Family Newsletter

“Summer”

What’s new in our class this week

We are learning songs, rhymes, and doing activities related to “Summer”!

This week we will learn about different activities we can do during the summer. We will talk with the children about what they think about summertime. We will also learn words that describe summer like sunny, hot, warm, and clear.

New Concept
Recognizing Simple Words

You may have noticed how your child knows some simple words in the books you read together. They probably recognize their name and maybe the names of family members too. Simple words, sometimes called, “high frequency words” are short words that appear often in books.

New Letter

Big “Z” and little “z”

Some “Z” words we will talk about are Zebra, Zip, Zoom, and Zero!

New Song

“If You’re Happy and You Know It”

We are learning songs, rhymes, and doing activities related to “Summer”!

Letter Talk

“Letter Talk” is what we use to help children learn how to form letters!

Letter Talk for big ‘Z’

Straight line across. Slant left and down. Straight line across.

Letter Talk for little ‘z’

Straight line across. Slant left and down. Straight line across.

Draw letters in the air, in sand on the beach or with a stick in the dirt!

Letters to review

Revisiting the Book: “Spring Is Here” by Taro Gomi

Spring is Here is a book we have read before, so the children are familiar with it. Before we read it again, we will recall the details we remember from the story. Also, we will listen and look for things that tell us what season the book is about. As we read, we will point to each word on the page. You can do this too when you read with your child. This will help your child learn to read from left to right and from top to bottom. You can also ask your child to find the word ‘the’ in a book you are reading together.
Parks in Your Area

Summertime has finally arrived! Summer is the perfect time to go outdoors to catch some fireflies or go on a picnic. One activity you can do is to have your child make a map of your yard or a nearby park. Encourage your child to label the things on the map like fence, swing set, or grass. Ask your child to explain the map to you.

You can even go somewhere like a baseball park! While watching a game with your child, talk about the rules and equipment used. You can also point out how people work as a team to win the game.

Books related to theme

- Hot Days
  by Jennifer S. Burke
- Lionel in the Summer
  by Stephen Krensky
- Marshmallow Kisses
  by Linda Crotta Brennan
- One Hot Summer Day
  by Nina Crews
- Sand Castle
  by Brenda Shannon
- Summer: An Alphabet Acrostic
  by Steven Schnur

Book Pick: “A Summery Saturday Morning”
by Margaret Mahy

This is a story about a woman and four children who take their dogs on an outing to the beach. However, what starts out as a peaceful summer morning stroll, soon ends up as a slippery, wild goose chase. Along the way the dogs chase a cat, a boy on a bike, and seven geese. The woman and the children run to catch the dogs and get stuck in the mud. This is a great book to encourage children to discuss problems and solutions.

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