

## October in the Chick-a-dee Class

Dear Chick-a-dee Families:

It is hard to believe that we have already completed one month of school! Your children are absolutely adorable and we are having so much fun! It is going to be an Awesome Bucket Filling School Year!!!

**Don't forget to put our Classroom Calendar in a special location and refer to it before leaving for school! October is a busy month: We have Back to School Night, Trunk or Treat, Halloween Parties and Parades!** *(Please look for updates as to how or if these are taking place at the present time.)*

### Social-Emotional Development:

#### Objectives for October & for the School Year:

**Manner Word of the Month & Always is PLEASE!** We will practice saying "Please" throughout the day. Through example, stories and role playing we will say "Please" when we want to have a toy that another child has, we will say "Please" when we need something, etc.

**Let's Work Together & Get the Job Done!:** It is always fun to play but not so fun when it is time to clean up! The teachers encourage cooperation and working together by making clean-up time fun! First, we always give a "5 Minute Warning" that it will be time to clean up and then we do one of the following: 1. Set a timer and say: "It is clean up time – can we work together and beat the clock?" 2. Toy & Bin Match-Up: The children have to match the toy in their hand to the bin that has a picture of that toy! 3. Sing a Clean-up Song!



#### What Can You Do at Home?

1. Encourage and remind your child to say "Please"!
2. Try some of the clean-up ideas listed above. For a child that is "Clean Up Resistant" - use a small hula-hoop and encircle a small group of toys. Tell your child they need to clean up everything inside the hula-hoop!

### Physical Development:

## **Gross Motor (Large Muscle) Objectives & Activities for October:**

### **Discovering Different Ways to Move our Bodies:**

**Directed Dancing:** The teacher will play lively music and call out 2 step directions: “Stomp & Clap”, “Jump and Turn”, etc.

**Let’s Hop, Run & Jump:** The children will form a big circle in the gym room. The teacher will call out “Let’s hop like a bunny”, “Let’s run slow/Let’s run fast”, “Let’s jump like a frog”!

**Flying Orange Pumpkin:** The children will all hold onto our parachute with the teacher and she will put orange cutout pumpkins in the center of the parachute. The teacher will turn on Halloween music and tell the children they are going to shake the parachute and watch the pumpkins fly!

**Let’s Dance With Orange:** During music the teacher will tape orange crepe paper streamers to the children’s wrists. The children will dance around the room, waving and twirling their orange streamers.

## **Fine Motor (Small Muscle) Objectives & Activities for October:**

**Let’s Play with Orange Play Dough & Uncooked Orange Rigatoni Pasta!** The children will have tons of fun as they develop those muscles in their little hands! The teacher will place the pasta next to the playdough and tell the children to make amazing orange sculptures!

**Let’s Finger Paint!** The children will finger paint with red and yellow paints to make orange.



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

1. Go to the Playground! Encourage your child to hop, run and jump!
2. Play “Freeze Dance”!
3. Play with play dough!

## **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT:**

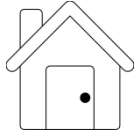
### **Language Development Objectives & Activities for October:**

**Naming Halloween and Fall Items:** Throughout the month the teacher will bring in Halloween and Fall Items and hide them in the gym room and classroom. The children will go on a search and once found will hold up what they have found and name the object.

**Wake Up!** To encourage “Listening Skills” the teacher will ask the children to pretend they are sleepy, and have them practice stretching their bodies from their fingers to their toes. Next, she will have them lie down on the floor and

pretend they are asleep. She will explain that when she says, "It's time to wake up!" they should slowly stretch their bodies and open their eyes. When she says, "It's time to go to sleep," they should close their eyes and lie very still. I can hear the giggles now!

**"Little Miss Muffet"** The children will act out and recite the nursery rhyme "Little Miss Muffet".



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

1. As you take walks, go shopping, read stories, etc., have your child point to and name various objects. Increase their vocabulary by naming things they do not know.
2. Practice saying the nursery rhyme "Little Miss Muffet".

### **COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT:**

#### **Cognitive Development Objectives & Activities for October:**

**Shows Curiosity and Motivation:** Uses senses to explore their environment.

**Scooping, Feeling, Looking Inside a Pumpkin & Then Making a Pumpkin Pie!** The teacher will carve a pumpkin with the children. The children will then make a pumpkin pie. This is a fun little Halloween trick we play on the 2-½ year olds every year. The teacher and the children will take the gook from inside the pumpkin, and put it in a bowl. They will take turns adding sugar, flour, vanilla and salt. Everyone will take turns mixing the mixture. The teacher will put everything in some pre-prepared crust and place it in the oven to cook. While the children are busy with another activity, the assistant will switch their concoction with a Mrs. Smith pumpkin pie. The children will then snack on their delicious homemade pumpkin pie fresh from the oven.

### **ACADEMIC SKILLS IN OCTOBER**

1. Each child will be given a small grocery plastic bag. We will go outside and collect leaves. Back in the classroom we will examine the leaves, using a magnifying glass. The children will sort the leaves and discuss their characteristics, such as shape, size and color.
2. Let's Find Orange! The teacher will place a variety of items on the floor, including a supply of orange items. Together the class will sing to the tune of "Are You Sleeping" "Let's find orange. Let's find orange. Do you see, do you see? Lots of pretty orange, Lots of pretty orange! Please show me, please

show me. The children will finger paint with red and yellow paints to make orange.

3. The children will learn the positional words "Up & Down" as they sing the song "The Grand Old Duke of York".
4. The children will count 5 pumpkins as they sing the song "Five Little Pumpkins Sitting on a Gate".
5. Check out our October Newsletter to see the STEAM activities the children will be doing this month!



### **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.**

