



## November in the Cardinal Class

**Dear Cardinal Families:**

Don't forget to put our Classroom Calendar in a special location and refer to it before leaving for school! November is a busy month: We have Voting, Our 'Modern' Thanksgiving Feast and Thanksgiving!

**Social-Emotional Development:** Objectives for November & for the School Year:

**Follows Limits and Expectations:**

**Following the Rules & Routines with Occasional Reminders:** Children in this age group are expected to understand that to be safe, we need to follow the rules (rules at home and rules at school). By November, the children should also know the classroom routines. For instance, they should know what to do at arrival time: put their water bottle, folder and lunchbox in the correct bin, hand their backpack to the assistant, check in and do the table activity. *(There may be changes to this routine during this time.)*

**I Can Do It Myself!** In November the children will be taking off and putting on their coat (if needed). Once they have practiced, they will be encouraged to do this all by themselves.



### What Can You Do at Home?

1. As a family create "House Rules" and discuss why these rules are important.
2. Show your child at home how to take off and put on their coat. Now that they are getting older; try to have them put their coat on without having to flip it over their head.

**Physical Development:**

**Gross Motor (Large Muscle) Objectives & Activities for November:**

**Changing Body Movements Quickly When a Command is Heard:**

To help the children strengthen their inner core, develop listening skills and to work on balance the teacher will have the children change body movements quickly as she calls out: "Run, Skip, Hop on 1 Foot, Hop on 2 Feet, Gallop, Tip-Toe," etc.

**Fine Motor (Small Muscle) Objectives & Activities for November:**

- The children will use "Handwriting Without Tears" crayons to make their letters and numbers to date.

- The children will form the letters in their first name (upper and lower case) on their very own write and wipe board.
- The children will do their “Handwriting Without Tears” worksheets using small, short crayons.
- The children will make Native American Indian Symbols.
- The children will make Native American Indian crafts.

Did you know that the ideal “First” Writing Tool is small, short crayons & chalk? Why?

1. Smaller Hands need Smaller Crayons
2. Short Crayons encourage Proper Grip
3. Crayons & Chalk provide resistance, which helps build strength in the hand.



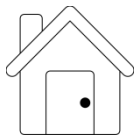
### What Can You Do at Home?

1. Go to the Playground! Encourage your child to climb, run, jump, hop, etc.!
2. Have your child practice the letters & numbers as they are introduced and making their name using uppercase for the first letter and lowercase for the other letters. Encourage the 3-point pencil grip, starting their letters at the top, and forming the letters in upper and lower case.

## LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT:

### Language Development Objectives & Activities for November:

**Asking and Answering Questions:** The children have had an opportunity to do “Question of the Day” and “Star of the Week Interviews” since September. In November, the children will begin coming up for questions during “Question of the Day” and the teachers will encourage the children to “widen” their questions during interviews.



### What Can You Do at Home?

1. Play “The Interview Game”! Take turns asking each other questions using a pretend microphone. The adult should begin by interviewing the child so they can hear different types of questions.

## COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT:

### Cognitive Development Objectives & Activities for November:

**Uses Classification Skills:** Groups objects by one characteristic; then regroups them using a different characteristic and indicates the reason.

**Sorting Objects:** The teacher will give the children a variety of objects to name and sort. She will encourage the children to sort the objects one way and when they are

done explain what they did. Next, she will encourage the children to sort the same objects but in a different way. For instance, when given plastic food to sort; the children can first sort by color and then they can sort by fruit/vegetable/meat, etc. children stay engaged and persist they are so proud of their efforts and it builds their confidence.

## **ACADEMIC SKILLS IN NOVEMBER**

### **Reading Readiness:**

The children will:

- have fun with the Letters: Gg, Tt and review all the letters we have learned to date.
- meet Goat & Gorilla Giggle and play a "Guessing Game" by estimating how many things are in a jar.
- meet Two Turtles, play Tic-Tac-Toe with a friend, and make Tt's with Handwriting Without Tears Blocks.
- "Read" our Gg & Tt rhyme!
- make each letter on their Handwriting Without Tears worksheet.
- make pictures of things that start with the letters Gg & Tt in their picture dictionary books.

### **Beginning Reading & Writing by Making Charts**

After reading The Tortoise and the Hare the children will make three charts entitled:

1. What is your favorite game to play outside?
2. Have you seen any animals today?
3. How do animals move?

The activities focus on creating charts and visual displays in the classroom. The major intent of the program is to provide reading, writing, and thinking opportunities for the children.

### **Math Readiness: Review Numbers 1 to 5 and Introduce Numbers 6 -7 - 8**

Using our Harcourt Math Program, the children will hear Counting Stories - some favorites are: Ten Fat Turkeys by Tony Johnston & A Plump & Perky Turkey by Teresa Bateman. Afterwards the children will:

- Play "Turkey Bingo"! Each child will be given a turkey that has a different number on each feather. The teacher will pull a number out of a bag and show the number. The children will identify the number, look at their turkey and if they have the number then they will cover it with a penny. Whoever covers all their feathers first will shout "Gobble, Gobble!"

- The children will be given a turkey that has a number written on his belly, but he is missing his feathers! The children will look at the number and put that many feathers on the Bald Turkey!!
- The teacher will hide numbers in the room. The children will look for the hidden numbers, come back to the table, identify the number and count that many Thanksgiving's items that the teacher has laying on the table.
- The children will form the numbers 1 to 9 using the Handwriting Without Tears.

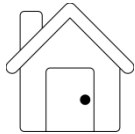
### November STEAM:

- Experiment: "Bottled Up" -

Hypothesis: What will happen to the water in a plastic bottle when it is punctured with a pushpin?

- Whole School STEAM Activities -

Please check out our November Newsletter to see the adorable Turkey STEAM Activities the children will explore.



### What Can You Do at Home?

1. Reviewing the alphabet stories that are sent home with your child. Have your child identify the letter being introduced and think of all the words that start with that letter in the story.
2. Identifying and counting numbers one to nine.



### Thanksgiving Feast with My Friends!

Normally, the children would have a Thanksgiving Feast in the Large Meeting Room! At this time, we can sadly no longer do this. Instead, we are going to be having a 'Modern Thanksgiving Feast' in the classroom. The children will still dress up as Pilgrims or Native American Indians, the room and tables will be decorated & the children will be served a 'Modern Thanksgiving Feast' - your child will enjoy a McDonald's Happy Meal. More details for this Modern Thanksgiving Feast will follow.

**If you ever have any questions, concerns, etc. please put a note in your child's take-home folder.**

