



# Play, Learn and Grow...Together

## A CUSD Early Childhood Newsletter for Parents of Preschoolers



August

Issue 1

Dedicated to Excellence

Welcome to the  
Inaugural edition of  
Play, Learn and  
Grow...Together!

This monthly newsletter is meant to assist parents of pre-k children in preparing for kindergarten. There is much more needed in preparation than just being able to recite your ABCs! In many cases, children are moving from a small preschool or home setting to a big public school for kindergarten. This can be very scary for both child and parent. How can you ensure your child is ready for that transition? Over the next year, through this monthly newsletter, you will be given suggestions for activities that will assist you, not only with academic readiness but also social, emotional, physical, and health readiness.

### Book Nook

**-I'll Always Come Back by Steve Metzger**

**-10 Minutes Till Bedtime by Peggy Rathman**

**-Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson Jr**

### YES! Arizona has Early Learning Standards

The Arizona Early Learning Standards have been developed to provide a framework for the planning of quality learning experiences for all children 3 to 5 years of age. The standards cover a broad range of skill development and provide a useful instructional foundation for children from diverse backgrounds and with diverse abilities.

There are eight standards that we focus on in Early Childhood Education. They are Approaches to Learning, Social-Emotional, Language and Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Development, Health and Safety, and Fine Arts. These standards are meant to help educators and parents in preparing young children for kindergarten and beyond. You can find them at <http://www.azed.gov/ece/preschool/> under Standards.

### Child Find

If you have concerns regarding your child's development, please contact the Early Childhood Child Find Team at (480)883-5865 or (480)883-5866 (Spanish) to schedule a screening.

Screenings are conducted by appointment only on Fridays throughout the school year. More information can be found on our website at:

<https://www.cusd80.com/page/57724>

### Learning at Home

Your home is your child's first learning environment. Develop their skills by using play, everyday items and daily household tasks.

Every month, on the back of this newsletter, you can find activities to do at home with your child that will promote developmentally appropriate skills to guide your child through their pre-k year and help them build the foundation for the skills they need to be successful in kindergarten.

All of the activities you will find on the calendar correlate to the Arizona Early Learning Standards. You will find a 1 or 2 letter code at the end of each activity identifying which standard is being addressed. The key is as follows:

AL: Approaches to Learning

SE- Social-Emotional

LL- Language and Literacy

M- Mathematics

PD- Physical Development, Health and Safety

S- Science

SS- Social Studies

FA- Fine Arts



# August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Go on a color/shape hunt in your house. Look for one color/shape at a time. <b>(M)</b>		Look through magazines for children doing different things, ask “What is the child doing?” <b>(LL)</b>		Encourage your child to “paint” with water outside on cement walls, pavement or bricks. <b>(FA)</b>		While at the grocery store, look at apples and compare sizes, shapes and colors. Use words like same and different. <b>(S)</b>
	Use stuffed animals or dolls to act out things your family likes to do together. <b>(FA)</b>		Find a new digital book online or in a reading app! <b>(LL)</b>		Give your child old envelopes to “write” letters and “mail” them by putting them in a special place. <b>(SS)</b>	
Read a story to your child. Ask questions about what happens in the story. <b>(LL)</b>		Make a height chart by measuring your child against the wall. Try again in 3 months. Talk about the change. <b>(SE)</b>		Give your child scissors (child size) and help him/her snip small pieces of paper. <b>(PD)</b>		Encourage your child to draw a picture of your family. <b>(SS)</b>
Sing simple counting songs and rhymes with your child. <b>(M)</b>	Encourage your child to “read” a book to you by using pictures to tell the story. <b>(LL)</b>		Give your child a mirror and ask him/her to describe his/her face. Ask “what color are your eyes” or “what shape is your nose?” <b>(SE)</b>		Play “Body Identification”. Ask your child to point to body parts like shoulder, knees, ankle, and elbow. <b>(PD)</b>	

Domains of Learning: PD- Physical Development; LL- Language and Literacy; FA- Fine Arts; M- Mathematics; SS- Social Studies; SE- Social Emotional; S-Science; AL-Approaches to Learning