



November 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! November is a busy month: We will Vote, have Our Thanksgiving Play (via video!) and learn lots about 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. *(Changes to this procedure during this time.)*

I Can Do It Myself! In November the children will take off and put 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 and then zipping it up!

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 triangle or short crayons to make their letters and numbers to date.
- The children will trace their first name (upper and lower case) on their very own write and wipe board.
- The children will work in their "Handwriting Without Tears" workbook using small short crayons and the Handwriting without Tears 'technique'.

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:

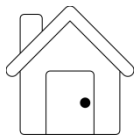
Putting on a Thanksgiving Play for our Families: Wait until you see your big Bluebird put on a play entitled: "The First Thanksgiving"! The children will be dressed as Pilgrims and Native American Indians and they will tell what happened on the very first Thanksgiving! Family and friends are invited to

watch this wonderful play via Video! You will receive a link via Constant Contact.



Picture Book of the Month...

The picture book of the month for November is The Scarecrow's Hat by Ken Brown. After reading the story the children will make adorable scarecrows!



What Can You Do at Home?

1. Have at least one family member come to see your child in the play!

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 any way they want! When they are done, they will be asked how they sorted the objects. 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.

ACADEMIC SKILLS IN NOVEMBER

Reading Readiness:

The children will:

1. **LETTER ART:** The children will make delightful masterpieces for the letters Mm, Nn, Rr!
2. **Alphabet Rhymes:** The children will read the rhymes on the other side of the Letter Art page 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 Mm, Nn, and Rr.

4. Additional Mm, Nn and Rr Activities:

- Mm- Muffin Tins. The teacher will put out 2 muffin tins. One labeled with upper case and one labeled with lower case 'Mm's'. The children will then be given large and small paper baking cups with the correct corresponding letters. Each child will place each baking cup in the correct tin after confirming the letters match.
- The Nest Game - The children will have a paper grocery bag 'nest' filled with items that begin with 'Nn'. As each child takes a turn to pull out an object, they will name the object, putting emphasis on the 'Nn' sound at the beginning.
- The 'Rr' Tree - The children will be given a tree covered with various upper-case letters. The children will take a spy glass and identify the upper case 'R' before highlighting all the 'R's' in the tree.

Math Readiness: Reviewing Numbers 1 to 5 & Introducing Numbers 6, 7 & 8

As the children learn each number these are the skills, they will learn...

1. **Counting Real Objects One by One Accurately** - This is the skill of counting out objects one by one, without re-counting any of the objects or getting mixed up in any way.
2. **Counting Aloud (By Rote, Not Counting Objects)** - This skill is not the same as counting objects; it's just counting out loud, strictly from memory. Children need these skills in order to later add, subtract, or begin to do any kind of "mental math" problems in their heads.
3. **Recognizing the Numbers 0 - 8 Out of Order** - This is simply the skill of identifying which numeral is being shown when they are all mixed up and out of order. It is a very important part of preschool math and it is a foundational skill that affects nearly every other math skill that comes afterwards.
4. **Creating Patterns:** The children will be creating patterns while making Thanksgiving Beaded Necklaces. Patterning is an important pre-math skill that helps children make sense of what they see, hear and learn. In addition to being a math activity, this is an excellent fine motor skill

because it develops eye-hand coordination. Eye-hand coordination is the ability to guide with the eyes the movement of the hands.

5. **Voting Fun:** The children will pretend to be “Adults” and vote! They will be voting for their favorite animal, story and food – and this year, they will also for the President! Afterwards, the class will tally the votes and see who won in each category. They will make a graph to visually see the results!



What Can You Do at Home?

1. Reviewing the letter art that are sent home with your child. Have them try to identify the letter being introduced and think of all the words that start with that letter.
2. Identifying and counting numbers one to eight.

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