

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

OUR WEEK WITH

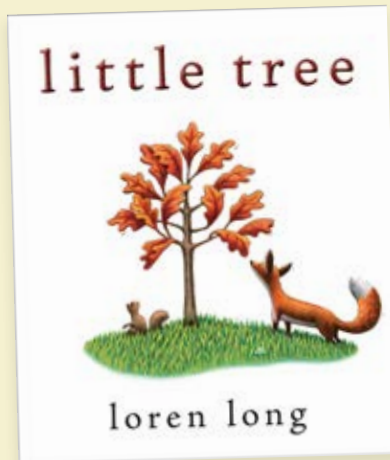
experience
toddler



Bang! Boom! Brave.

TOGETHER
TIME

This week, let's read books about being brave. Find this one at your library or on YouTube:



Little Tree
by Loren Long

Make Some Noise

What?

In the story of the week at school, we learned about a little mouse who is afraid of thunderstorms until he realizes he can make just as much noise as the thunder.

How?

Give your child a wooden or plastic spoon and explore pounding it on different types of pots and pans. Play your favorite song and pound along.

Why?

This activity supports physical science and investigation skills. Exploring why different objects make different noises is a great home STEAM experiment.





Bang! Boom! Brave. Calendar



experience
toddler

language & literacy

math & reasoning

music & movement

art & drama

LESSON 1

BOOK DISCOVERY Read to Mouse

LLD 5 CONCEPTS OF PRINT

Pretend to read books. Practice turning pages from front to back.

SORTING & SHAPES Mouse in the House

MR 7 LOGIC & REASONING

Hide a mouse under a color house. Roll a color and see if the mouse is hiding there.

COORDINATION Quiet as a Mouse

PD 1 GROSS MOTOR

Explore moving a scarf in the air to mimic the quiet and loud parts of the song.

PAINTING Mouse Body

★ MR 2 SPATIAL AWARENESS

Draw the front half of the mouse.

LESSON 2

ACTIVE LISTENING Listen & Draw

★ LLD 5 CONCEPTS OF PRINT

Draw or scribble while listening to a read-aloud.

MEASURE WITH ME Quiet Mouse

MR 4 MEASUREMENT

Explore making noise at different volume levels.

GROUP DANCE Pass the Green

SED 3 ATTENTION & PERSISTENCE

Sit in a circle and pass a pom-pom around to the song.

COLLAGING House Collage

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Create a gingerbread house collage.

LESSON 3

PICTURES & LETTERS B Is for Bang! Boom!

MR 6 CLASSIFICATION

Talk about the letter B and how it makes the /b/ sound.

SENSORY PLAY Four Bees & a Bear

LLD 4 ALPHABETIC KNOWLEDGE

Play with dough on a mat and form the letter B or count four bees around the bear.

CREATIVE MOVEMENT Pound the Drum

CA 1 MUSIC

Pound on a box, then stop pounding until the song says to pound again.



DRAMATIC PLAY Frosting Cookies

★ CA 3 VISUAL ARTS

Explore painting with puff paint and decorate with sprinkles.

LESSON 4

STORY PLAY Where Is Mouse?

LLD 6 READING COMPREHENSION

Identify the characters in a story. Hold a character Story Piece and look for it in the book.

NUMBER PLAY Counting Gingerbread

MR 1 NUMBER SENSE

Find the two matching letter Gingerbread and lay them on a tray. Count to six. Roll a die and remove that many gingerbreads.

RHYTHM PATTERNS Dress-Up Band

★ CA 2 DANCE & MOVEMENT

Play dress-up and follow movement prompts while dancing to music.

COLORING Letter B Coloring

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Trace over the letter B and explore words that begin with the /b/ sound.

LESSON 5

COMMUNICATION More Noise? All Done!

LLD 2 COMMUNICATION

Use the signing words and practice them throughout the day.

LIFE SKILLS Fire Safety

★ PD 3 SAFETY

Practice stopping, dropping and rolling while talking about fire safety.

SOUNDS & SIGNS Letter B Song

CA 2 DANCE & MOVEMENT

Listen for the letter B and dance around the Letter Card.

