



May 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 May we will make something very special for our Mommies, and we will have Field Day!

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN MAY:

Cooperatively Working With Three Friends on an Activity: In March we practiced "Using Successful Strategies for Entering a Group Already Engaged in an Activity" and in April the children were paired with a partner to work cooperatively on a project and now in May the children will work with three friends! This skill is a bit more challenging because now they have to manage being cooperative and supportive of more than one other person!

Self Help Skill: I Can Do It Myself! We will be getting your children ready for the Cardinal Class or Kindergarten the following school year, by encouraging the children to be as independent as possible. For example: taking care of their belongings at arrival and dismissal, opening up their things at lunch time and putting everything away when they are finished, moving from group to group, following the classroom rules, etc.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT IN MAY:

Gross Motor (Large Muscle): Field Day: In May the Bluebird, Cardinal and Kindergarten classes will participate in a very fun event entitled – "Field Day" – please check your child's class calendar for the date! The children will participate in relay races and afterwards the children will get a Field Day Medal and an Ice Pop!

Fine Motor (Small Muscle):

Shhhhhh and No Peeking Mom's! Your kind and thoughtful children will be making a very special surprise for their mommies for "Mommy's Day"!

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN MAY:

I Am Going to Work on Learning to Say My Full Name, Address and Phone Number: The children will be working on learning how to say their full name, address and telephone number – please practice this at home!

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN MAY:

I Can Recall 3 or 4 Items Removed From View: This is not only a fun activity but it is excellent for focusing, naming and memory recall.

ACADEMIC SKILLS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

Reading Readiness ...

1. **Letter Art:** The children will make delightful masterpieces for the letters Ii, Jj & Tt!
2. **Alphabet Rhymes:** The children will read letter rhymes and play "I Spy" the letter of the week in each rhyme. **Ii** is for: Isabelle slipped on icy I. In an instant she began to cry. **Jj** is for: Julius jogged beside a J. He told jokes and ran away. **Tt** is for: Ted told his teacher he needed a T. Since without it he couldn't spell taxi.
3. **Mini Books:** The children will make a mini book for the letters Ii, Jj and Tt.
4. **Additional Ii, Jj and Tt activities.** The children will...
 - a. Fun with the Letter Ii: The children will play "I Spy". Ahead of time the teacher will tape pictures of items that start with the letter I around the classroom so that all the children can see the pictures. Then teacher will give clues to the children by saying, "I see something that begins with the letter "I". It's green." Let the children try to find your mystery picture. The teacher will continue to give more clues until the children guess the "I" picture.

- b. Letter Ii: The children will play "Name the Ice Cube"! Several foam cubes (ice cubes) will be labeled with uppercase and lowercase Ii's. The cubes will be placed in an ice bucket. Each child will pick up an ice cube with tongs, identify the letter and put the letter in the uppercase cup or the lowercase cup.
- c. Fun with the Letter Jj: The children will learn the skill of estimation! The teachers will put Jelly beans in a jar and the children will 'estimate' how many Jelly beans they think are in the jar! Next step – count the Jelly beans in the jar!
- d. Letter Jj: Let's get moving in the gym room! The children will jump, jog and juggle bean bags!
- e. Letter Tt: The children will play Tic Tac Toe with a friend.

Math Readiness:

- ✓ Work with the numbers 0 to 20.
- ✓ Play review games from numbers 0 to 20.
- ✓ "Count the Room"! During free play the children will be given a clip board, a pencil and a "Detective Sheet". On the detective sheet the children will see various pictures. For instance, there will be pictures of Windows, Tables, Chairs, Puzzles, etc. The "Detective's" job is to find out how many of each item is in the classroom and write down the number next to the picture.
- ✓ "Find the Number"! During free play the children will be given a clip board, a pencil and a worksheet.
- ✓ do "Dot-to-Dot" to twenty.

Picture Book of the Month... Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr.

The children will listen to the story, and then take part in various activities and letter games using all 26 letters of the alphabet!

What Can You Do at Home?

Reinforce and Practice all the activities listed above!

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

