



MARCH in the Chick-a-dee Class

Dear Chick-a-dee Families:

Don't forget to put our Classroom Calendar in a special location and refer to it before leaving for school! In March we will be Bringing in our Favorite Dr. Seuss Book to Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday, we will be wearing green to Celebrate St. Patrick's Day and we will have a school-wide Bake Sale!

Social-Emotional Development: Objectives for March & for the School Year:

Let's Review Our Manner Words! We will be practicing all of our manner words and play the game "What should you say when..."

Putting On My Coat: In March the children will be encouraged to put on their coat - first with lessons, second with assistance and lastly - All By Themselves! In addition to learning a new "independence skill" the children are developing their fine motor muscles.



What Can You Do at Home?

1. Encourage and remind your child to use manner words throughout the day.
2. Have your child practice putting on their coat!

Physical Development: Gross Motor (Large Muscle) Objectives & Activities for March:

Experimenting With Different Ways to Balance and Strengthen Our Large Muscles - Yoga Poses of the Month:

Practice all of our Yoga Poses: Throughout the month we will practice all of the yoga poses we have learned to date! One of our favorite yoga songs is entitled *If I Were the Sun!*

Additional Activities Plan During Movement Time:

Simon Says: The teacher will play a new version of *Simon Says*, giving directions that involve moving different body parts. She will substitute the names of the children in the class for *Simon*. For example the teacher will say, "David says wiggle your fingers. Heather says stamp your feet." The game will continue until each child has been named at least once.

Head-Shoulders-Knees & Toes: During gym time the children will act out "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes!" These two activities are excellent for developing listening skills and identifying parts of the body!

Funny Jelly Beans: This funny little song that is sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It" reinforces body parts and the color green (our color of the month): There's a green jelly bean on my (nose)! There's a green jellybean on my nose (nose)! Oh, that funny jellybean, Makes my (nose) look like it's green! There's a green jellybean on my (nose)!

The teacher will continue with the following: ear, knee, toe, heel, leg, arm, wrist, chin, head, cheek.

The Color Green & the Triangle Shape

The teacher will cut large triangle shapes out of green construction paper and tape them to the floor. Next she will tie green crepe-paper streamers to the children's wrist. She will play music and have the children walk, march, hop and then dance around the triangles. When she stops the music the children will Stop and Stand on a Triangle Shape!

Green is Great: The children will listen to music and shake green crepe paper streamers!

Fine Motor (Small Muscle) Objectives & Activities for March:

To strengthen fine motor muscles the children will meet:



Mat Man: Mat Man is part of our wonderful *Handwriting Without Tears* program. As the children listen to a song entitled “Mat Man” the teacher will be making him. Afterwards the children will have an opportunity to make Mat Man with our special blocks. This activity also reinforces parts of the body – (especially the face) and where each part is located.

Fine-Motor Station:

- ✓ During small groups, the teacher will place muffin tins, extra large green pom-poms and regular tongs. The children will use the tongs to place a green pom-pom in each muffin cup.
- ✓ The teacher will cut out several green foam triangles (these are supposed to be trees). For each tree, the teacher drew a matching outline on a sheet of poster board. The children will match the foam triangle tree to the poster board tree.



What Can You Do at Home?

1. Practice the Yoga Poses the children are learning at school!
2. Have your child point to and name part of his/her body!
3. Look for green in everyday items and make triangles with toys, stick pretzels, etc.!

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT:

Language Development Objectives & Activities for March: The children will act out these three adorable poems/songs:



The Leprechaun

A leprechaun is small and green. (Use hand to

indicate a small person)^[SEP]

He hides where he cannot be seen. (Cover eyes with hands)^[SEP]

But if you catch one on this day. (Shake finger)^[SEP]

He must give his gold away. (Pretend to put gold in pocket)

If you give me water and lots of sun, I'll bring you good luck and lots of fun!



"I'm a Little Shamrock" (Tune of I'm a Little Teapot)
I'm a little shamrock, see my leaves. Count my three petals if you please.



"Little Bo Peep" is our nursery rhyme of the month.



What Can You Do at Home?

1. Practice our songs and poem of the month!

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT:

Cognitive Development Objectives & Activities for March:

Sorting Triangles and Shamrocks: The children will be given various colored shamrocks and various colored triangle.

They will:

- ✓ Put all the shamrocks in one pile and all the triangles in another pile.
- ✓ Sort the shamrocks and triangles by colors. All the red shamrocks and triangles will go in a pile, all the green shamrocks and triangles will go in another pile, etc.

ACADEMIC SKILLS IN MARCH

Let's Make Ourselves from Head to Toe: The children will be given cutouts of a head, neck, arms, hands, legs and feet.

They will name each part and put it together to make themselves! When that is completed, they will add hair, eyes, nose, mouth and ears to their face and then put clothing on their body.

St. Patrick's Day Fun: The children will search for a leprechaun and find his pot of gold (bags of Lucky Charms). More information regarding this is in the March newsletter.

Let's Put a Rainbow Together: The children will help put a rainbow together! As they are having fun doing this activity they will be learning: the color order of a rainbow, naming colors and learning the positional words of the month: Above and Below. For instance the teacher will say, "Put the orange arc above the yellow arc" or "Put the green arc below the yellow arc".

Counting Shamrocks: During Circle Time the children will count 5 shamrocks.

Learning About the Wind: The children will learn about the wind as they participate in the following fun activities:

- ✓ **What Can a Hair Dryer Blow?** Using a Hair Dryer to teach wind the teacher will have various items on the table and the children will guess if the hair dryer will blow the items. Some of the items are a feather, cotton ball, tissue, Lego, tape dispenser, etc.
- ✓ **What Can I Blow with a Straw?** During small groups each child will be given a straw. The teacher will lay various items (one at a time) in front of each child. The children will be told to blow into their straw and see if they can move the object across the table. Before they blow they will guess if they can move the item.



What Can You Do at Home?

1. Look at the things we are doing above and review with your child.

If you ever have any questions, concerns, etc. please put a note in your child's take-home folder and I will give you a call.