STICKER ART Count the Mice Stickers

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Put one mouse in each section of the paper and count 1-2-3-4



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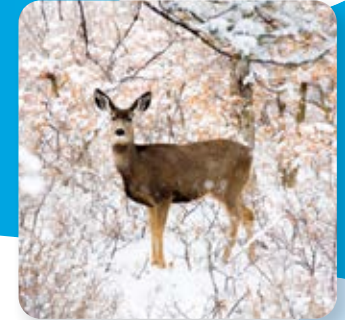
OUR WEEK WITH

Winter Sounds

experience
toddler

TOGETHER

TIME



This week, let's read books about winter animals. Find this one at your library or on YouTube:



Bear Can't Sleep
by Karma Wilson

Snow Dough

What?

In the story of the week, we followed paths on a page to discover different types of winter animals. Create snow dough and make paths or prints in the snow.

How?

Use this recipe to make the dough: Mix 5 cups of baking soda with 1 cup of hair conditioner. Done! Then add animal figurines to walk in the snow dough and leave tracks.

Why?

This activity supports fine motor development as the child picks up, squeezes and plays with the dough. Finger control, along with eye-hand coordination, is foundational for future writing skills.



Winter Sounds Calendar

experience
toddler

language & literacy

LESSON 1

BOOK DISCOVERY

Follow the Path to Winter Sounds

LLD 5 CONCEPTS OF PRINT

Develop book handling skills by following text from left to right. Use a Story Piece to move along the path.

math & reasoning

LIFE SKILLS

Sweep It Up

PD 4 PERSONAL CARE

Sweep pompoms to different animal Story Pieces.

music & movement

SOUNDS & SIGNS

Baby Bird

SED 3 ATTENTION & PERSISTENCE

Play a game of follow the leader and make the signs for "baby" and "bird."

art & drama

PAINTING

Snow Tracks

★ SCI 2 NATURAL & EARTH SCIENCE

Use cotton swabs to make paint dots like animal tracks.

LESSON 2

ACTIVE LISTENING

Rectangle Up & Down

LLD 3 PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

Imitate the sounds heard in a read-aloud story. Then use the rectangles to make one long path.

MEASURE WITH ME

Dripping Icicles

★ PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Use an eyedropper to paint and explore dripping paint.

GROUP DANCE

Dance from Green to Red

PD 1 GROSS MOTOR

Dance with a partner. Hold hands and move together to colored papers on different walls.

COLORING

Letter O Coloring

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Explore the letter O while coloring upside-down

LESSON 3

PICTURES & LETTERS

Which Nest?

LLD 4 ALPHABETIC KNOWLEDGE

Match bird letters to the letter nests.

SENSORY PLAY

O Is for Owl

LLD 4 ALPHABETIC KNOWLEDGE

Press cardboard tubes or cups into dough to make the letter O.

CREATIVE MOVEMENT

Freeze Owl

★ CA 4 DRAMA

Dance and fly like snow owls.

STICKER ART

Match the Winter Animal

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Put stickers on matching pictures.

LESSON 4

STORY PLAY

What Winter Animal?

LLD 6 READING COMPREHENSION

Listen actively and hold up the Story Piece when a type of animal is named during a read-aloud.

SORTING & SHAPES

Rectangle Patterns

MR 5 PATTERNS

Copy the pattern on the strip with foam shapes.

COORDINATION

Make Some Music

★ SED 4 SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Dance expressively while shaking a toy to the beat of the music.

COLLAGING

Snowflake Collage

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Glue confetti dots onto paper strips to make a snowflake.

LESSON 5

COMMUNICATION

Pass the Ice

LLD 1 LISTENING

Listen to the read-aloud while passing around an ice cube.

NUMBER PLAY

Mystery Bird

★ MR 1 NUMBER SENSE

Put the puzzle strips in order from 1 to 10.

RHYTHM PATTERNS

Six Little Gingerbread

CA 2 DANCE & MOVEMENT

Use listening skills while acting out the fingerplay showing six fingers.

DRAMATIC PLAY

Owl Puppet

CA 4 DRAMA

Make an owl puppet and fly around the room.

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

OUR WEEK WITH

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Instruments



This week, let's read books about music. Find this one at your library or on YouTube:



Music Is
by Brandon Stosuy

TOGETHER

TIME

Find the Rattle

What?

In the story of the week at school, we looked for instruments in a hide and seek book. Play hide and seek in your home with instruments.

How?

Hide a rattle or other instrument and invite your child to hunt for it. When it is found, shake it!

Why?

This activity supports logic and reasoning skills by reinforcing that the toy/instrument exists even if it can't be seen. When your child keeps looking elsewhere, they practice deductive reasoning and problem-solving.



Instruments Calendar

experience
toddler

language & literacy

math & reasoning

music & movement

art & drama

LESSON 1

COMMUNICATION Guess What I See

LLD 4 ALPHABETIC KNOWLEDGE

Children guess the book picture based on clues.

