

K1 THEME 4: HOME AND FAMILY (23rd Nov. to 18th Dec.)

Our fourth topic of the year focuses on our families and why we love them.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Family, live, together, share, care, pet, love, thankful, house, different, move, apartment, neighbours, room, activity, bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, dining room, living room, bed, dresser, bookshelf, bath tub, sink, toilet, mirror, stove, oven, fridge, table, chairs, sofa, TV, clean, Christmas.

Songs: 'The family members song,' 'See you later alligator,' 'Thank you Mom – Kids song' and 'Thank you Daddy.'

This theme the children will learn about the family tree and how family members are connected. They will read the book, 'Families, families, families,' which shows how families come in all different shapes and sizes. They will learn about how pets are part of the family too and will read the book, 'Five creatures.' The children will practice drawing their family and then make a house picture frame from sticks, to put their drawing into. Teachers will explain that families live in different types of homes and how we can move from one home to another when things in our family change. Classes will read the book, 'My home, your home,' identifying the similarities and differences between the homes of two boys living in different parts of the world. The teacher will explain the different rooms of the house and will ask the children to bring in a picture of themselves doing something in their favourite room of the house. They will read the book, 'At home.' The teacher will use a matching card game to help teach the children about the typical furniture items we find in each room of the house, helping us to identify which room it is. Lastly the classes will learn how to be helpful around the house. The teacher will show them how to set the table for a meal, suggesting that this might be something they could do at home to help their Moms and Dads.

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the children will make thank you gifts for you. A colourful suncatcher, which should be hung up by a window, and a beautiful mosaic pattern heart for people they care about. The children will also start getting ready for Christmas by making a sponge print Christmas tree card.



MATH & READING LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Same, different, carefully, set, group, sort, count, together, pattern, repeat, objects, sand, drawing, nature, number, write, trace and follow.

Songs: 'My whole body can move,' 'Ten in a bed' and 'Once I caught a fish alive.'

The children will start this theme's math lessons by learning how to sort into groups. The teacher will use recycling, clothes and toys to illustrate how to sort. The children will also play a fun group card game to help develop their sorting skills. They will then learn how to group by quantity using connecting cubes and images. Reading the book, 'Busy Bugs – A book about patterns,' will introduce the children to fun patterns. The children will learn about all the different ways we can make patterns, with objects, pictures, sounds etc. The children will also go outside to find different, wonderful patterns in nature. Lastly, the classes will focus on writing the numbers 1 – 10. The teacher will use a fun rhyme for each number, to help them remember the sequence in which to write each number. They will also play a fun team game.

In their reading line lessons, the children will join the teacher in reading two wonderful books, 'Ducky's surprise' and 'Monkey's monkey.'

K1 THEME 5: INSIDE AND OUTSIDE ME. (28th Dec. to 22nd Jan.)

Our fifth topic of the year focuses on our bodies. Our body parts, inside and outside and what they are used for.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Forehead, cheeks, chin, neck, elbow, ankle, inside, skin, bones, muscles, brain, blood, heart, lungs, stomach, sight, hearing, taste, touch, smell, senses, action, move, body, parts, movements, hold, position.

Songs: 'The skeleton dance,' 'Five senses,' 'My whole body can move' and 'Hokey Pokey.'

The teacher will start this theme by expanding on the body parts learnt in PN and N, focussing on internal body parts and the left and right sides of our bodies. The classes will play the game, 'Simon says' but the teacher will include left and right into the directions. The children will read a book called, 'Me and my amazing body,' and will make a fun x-ray of their arm and fingers, using flour and ear buds. The children will get a chance to do some exploring with their five senses. They will read a book called, 'Look, listen and learn,' learn a rhyme about their senses and experiment with a blindfold. The teacher will then move onto investigating the different actions and movements we can do with our bodies. The classes will read the fun book, 'Head to toe,' trying different and crazy new positions with their bodies. They will also try new ways of making art, for instance, on their stomachs or under the table or wrapped in bubble wrap, all ways of making them aware of specific parts of their bodies and how flexible they can really be. Fun!

