

Hello, Family!

Over the next month, our class will learn about what makes a community. We will read books about the people and places in a community, and the ways in which we all work together to make a community strong.

Children will write letters to teach others about our community, and the whole class will collaborate to build a 3-D map of the places around school that make up our community.

Bring It Home

Here are some ideas for practicing the skills we are learning at school.



MINDSET MOMENT

When children have a sense of **belonging**, they know they are part of a group. This month, we will explore how we all belong to our class community. Support growth at home by recognizing when your child helps others feel welcome in a group.

SPEAK UP!	BIG IDEA WORDS												
<p>Show how to speak clearly and use an appropriate voice level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remind your child that people can hear you better if you keep your hands away from your face when speaking. Tell your child when he or she is using a voice that is too loud, too quiet, or just right for the situation. 	<p>Reinforce these important topic words when you are reading or talking with your child:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">community location neighbor</p>												
WORD PLAY	WORDS TO KNOW												
<p>Play with sounds, letters, and words to help develop skills that are important for reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Think of words that start with the same sound as your child's first name. Then do the same for names of other people in your family. Practice making letters and words with all different materials. Try sidewalk chalk, playdough, sand, and shaving cream! 	<p>Practice reading and spelling these words that children will see a lot in books they read:</p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>an</td> <td>did</td> <td>has</td> <td>he</td> </tr> <tr> <td>in</td> <td>it</td> <td>me</td> <td>put</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ran</td> <td>she</td> <td>sits</td> <td>with</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	an	did	has	he	in	it	me	put	ran	she	sits	with
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LET'S READ TOGETHER	LETTERS AND LISTS												
<p>Make a special time and place to read with your child every day. While you read, ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>What happens in the beginning/middle/end?</i> <i>What is the story about? Tell me in your own words.</i> <i>What clue in the picture shows what the word ____ means?</i> 	<p>Support your child to write letters and lists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work together to write shopping lists or "to do" lists with pictures and words. Send cards, letters, or e-mail to family members who live far away. Your child will love getting a response! Write thank you notes for gifts or other acts of kindness. Have your child tell you what to write, and "sign" his or her name. 												