playing with sound and movement in this theme too.

Happy Harvest: Discover all that autumn has to offer in this cool-weather theme. Introduce children to symbols of the season, such as scarecrows and farms, and enjoy the colors, tastes, and textures of this time of year.

November

Shape: Star Color: Brown Opposites: Day/Night

My Imagination: Wands, costumes, and masks will inspire lots of pretend play, creative art, and active games. Children will test different feelings as they get into character. The possibilities for play are endless when we use our imaginations!

Helpful Habits: Families often gather at this time of year. This theme offers playful ways to practice polite interactions with friends and family members. Children will explore different ways of being helpful, learn about sharing and turn-taking, practice self-care, and more.

December

Shape: Star Color: Green Opposites: Day/Night

Sun, Moon & Stars: The sky and different elements in it are always a great wonder for children. Throughout this theme, children will learn about the sun and daytime, the moon and nighttime, and other sky features. It also serves as an introduction to outer space, our planet, and ways to care for it.

Winter Magic: Winter is here, and snow is upon us. Practice matching, sorting, and more with mittens and other winter gear. Engage toddlers in meaningful science activities by exploring the snow, cold, and ice.

January

Shape: Heart Color: White Opposites: Hard/Soft

Rockin' Rhymes: Snuggle up to read new and classic stories. Engage children in pretend play, art, and music related to these treasured tales and rhymes. Children will develop a love for language with this theme.

Kitchen Helpers: Invite children into the kitchen during this culinary theme. Learn about simple measurement, cooking tools and utensils, and kitchen safety. Children will use their senses as they discover new tastes, textures, scents, colors, and more.

February

Shape: Heart Color: Pink Opposites: Hard/Soft

Feeling My Best: Everyone has more fun when they feel their best! This theme helps children explore ways to feel great, physically and emotionally. Brushing teeth, washing hands, energetic indoor and outdoor play, and other healthy habits are all a part of this theme.

Rainforest Explorers: Take a trip to a place full of unusual plants, animals, and insects—the rainforest! Monkeys, parrots, and more inspire songs, rhymes, games, sensory play, and art activities in this playful theme.

March

Shape:OvalColor:BlueOpposites:Wet/Dry

Silly Play: Kick off March with lots of silly fun! Your little ones will delight in making funny faces, wiggling to music, and listening to funny stories! Children will explore cause and effect and emotions throughout this theme.

I **Spy Spring**: Happy spring! This theme uncovers all that this season has to offer. Spend time outdoors listening to birds sing, observing shapes in the clouds, and discovering the season's first blooms.

April

Shape:OvalColor:YellowOpposites:Wet/Dry

Arts Galore: Infants and toddlers love messy art! This theme invites them to explore different art processes while using traditional and unexpected art tools. They'll also have fun singing, dancing, and experimenting with music.

Nature Rocks!: Natural beauty is all around us! Our job is to protect and care for it. This theme focuses on ways we can keep our world beautiful, such as disposing of trash properly, turning off lights and water when we're not using them, recycling, reusing, and planting flowers and trees.

May

Shape:SquareColor:PurpleOpposites:Happy/Sad

Book Nook: Encourage children's love of literature and budding vocabulary with this theme. Children will enjoy reading a variety of books, including listening to a few on audio. Help children discover their favorite stories and engage in learning inspired by beloved classics.

Honey, Hives & Flowers: It's the height of spring and bees are buzzing and bumbling about the flowers. During this theme, children will learn all about bees—where they live, how honey is made, and pollination in simple terms.

June

Shape:SColor:EOpposites:H

Square Black Happy/Sad

Hello, Summer!: Welcome summer with sensory play. Explore dirt, mud, sand, and water as you spend time outdoors. Observe insects, find and sort sticks, draw with sidewalk chalk—the possibilities are endless on warm, sunny days!

Road Trip: From tall mountains to grassy fields to dense forests to golden shores, North America is filled with beautiful places to visit! Learn about the wonderful sites all around us in this adventurous theme.

July

Shape: Review Color: Review Opposites: On/Off

Construction Zone: Building with blocks, construction sets, boxes, cardboard tubes, and other materials is a great way to promote creative thinking and problem-solving skills. This theme also helps children learn more about the jobs construction workers do and the tools they use.

Fishing Adventure: Grab your fishing pole and put on a sun hat! It's time to head down to the pond for some fishing fun! This theme offers opportunities to learn about pond creatures and plants while reviewing shapes and colors, encouraging curiosity, and engaging in sensory play.

August

Shape: Review Color: Review Opposites: On/Off

Fair Fun: With exciting rides, yummy foods, and all kinds of interesting exhibits, fairs are popular places to visit in the summertime. Even if the fair isn't coming to your town, children can experience the fun through engaging art activities, games, stories, music, and more!

Ready, Set, Learn!: Wrap up summer with a simple review. This theme will take a look back at concepts explored this year, including letters, numbers, opposites, and colors and shapes. Relish end-ofthe-summer moments by blowing and catching bubbles, playing simple games, and much more!

Preschool Theme Summaries 2024-2025

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September

Letters: A, B, C Numbers: 1, 2, 3 Shapes: Circle Colors: Red

All About Me: This theme is all about celebrating the uniqueness of each child in your care. Children will explore the concepts of self, friendship, and family as they get to know each other, you, and the learning environment.

Fantastic Fasteners: How many ways can we create, connect, and hold things together? Fasteners serve many purposes in the real world, from laces tying our shoes, to buttons closing our shirts, to glue holding a collage together, to nuts and bolts keeping buildings upright. This theme highlights the many ways fasteners, big and small, help humans in daily life!

