



## **March in the Bluebird Class**

**Dear Bluebird 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, we will learn about our five senses, have a 5 Senses Workshop & a School Wide Bake Sale!**

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

**Using Successful Strategies for Entering a Group Already Engaged in an Activity:** In March we will be talking about how to enter a group of children already engaged in an activity. Through role-playing and practice we will teach the following strategies: Watch what other children are doing for a few minutes and then contribute an idea and ask, "Can I help build with you", etc.

**Self Help Skill: I Can Carry All My Things and Take Care of Them Properly!** We would like to encourage the children to carry their backpack, lunchbox and resting things when they enter the classroom in the morning and again when they leave in the afternoon. When they get home, it would be wonderful if they could be responsible for their things: put their lunchbox and take-home folder in a special location and to look at the classroom calendar with you to see if they need to do anything the next time they come to school. Before they leave for school, encourage them to pack their backpack - resting things, lunchbox, take-home folder and anything they may need to bring to school!

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

## **Participating in Relay Races – Waiting Your Turn and Following Directions:**

As the children have fun participating in various relay races (running, hopping, galloping, etc.) they will learn the rules of relay races, how to wait their turn and listen to and follow through on the various directions given!

**Fine Motor (Small Muscle): The children will focus on fine-tuning their Cutting, Coloring and Writing**



### **What Can You Do at Home?**

1. 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.
2. Have your child practice making their first name in upper and lowercase letters.
3. 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 March:**

#### **Can Retell a Familiar Story in Proper Sequence, Including**

**Major Events and Characters:** An important language development and reading readiness skill is to be able to listen to a story, retell the story in the proper sequence and remember what you have read, especially the major events or plot of the story and the characters. For instance; after listening to the Book of the Month: *The Three Little Pigs*, starting with the pigs saying good-bye to their mother, the children should remember the correct order in which the pigs build their houses, what kind of houses they built, the characters in the story and what happened at the end of the story.

## **COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT:**

**Cognitive Development Objectives & Activities for March:**  
**Groups Objects by One Characteristic; then Regroups them using a Different Characteristic and Indicates the Reason:**

Teaching children the skill of looking at all possibilities when doing an activity expands their reasoning skills. For instance, when given a pile of buttons, the teacher will ask the children to think of all the ways they can sort the buttons. As she observes the children working together, they will explain their reasoning skills: "We sorted the buttons by color" or "We sorted the buttons by size" or "We sorted the buttons by shape", etc.

**ACADEMIC SKILLS IN MARCH**

**Reading Readiness...**

The children will:

1. LETTER ART: The children will make delightful masterpieces for the letters Cc, Oo & Qq!
2. Alphabet Rhymes: The children will read the rhymes and play "I Spy" the letter of the week in each rhyme.
3. Mini Books: The children will make a mini book for the letters Cc, Oo & Qq.
4. Additional Cc, Oo & Qq. The children will...
  - ✓ Find the C words in the Cookie Jar"! The teacher will fill a cookie jar with Cc items/ pictures and not Cc items. The children will take turns taking an item out of the Cookie Jar. If the item begins with a Cc they will put it on the plate and if it does not begin with Cc,
  - ✓ they will put it off to the side.
  - ✓ play the "Quilt Game." The children will cover their eyes while the teacher chooses one child to hide under the quilt -the children have to guess who is under the quilt.
  - ✓ write the letter Qq with a Quill pen and Q-tips.
  - ✓ go to the gym room and have Relay Races!

- ✓ go on an Alphabet Letter Hunt! The teacher will hide all the letters they have learned to date (upper and lowercase) in the classroom. Once the children have found all the letters, they will come back to the circle identify their letters, think of a word that starts with that letter and together they will put the letters in alphabetical order!
- ✓ play all of our Favorite Games to review all the letters and letter sounds we have learned.
- ✓ continue to play all the fun rhyming games from the "Sounds Abound Program"
- ✓ look at Sequencing Cards that tell a story. The children will put the cards in the correct "Sequencing" order.
- ✓ play "Alphabet Bingo."

### **Math Readiness:**

#### **Math Concept for the Month of March:**

The children will be Identifying, Extending, and Creating Patterns. Below are the three lessons that will be introduced...

Lesson 1 – Identify a Pattern: The children will describe simple patterns and identify patterns in the environment.

Lesson 2 – Extend a Pattern: The children will identify and extend a pattern, they will use concrete objects to extend a pattern, and they will predict what will come next when a pattern is extended.

Lesson 3 – Create a Pattern: The children will use concrete objects to create a simple pattern.

#### **In Addition:**

The children will...

- ✓ sort and classify! During small groups the children will be given shapes, numbers, toys, and other classroom items. Working together the children will think of ways to sort and classify these items.

- ✓ we will play all of our favorite games to review numbers to thirteen and the shapes.
- ✓ be introduced to the numbers 14, 15 & 16. The teachers have an array of hands-on activities to introduce to the children that will give them opportunities to identify the numbers, find/count/label numbers 1 to 16, forms sets of numbers & decide which set has more/less/same.

### **1. Science: "Five Senses and Differently Workshop"**

**Throughout the month the children will learn about their 5 senses and to end this exciting unit the children will attend a 5 Senses/Differently Abled Workshop! We will be looking for Volunteers to help at this workshop!**

### **2. STEAM Time – Exploring Matter**

Through a variety of experiments the children will learn that matter is anything that takes up space, that there are 3 "states" of matter – solid, liquid, and gas, that solids have a shape, liquids do not have a shape but can take the shape of whatever they are poured into and most gases cannot be seen. The children will do the following experiment: Crayon Cookies.



### **What Can You Do at Home?**

1. -Sorting & Classifying: Make a pile of household items and small toys, etc. Ask your child to think of ways they can sort the items in front of them. For example, put cups, spoons, plates, blocks, Legos, and stuffed animals in a pile. One way for your child to sort is to put all the toys in one pile and all kitchen items in another pile. Then they can put all cups in a pile, all spoons in a pile, etc. Try not to tell them what to do, have them think of all the ways they can sort. When they are finished have them explain how they "Classified" their piles.

2. -Sequencing Stories: Try to read stories to your child that have a clear beginning, middle and end. For example, The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle is an excellent book for this purpose.

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

