



October 2023

NEWSLETTER

Themes

Curious Critters



Curious critters are everywhere! Help children learn about the fascinating and unusual creatures that share our world. Rodents and primates are among the creatures children will learn about in this theme. Look for autumn activities sprinkled throughout.

Fairy Tale Friends

Enter a land of castles, kings, queens, unicorns, and dragons as children read classic fairy tales. Pretend to climb beanstalks, search for treasure, build castles, make crowns, and more as children embark upon imaginary adventures.

Alphabet Words

dandelions, deer, doll, donkey,
ear, eggplant, elk, envelope, fan,
fingerprint, fork, fox

Color/Shape	Letters/ Numbers
 	Dd, Ee, Ff 4, 5, 6

Sign Language



Learn with Me!

• Critter Observation

Use magnifiers to look for insects around the backyard with your child. Gather stickers and a notepad. Every time you spot a bug, attach a sticker to the notepad. Compare how insects look different with the use of the magnifiers. As you observe the creatures, talk about the changing weather and how the bugs might be preparing for the upcoming winter season.

• Fairy Tale Dress-Up

Talk to your child about fairy tales and stories that are familiar in your household. Look in picture books and note particular colors or accessories that are shown. Work with your child to find clothing and props around the home that can be used to act out the story. Pieces of fabric from old dresses or shirts can serve as aprons, dresses, or capes. Tree branches or sticks could be used as wands. Invite your child to use the materials creatively to act out the story as you read. Invite close family members to watch and enjoy the big performance!

My Project: Foraging Skunk

When I bring this project home, we can:

- Move around like skunks and make squeaky skunk noises.
- Collect black toys to match the color black on the art project.



My Project: Enchanting Castle

When I bring this project home, we can:

- Use it as a prop for play, along with dolls, figures, and other fairy tale props.
- Continue castle exploration by searching for real castles on the Internet.



*Graphics are intended to show samples of projects.
Materials may be substituted or used differently.*

FAMILY CONNECTION

Book List

**National Geographic
Little Kids First Big Book
of Bugs**

by Catherine D. Hughes

Skunk on a String
by Thao Lam

**If You Give a Mouse a
Cookie**
by Laura Numeroff

Firefighters Help
by Dee Ready

**Mary Engelbreit's
Nursery and Fairy Tales
Collection**

by Mary Engelbreit

The Storybook Knight
by Helen Docherty

In the Castle
by Anna Milbourne

Take Care, Good Knight
by Shelley Moore
Thomas

Songs

Mice Are Nice

Sung to "The Farmer in the Dell"

We think mice are nice.
Oh, we think mice are nice.
They're cute and small.
They scurry and crawl.
Oh, we think mice are nice!



Dragons Skipping

Sung to "The Mulberry Bush"

Dragons go (skipping) 'round their cave,
'Round their cave, 'round their cave.
Dragons go (skipping) 'round their cave,
On this sunny morning.

Repeat with: hopping, dancing



Recipe

Pumpkin Shakes

½ cup frozen yogurt OR ice cream

3 T. milk

1 tsp. canned pumpkin

1 candy pumpkin OR candy corn (optional)

Blend the first three ingredients in a blender until smooth. Serve in small cups, and add a candy pumpkin or candy corn to the top of each shake, if desired. Pumpkin is a hearty, nutritious food! This snack is a nice way to reinforce the color orange, which your child is learning about this month.



Reminders