October

Letters: D, E, F Numbers: 4, 5, 6 Shapes: Triangle Colors: Orange, Black

Dino World: It's no secret that young children are fascinated with dinosaurs. In this theme, children will discover dinosaurs by exploring fossils, volcanoes, footprints, and more! Children will compare, contrast, make predictions, and use other mathematical and scientific concepts to get to know these prehistoric creatures.

Happy Harvest: Celebrate nature's bounty with this fall theme. Children will enjoy learning about autumn symbols such as leaves, scarecrows, and pumpkins. Activities will also focus on farm crops and the machinery that plants and harvests them for us.

November

Letters: G, H, I Numbers: 7, 8 Shapes: Rectangle Colors: Brown

My Imagination: Pretend play is the heart of early learning! Whether they're playing superheroes, transforming objects with magic wands, or acting out everyday scenarios, children love to play make-believe. This theme demonstrates how much learning happens when children use their imaginations and creativity!

Helpful Habits: No matter where you live, we all live in community. This theme focuses on habits that help us get along with others, such as sharing, turn-taking, and being neighborly. Children will strengthen their self-regulation and independence while learning ways to interact positively with others.

December

Letters: J, K, L Numbers: 9, 10 Shapes: Star Colors: Green

Sun, Moon & Stars: 3, 2, 1, lift off! Get ready for an imaginary space trip where you will explore space transportation, astronauts, and other interesting elements of outer space. Children will learn about our planet, characteristics of the sky, and the solar system.

Winter Magic: Keeping warm and snug is the focus of this theme. Children will learn about cold-weather accessories while welcoming winter's chill. The science of ice and snowflakes and the fun of making snowmen will also be explored.

January

Letters: M, N, O Numbers: 11, 12 Shapes: Octagon Colors: White

Rockin' Rhymes: Nursery rhymes and classic folktales bridge generations and support a love of language. This theme highlights traditional literary favorites such as "Three Billy Goats Gruff," "The Little Red Hen," and "Humpty Dumpty," among others. Children will engage in creative activities related to each tale that support growth in all early learning domains.

Kitchen Helpers: Preschoolers love to help, and working in the kitchen is no exception. In this theme, the children will prepare their own snacks and learn about nutrition and cooking through a variety of food-related games and activities.

February

Letters: P, Q, R Numbers: 13, 14 Shapes: Heart Colors: Pink

Feeling My Best: We can do many things to help our bodies feel good. Children will learn how to stay healthy by practicing proper hygiene, exercising, and talking about the importance of sleep. They will also focus on identifying and managing feelings to boost emotional health.

Rainforest Explorers: Stay warm this winter by taking a trip to the rainforest. Children will learn all about this tropical biome, including its climate, creatures, and plants. Science and social studies are emphasized in this popular theme.

March

Letters: S, T, U Numbers: 15, 16 Shapes: Oval Colors: Blue

Silly Play: Things will be a little topsy-turvy during this theme! Children will engage in regular pretend play and sensory exploration. Optical illusions, exploring textures, and playing with sounds are covered. Children will also learn about appropriate times to express their silliness.

I Spy Spring: Welcome spring by stepping outdoors and discovering the changes that abound! Children will explore chicks hatching, leaves and grass emerging, and the shift in weather patterns.

April

Letters: V, W, X Numbers: 17, 18 Shapes: Rhombus Colors: Yellow

Arts Galore: Explore color, observe the styles of famous artists, visit virtual art museums, and discover other forms of art such as music and dance with your budding artists! Children will quickly learn that possibilities are endless when art is involved.

Nature Rocks!: Our planet is a special place and requires our care. Children will learn how to protect and care for all living things by exploring the concepts of recycling, reusing, and general conservation. Embark on outdoor journeys to look for animals, plants, and insects.



Letters: Y, Z Numbers: 19, 20 Shapes: Square Colors: Purple

Book Nook: It goes without saying that children love books. Invite them to share their love of reading with this theme. Learn about libraries and the special care books require. Favorite children's book authors and illustrators will be highlighted throughout the theme.

Honey, Hives & Flowers: Sticky and sweet, this theme is sure to please! Children will learn all about bees and flowers and why they're important to humans. Children will observe, investigate, and discover during this theme.

June

Review Letters, Numbers, Shapes, and Colors

Hello, Summer!: This theme provides opportunities for children to focus on summer's sights, sounds, and textures. Investigate bubbles and bugs, and play in the water and grass. Head outdoors and invite children to really dig into learning!

Road Trip: Explore North America with this fun summer theme! Children will learn about geography, popular sites and landmarks, and the possibilities for learning that travel can bring.

July

Review Letters, Numbers, Shapes, and Colors

Construction Zone: Put on your hard hats and get busy! Tools, protective gear, and heavy machinery will be discussed as the children learn about the important jobs of construction workers. Blocks and boxes will allow the children to imagine, plan, and build.

Fishing Adventure: Fishing is a hobby enjoyed by people all over the world. Fish can be found in lakes, rivers, ponds, and oceans. Invite children to learn about this popular hobby by exploring types of fish, different water habitats, and the tools needed to catch the "Big One!"

August

Review Letters, Numbers, Shapes, and Colors

Fair Fun: Fairs are in full swing in many parts of the country during the summer. The children will explore fun foods, games, and activities found at fairs and carnivals. You can even extend hands-on learning by hosting your own preschool fair!

Ready, Set, Learn!: Wrap up summer by reviewing letters, numbers, shapes, and colors. This theme encourages children to continue fostering friendships, playing games, and exploring the world around them. Children who are transitioning to kindergarten will be celebrated as your group says "goodbye" and prepares for the new school year.