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the classes will have fun making a, 'life me,' with a friend. They will also make a painting using their feet and celebrate Winter by making a beautiful mitten.



MATH & READING LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Many, lots, few, little, count, move, more, less, compare, bigger, smaller, than, change.

Songs: 'Peppermint twist' and 'Down by the bay.'

The teacher will start this theme's math lessons by cementing and reviewing the concepts of many and few, learnt in N. They will use the class register, class toys and picture cards to help with understanding. The classes will also play a fun team ball game to reiterate the concepts. They will compare quantities, learning the words, 'more' and 'less,' building towers and comparing their height to determine which has more. The classes will also do a few worksheets, allowing them to practise their new comparative skills. Teachers will introduce the terms, 'bigger than' and 'smaller than,' reading the books, 'You are (not) small' and 'Big and small room for all.' They will also play a fun game with a dice and pom poms, as well as counting cards.

In their reading line lessons, the children will read the following books with the teacher, 'I can run' and 'What can you see?'

K1 THEME 6: MY COMMUNITY. (25th Jan. to 26th Feb.)

Our sixth topic of the year focuses on the communities we live in, exploring the different people and things we interact with on a daily.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

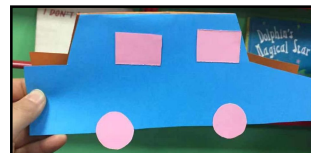
Keywords: City, transport, highway, bridge, taxi, van, trucks, fire, delivery, dump, cement, bus, double decker, tourist, luxury, shuttle, train, move, railway, track, station, ticket, car, wheel, window, lights, steering, engine, gas, plane, fly, wings, airport, security, vacation, pilot, runway.

Songs: 'Transportation song,' 'Car song' and 'Vacation song.'

This theme the teacher will start by looking at the city and all the different ways we get around it. They will read a funny book titled, 'You can't take an elephant on a bus.' The teachers will then spend each subsequent lesson focussing on a different form of transport. They will start with trucks, explaining to the children all the different ways each truck helps the community. The book, 'Trucks' will help to show this. Then, busses! Who knew there were so many types of busses? The teacher will show the children some of the different types of busses we might find in a city, what they are used for and how they help the community. Reading the book titled, 'Bus ride' will give the children a deeper look into one particular type of bus. The children will then learn all the steps we need to take before we can board a train to go somewhere. They will also read the book, 'Trains on the move,' which will show them beautiful pictures of all the different trains there are. The last form of transport the classes will discuss, is the airplane. The children will have the opportunity to tell the class about when they went on an airplane and where they went to. The class will read the book, 'My first airplane ride!'

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual artwork)*

In their art lessons the classes will have fun making a Valentine's Day card, using shaped toilet rolls. They will also make colourful cars and an airplane!



MATH & READING LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Compare, size, big, bigger, biggest, small, smaller, smallest, size, order, first, last, row, 1st – 10th (-st, -nd, -rd, -th), space, fit, reach, aim and hit.

Songs: 'Those magnificent men in their flying machines,' 'Ten green bottles' and 'BINGO (with variations).'

The children are aware of simple math concepts at this stage but the teachers will now take these to the next level by using comparisons. They will start by comparing size, big; bigger; biggest. The teacher will use posters, picture cards, actual objects and the book, 'I'm the biggest thing in the ocean,' to teach this comparison. They will then practise their new skills using a worksheet. The classes will then go in the other direction, small; smaller; smallest. They will read the book, 'The smallest animals.' Classes will then have fun placing many items in order of size from biggest to smallest and vice versa. The teachers will also review 'first and last' in a series. The children will get to have balloon races in the classroom. The book, '10 little caterpillars' will help to teach them the ordinal positions from 1 – 10. Lastly the teacher will focus on spatial awareness. The classes will play two fun games, 'bubble pop' and 'hula hoop toss.' They will also do experiments to see, 'will it fit?'

In their reading line lessons, the children will read the books, 'At the park' and 'This is my day!'