

MARCH in the Duckling Class

Dear Duckling 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 animals, have fun at our Animal Workshop (We are looking for parent volunteers) and we will have a school-wide bake sale.

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

Listening While Others Speak: In March we will work on listening while others speak – a very hard thing for our little ones to do but an important skill to learn. One activity that is planned is for the children to come up one at a time and speak into a microphone. They can share a thought, tell a joke, sing a song, etc. The rule: only the child with the microphone can speak – all others must listen!

Self-Help Skill: I Can Put My Things Away in the Morning! In March after guidance and practice, the children will be asked to put their things in the proper location: Put their take-home folder in the basket, their lunchbox in the bin and hand their backpack to the assistant.



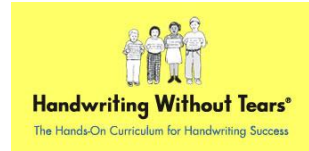
What Can You Do at Home?

1. Reading stories is an excellent way to encourage listening.
2. Encourage your child to put their school things in a special location when you get home.

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

Moving Like Different Animals: In March the children will be learning about animals and their habitat. During gym time the children will use their imaginations as they pretend to be different kinds of animals.

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



In March we will continue to work on our cutting and focusing on staying in the lines when we are coloring. We will do further “Aim and Color”, “Aim and Trace” and “Helping Hand” activities.



What Can You Do at Home?

1. With adult supervision at all times, allow your child to cut with children scissors. They should use their “Helping Hand” to hold and move the paper and their other hand for holding their scissors. If your child needs help – put your fingers inside the scissors and as you cut together say: “Open, Shut Them, Open, Shut Them”.
2. Great Activities to Encourage the Use of the Helping Hand: Holding a container of bubbles while dipping the wand and blowing bubbles, Holding a bowl and stirring, and Holding beads and stringing them.

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT:

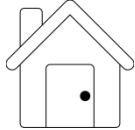
Language Development Objectives & Activities for March:

Naming Animals, Their Habitat and Fun Facts: In March the children will learn so much about animals and their habitat. The children will be encouraged to name the animals they see, to tell us where they live and share any knowledge they have about each animal.

Poem of the Month: “Little Boy Blue”: The children will

learn the rhyme “Little Boy Blue”: Little Boy Blue, Come blow your horn. The sheeps in the meadow, the cows in the corn. Where’s the Little Boy who looks after the sheep? He’s under a haystack, fast asleep.

Story of the Month: The children will listen to and then act out the story of *The Tortoise and the Hare*.



What Can You Do at Home?

1. Talk – Read – Watch Videos about all kinds of animals! Each week in March the children will learn about: Jungle Animals, Farm Animals, Forest Animals, Pets and Pond Animals.
2. Recite the poem: “Little Boy Blue”

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT:

Cognitive Development Objectives & Activities for March:

Places object in two or more groups based on differences in a single characteristic: In March the children will be learning about animals and their habitat. They will be given a group of animals and they will sort the animals into various groups: all the farm animals will go in one pile, all the forest animals will go in one pile, all the jungle animals will go in one pile and all the pets will go in another pile.

ACADEMIC SKILLS IN MARCH



St. Patrick’s Day & Fun With That Silly Leprechaun...

1. The children will play “Leprechaun’s Gold”! The teacher will make a “Pot of Gold” by covering a coffee can with black construction paper and the “Gold” will be yellow construction paper circles. Each piece of “Gold” will be

labeled with a shape, number, or letter. The children will reach into the pot, pull out a piece of gold and identify what is on their gold!

2. On St. Patrick's Day the children should wear green. Sometime during the day that silly Leprechaun sneaks into the classroom while the children are not in the room and does a little "harmless mischief" (puts books upside down, puts the trash can on the table, and takes out some toys). Then the Leprechaun leaves his footprints in the hallway for the class to follow. The footprints will lead the children to a "Pot" filled with a Surprise – I wonder what it is??
3. Finding Shamrocks – Our Shape of the Month: The teacher will hide shamrocks in the gym room and the children will go on a shamrock hunt. Each shamrock will have a letter, shape or number on it and the children have to identify what is on their shamrock!

Letters Nn, Oo, Pp, Qq and Reviewing Letters Aa to Mm – Our letters of the month are Nn, Oo, Pp and Qq and we will be reviewing letters Aa to Mm.

Counting to 10 – The children will count 10 Shamrocks during Circle Time!

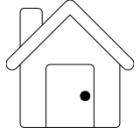
Recognizing Numbers 1 to 4 – The children will count up to 4 items and then they will point to the number that they counted.

I Know My Shapes – The children will sort all the shapes they have learned and a new shape will be added – the shamrock shape!

Recognizing 2 Dots on a Domino Without Counting – An important math skill is the ability to 'see' a small amount of objects and know how many there are without counting. This is called subtilizing! The children have been counting dots on big dominos. Now we want them to see the 2 dot

formation and to be able to say “2” without having to count the dots.

Teaching Above and Below – The children will be learning the positional words – Above & Below! When the children are learning about animals and their habitat they will be asked to put an animal ‘above’ something and to put an animal ‘below’ something.



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.

