



Family Newsletter



THIS MONTH'S THEME

Baby Animals

This month, your child will learn all about babies. He will be introduced to many different kinds of baby animals and how their parents care for them. He will explore how babies are carried, kept safe and learn as they grow up. This month is a great opportunity to look back at baby pictures and share memories.

Look for the daily notes about your child's art projects!

Today I created a baby tortoise.

Tortoises have heavy shells that they carry on their backs. I made my own baby tortoise using a souffle cup and other art materials. I have to be careful with my tortoise and make sure I take good care of it!

ASK ME: How did you take care of it?



Today I made a kitten mask.

A baby cat is called a kitten. I created my own mask and decided if it was a cat or a kitten. Cats love playing with yarn and I used yarn to tie my mask. It's fun to pretend to be a playful animal.

ASK ME: How did you decorate your mask? What else do you know about cats?



preschool

Build literacy around the home!

Literacy is a part of everyday life. We are surrounded by written words when we drive, cook, eat and shop. Point out the print you see in your everyday experiences to your child. This interaction is the foundation of literacy. Here are a few ideas to build your child's literacy in playful and easy ways:

- Point out examples of print in and out of the home. Some examples are street signs, the calendar, food packages, mail, recipes or directions.
- Play the "I Spy" game with letters or sight words. Encourage your child to find a specific letter or word in the environment.
- Give your child a choice while pointing to words. For example, ask your child which cereal he wants to eat as you point to the printed name on each cereal box.
- Encourage your child to retell his favorite stories.
- When your child "writes," ask him to "read" what the writing says. There is no wrong way to write.
- Involve your child in making grocery lists, following a recipe or looking up a phone number.
- Mimic life skills with your child. Set up a pretend play area that follows the interests of your child (e.g. dentist, doctor, car repair, office) and think about the books, reading, writing and tools involved in this job.
- Create a language-rich world for your child. Talk all day long, read books, scribble and draw or write in the dirt, on paper or even in the air with your finger.





RECOMMENDED READS

Cuddle Up

WITH A GOOD BOOK

Did My Mother Do That?
by Sharon Holt

Animal Daddies and My Daddy
by Barbara Shook Hazen

Hey, Daddy: Animal Fathers and Their Babies
by Mary Batten

I Love My Daddy
by Sebastien Braun

Daddy Kisses
by Anne Gutman



Family Activities

Baby Care

Take a walk around the neighborhood and pay special attention to any babies or pets you see. Ask a friend, neighbor or relative what kind of care the baby or pet needs. Invite your child to think of a way he might be able to help the neighborhood pets and animals.



Hop Like a Bunny

(Sing to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat.")

Think of different animals then change the words and move like that animal.

**Hop, hop, hop like a bunny,
Make a bunny face.**

**Hop to the left, and hop to the right.
Then hop and march in place.**

**Jump, jump, jump like a kangaroo...
Swim, swim, swim little seahorse...**