

Sept/Oct 2023

NEWSLETTER

Themes

Wonderful Me

What makes each person special? Come find out in this unique theme that celebrates the personality and abilities of each child. Playful activities help children build strong relationships with each other and their caregivers.

Where We Live

Everyone has a home, but not all homes are the same. In this theme, children will learn about many kinds of homes and the people and animals who live in them. Children will make connections between their homes and their home away from home—your setting!

Curious Critters

Curious critters are everywhere! Help children learn more about the everyday animals that surround them. Discover squirrels, raccoons, mice, and more in this theme as you move like animals, explore textures and sounds, and settle into autumn.

Fairy Tale Friends

Let imaginations run wild as you introduce the children to classic tales and nursery rhymes! Foster vocabulary development and a love for reading as you build castles and pretend play together.

Vocabulary

family, mirror, birthday, neighborhood, kitchen, home construction, mouse, skunk, raccoon, castle, pretending, pumpkin patch

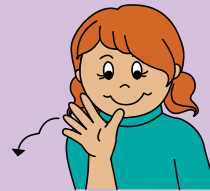
Colors/Shapes



Opposites

in/out

Sign Language



grandma

With open hand at chin, move palm forward in two small arcs.



grandpa

With open hand at forehead, move palm forward in two small arcs.



sister

Make Ls with both hands. Touch L of dominant hand to chin; bring hand down to second L.



brother

Make Ls with both hands. Touch L of dominant hand to forehead; bring hand down to second L.



diaper

Make a V with each hand pointing out from waist. Pinch fingers and thumb together (like diaper pins).



potty

Make T with right hand. Shake hand side to side a couple times.

Learn with Me!

• Building Together

Invite your child to join you in building houses and buildings. Use different types of building blocks and tools. What kind of house would your child like to build? Add to the fun by including toy animals in the play. Are there familiar names your child would like to use for the toy animals?

• Library Visit

Spend part of the day at a local library with your child. Libraries often offer group readings for toddlers and their families. You may also want to ask the librarian for your child's favorite stories in audiobook format. Play the audiobooks while in the car together. Notice how your child reacts to listening to stories in this format.

My Project: My Mirror

When I bring this project home, we can:

- Make funny faces while looking at our reflections in the mirror together.
- Compare reflections in the project with other hand mirrors.
- Talk about how mirrors come in different sizes and shapes.
- Talk about our facial features.



Graphic is intended to show sample of project. Materials may be substituted or used differently.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Book List

I Love All of Me

by Lorie Ann Grover

All Kinds of People

by Shelley Rotner

My Neighborhood

by Maddie Frost

Listen, Listen

by Phillis Gershator

Mouse's First Fall

by Lauren Thompson

The Crown on Your Head

by Nancy Tillman

Songs

Driving Around Town

Sung to "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush"

This is the way we drive the cars,
Drive the cars, drive the cars.

This is the way we drive the cars,
We're driving round the town.



Castle

Sung to "The Bear Went Over the Mountain"

A (king) lives in a castle.

A (king) lives in a castle.

A (king) lives in a castle.

That's just the place for (kings).

That's just the place for (kings).

That's just the place for (kings).

A (king) lives in a castle.

That's just the place for (kings).

Repeat with: **queen(s), prince(s),**
and **princess(es)**



Recipe

Red and Orange Fruit Salad

½ cup of strawberries

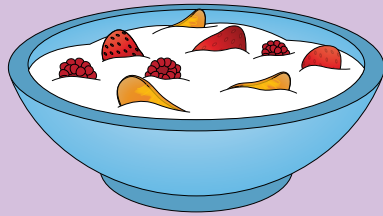
½ cup of clementines

½ cup of cherries

½ cup of papayas

½ cup of raspberries

2 cups of vanilla yogurt



Cut the red and orange fruits into bite-size pieces. Mix all the fruit pieces together in a bowl. Add two cups of vanilla yogurt. Stir, cover, and refrigerate for about 2 hours. Serve in small bowls or cups and enjoy!

Reminders

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slightly aged or off-white appearance.