

Family Newsletter



THIS MONTH'S THEME

Baby Animals

This month, your child will learn all about baby animals. They will be introduced to many different kinds of babies and learn how their parents care for them. They will explore how babies are carried, protected and learn as they grow up. This month is a great opportunity to look back at baby pictures and share memories.

Look for the daily notes about your child's art projects!

Today I created a baby tortoise.

Tortoises have heavy shells that they carry on their backs. I made my own baby tortoise using a soufflé cup and other art materials. I have to be careful with my tortoise and make sure I take good care of it!



ASK ME: How did you take care of your baby tortoise?

Today I made a kitten mask.

A baby cat is called a kitten. I created my own mask with yarn and I used yarn to tie my mask. It's fun to pretend to be a playful animal.



ASK ME: How did you make your mask? What else do you know about cats?

Build language and literacy around the home!

Literacy is a part of everyday life. We are surrounded by written words when we drive, cook, eat and shop. Point out the print you see in your everyday experiences to your child. This interaction is the foundation of literacy. Here are a few ideas to build your child's literacy in playful and easy ways:

- Point out examples of print in and out of the home. Some examples include street signs, the calendar, food packages, mail, recipes or directions.
- Play the "I Spy" game with letters or sight words. Encourage your child to find a specific letter or word in the environment.
- Let your child choose between options as you point to the printed names. For example, ask your child which cereal they want to eat as you point to the printed name on each box.
- Encourage your child to retell their favorite stories.
- When your child "writes," ask them to "read" what it says. There is no wrong way to write.
- Involve your child in tasks, such as grocery lists, recipes or looking up information.
- Mimic life skills with your child. Set up a pretend play area that follows the interests of your child (e.g. dentist, doctor, car repair, office) and think about the books, reading, writing and tools involved in this job.
- Create a language-rich world for your child! Talk together throughout the day, read books and encourage drawing or writing anywhere: in the dirt, on paper or even in the air with a finger.





RECOMMENDED READS

Cuddle Up WITH A GOOD BOOK

What Will Hatch
by Jennifer Ward

Babies on the Go
by Linda Ashman

Chameleon's Colors
by Chisato Tashiro

What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?
by Steve Jenkins

The Littlest Yak
by Lu Fraser

Family Activities

Baby Care

Take a walk around the neighborhood and pay special attention to any babies or pets you see. Ask what kind of care the baby or pet needs. Invite your child to think of a way they might be able to help the neighborhood pets and animals.



Hop Like a Bunny

(Sing to the tune of "Row Your Boat.")

Think of different animals, then change the words and move like that animal.

Hop, hop, hop like a bunny,
Make a bunny face.

Hop to the left, and hop to the right.
Then hop and march in place.

Jump, jump, jump like a kangaroo...
Swim, swim, swim little seahorse...

