

Learning Adventures

PRESCHOOL



January / February 2019

Helping Your Child Prepare for Show & Tell

Show and tell is a key part of the school day and an important part of your child's learning development. It helps children to organize information, speak in front of a group and helps to build their confidence. It's also a great way to encourage your child's interest in a particular topic – as almost any topic goes-it's a chance for children to share something special with their teacher and classmates.

Helping your child prepare for show and tell

Encourage your child to decide in advance what he/she would like to share. Encourage them (with your questions) to think what they would have to prepare or bring for it, and then help them think what they would like to tell their teacher(s) and classmates.

Ideas for show & tell items:

- **Holiday Scrapbook or Memorabilia** - Whether you holiday away from or close to home, this makes a good subject for Show and Tell. Your child may use drawings, photos or other interesting things they have picked up (unusual sweet wrappers, postcards, foreign coins and notes, etc.) to show the class.
- **Nature box** - Give your child a shoe box to transform into a 'nature box', a collection of anything interesting from the natural world: shells, pine cones, interesting leaves or flowers (which can be pressed between two big hardback books to preserve them), unusual rocks or fossils, etc.
- **I Learnt Something New** ...Did your child learn something new over summer holidays or are they learning something new outside of school? Perhaps they've been camping, joined a sports club, tried their hand at horse riding or taken a bike safety course... any new activity they've learned can make a great talking point at show and tell, accompanied by some photos or an accessory or piece of equipment (compact in size, of course...).
- **Look What I Made:** Your child can take in something they've made to show, craft supplies or a tool (as long as it's safe).
- **A New Book:** a book your child has enjoyed makes an interesting topic for show and tell, especially if you encourage them to read around the theme of their chosen book.

What's New at Preschool?

Important Dates

No Preschool:

- Monday, January 7th (Elementary School Begins. No Preschool)
- Friday, January 28th (No Preschool or Elementary School - P.D. Day)
- Monday, February 18 - Friday, February 22nd - No Preschool or Elementary School. (Family Day, ATA Teachers Convention)

Pre-school begins in January:

- Tuesday, January 9th (T/Th class starts)
- Wednesday, January 9th (M/W/F class starts)

SNACK TIME!



FRUIT SALAD

Have your kids help you make a fruit salad. Use a variety of colored fruits to add to the appeal. May also serve with yogurt.



Rhythm and Wordplay to try at home

Rhyming is one of the best predictors of how easily a child will learn to read, and it helps children notice sounds within words. From an early age, children can recognize that bat rhymes with cat, and they become aware of the word part -at. Later, when they learn to read and spell, good rhymers are better equipped to notice that rhyming words often have shared letter sequences, such as -all in tall, ball, and small, which gives them a considerable head start in learning to read.



Five Little Cookies

Five little cookies with
frosting galore,
Mother ate one and then
there were four.
Four little cookies, two
and two you see,
Father ate one and then
there were three.
Three little cookies, but
before I knew,
Sister ate one and then there were two.
Two little cookies, yum, yum, yum,
Brother ate one and then there was one.
One little cookie, here I come,
I ate it, now there are none.

Rhyming Challenge

One person chooses a word and says, "I challenge you to think of as many rhymes as you can for 'cat' (or any word)." The next player says as many as he can and both players keep count.

January Parent Tip "Spin Stories Together"

The stories you tell about your child, to your child, are powerful for their development of confidence and a healthy sense of themselves. Make a point of "story-telling" all the little things you are appreciating about them and their growth.

Acknowledge some of their struggles and paint a picture of a time when they will have mastered the things that are most challenging today.

"Today it was really hard to share your scooter with Madison. Someday soon you'll be able to take turns."

February Parent Tip "Love Sense"

Celebrate the month of love by considering all the ways your child senses your love - through your touch, your words, your attention, your gifts, and the special things you do for them. Create that "just loved" feeling in your child in simple and specific ways like:

- A mini massage.
- Saying, "I'm so glad I get to be your Mom/Dad."
- Floor play together.
- PJs warmed in the dryer.

Tips provided from:
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