



Play, Learn and Grow...Together

A CUSD Early Childhood Newsletter for Parents of Preschoolers



December

Issue 5

Dedicated to Excellence

Early Learning Standard

Focus:

Social Studies

The inclusion of Social Studies in early childhood environments is important in order to nurture children's understanding of themselves and others. Social Studies includes: basic skills and competencies that set the foundation for learning about concepts of social science.

At a young age, children begin to develop their social identity and think about their place in the social world. As children grow, they develop an increased awareness of their personal histories and heritage, and a sense of time and place. Through everyday interactions with children and adults, they develop an appreciation for rights and responsibilities within a group, and how social rules help people in promoting safety and fairness.

Book Corner

Sharing books with your child is a wonderful way to help prepare them for the transition to kindergarten. Check out these books at your local library:

- *If I Were President* by Catherine Stier
- *Me on the Map* by Joan Sweeney
- *Rosa's Bus: The Ride to Civil Rights* by Jo Kittlinger
- *Families* by Ann Morris Norton Juster

Kindergarten Open Enrollment and Special Education:

Your child's application will only be reviewed by the Special Education office if:

- you have attached your child's IEP that indicates the services needed in kindergarten and the other required documents to the Open Enrollment application
- your child is currently attending a Chandler Unified school and the Special Education office has your child's IEP that indicates the services needed in kindergarten on file.

Encourage Historical Thinking

Are you visiting older friends or relatives this holiday season? Ask them to show your child some of their treasures from long ago. Examples may be: a photograph, typewriter, baseball glove, antique furniture, etc. Then, they can tell stories behind those items.

Afterwards, you can talk with your child about how things are the same or different now. How are things better in the present? How were things better in the past?

2022-23 Kindergarten Registration
begins January 5, 2022 at 9:00 am

Learning at Home

Learning in your neighborhood

Help your child become familiar with the neighborhood in which you live. Learning can take place at the grocery store, at the park, or when visiting a neighbor.

-At the grocery store, talk about the colors and shapes of the fruits and vegetables.

-A trip to the local park or playground will build your child's muscles and develop social skills as they play with other children.

-On a walk, your child can learn about the street you live on by looking at street signs, house numbers or mailboxes.

-Visit your local fire stations to help your child learn about fire safety.

-Children can learn new languages by visiting neighborhood people with different cultural backgrounds.

-Take your child to festivals, carnivals, and fairs to provide an opportunity for new experiences.

-Children can learn about cultures, history, art, music, or science at a local museum as well.

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Talk about the things your child likes to do now and what s/he might like to do in the future (next week, next year, when s/he grows up) (SS)		Create sound patterns using your hands or mouths. Ask your child to repeat them- clap, clap, finger snap, tongue click, finger snap, clap, clap, clap) (M)		While outside, throw different balls in the air. Talk about which one goes higher, faster, further. (S)		Play with play dough together. Talk about what you can make. Use your fingers to poke, pinch, squeeze, and roll. (PD)
	Play store with your child. Use play money and household items, such as canned food, cereal, books or clothes to "buy" and "sell". (SS)		Find objects around the house and ask your child to think of words that rhyme or sound the same. Nonsense words are acceptable too. Example- bed-head; oven- lovin'. (LL)		Talk about different ways people celebrate winter holidays. (SS)	Use sidewalk chalk to create a picture together on the sidewalk or driveway. (FA)
What happens when you mix flour, water and salt together? (S)		Collect lids of all different sizes and have your child put them in order from smallest to biggest. (M)		Imitate sounds you hear in your neighborhood, such as cars, fire trucks, birds, or airplanes. Ask your child to guess what they are. Then have your child make a sound and you guess. (SS)		Introduce your child to a new food this month. Talk about the kinds of food- fruit, vegetable, meat- and how it keeps you healthy. (PD)
Draw together on different types of paper, like newspaper, wrapping paper, sand paper, or foil. (FA)	Give your child 3 photos of him/herself at different ages. Together put them in order from youngest to oldest. (SE)		Experience your five senses. How do things feel, sounds, taste, smell, or look? (S)			Make a road map using blocks or small toys for buildings in your community. Have your child drive through the town and talk about the buildings they pass. (SS)

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