NUMBER PLAY Birthday Candles

★ MR 1 NUMBER SENSE

Roll the die and put that many candles in the dough. Count aloud.

CREATIVE MOVEMENT String Dance

CA 2 DANCE & MOVEMENT

Dance freely while staying in designated areas.

COLLAGING Sewing Stockings

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Decorate and sew a stocking.

LESSON 2

STORY PLAY Yes or No Instrument

LLD 2 COMMUNICATION

Answer yes/no questions regarding which instrument each child has.

LIFE SKILLS Window Washing Tray

PD 4 PERSONAL CARE

Use a squirt bottle to wash windows. Draw letters, shapes or numbers on a window with dry-erase marker, then wipe it clean.

SOUNDS & SIGNS Penguin Play

CA 2 DANCE & MOVEMENT

Practice sign language and dance freely to music.

DRAMATIC PLAY Starlight Wand

★ LLD 7 WRITING

Create a star wand and make-believe it is a shooting star.

LESSON 3

PICTURES & LETTERS Where Is Polar Bear?

LLD 3 PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

Ask "where" questions and play hide and seek with polar bears and penguins. Explore the /p/ sound.

SORTING & SHAPES Shadow Puppets

★ MR 6 CLASSIFICATION

Explore shadows, then sort and match shapes.

RHYTHM PATTERNS Dance What You Hear

LLD 1 LISTENING

Follow directions by moving with the words and music.

PAINTING Ring a Bell

CA 3 VISUAL ARTS

Design a bell and play a song.

LESSON 4

BOOK DISCOVERY Sticky Note Symbols

LLD 4 ALPHABETIC KNOWLEDGE

Identify letters, shapes or numbers and peek under sticky notes.

SENSORY PLAY P Is for Piano

LLD 4 ALPHABETIC KNOWLEDGE

Play with ice on a mat and make the letter P. Count four piano keys and four notes.

COORDINATION Downward Dog Dance

PD 1 GROSS MOTOR

Do the yoga pose during the song to improve balance, flexibility and strength.

COLORING P Is for Postcard

★ PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Color and draw to create a winter postcard.

LESSON 5

ACTIVE LISTENING Hide & Seek Instruments

SED 3 ATTENTION & PERSISTENCE

Listen to a story and point at pictures.

MEASURE WITH ME Winter Solstice

★ MR 4 MEASUREMENT

Explore the concepts of longest and shortest.

GROUP DANCE Perform Loud & Proud

SED 4 SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Take turns being the movement leader during the song.

STICKER ART Instrument Matching

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Match instrument stickers to the page.



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

OUR WEEK WITH

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The Mississippi Musicians

TOGETHER

TIME

Stuffed Animal Stack

What?

In the story of the week at school, animal musicians stand on each other's backs to be tall enough to peek into a window. Try stacking stuffed animals at home this week.

How?

Gather a few of your child's plush toys and work together to stack them like a tower. Count how many you can stack before they tumble over.

Why?

This activity supports gross motor and counting skills. Set a goal such as trying to get five animals to stack. Repeat over and over to build persistence and focus.

This week, let's read books that have a repeating beat. Find this one at your library or on YouTube:



This Jazz Man
by Karen Ehrhardt





The Mississippi Musicians Calendar

experience
toddler

LESSON 1

language & literacy

BOOK DISCOVERY A Musician's Story

LLD 5 CONCEPTS OF PRINT

Explore the book and how to hold it right-side up. Use the pictures as clues to what is happening in the story.

math & reasoning

SORTING & SHAPES Finding Instruments

★ CA 1 MUSIC

Match cards and learn the names of instruments.

music & movement

SOUNDS & SIGNS Letter O Song

CA 2 DANCE & MOVEMENT

Listen for the letter O and dance like little otters and octopuses.

art & drama

STICKER ART Mississippi Musician Stickers

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Decorate a Story Scene with stickers.

LESSON 2

PICTURES & LETTERS Whose Name Is on Top?

LLD 4 ALPHABETIC KNOWLEDGE

Identify whose photo or Nametag is on the top of the stack of blocks.

SENSORY PLAY Five Rectangles

MR 3 SHAPES

Put foam rectangles on a mat or make more out of dough.

GROUP DANCE Hold Up Green

LLD 1 LISTENING

Listen for the color word(s) as the song plays and hold up a foam shape.

PAINTING Blow Art

★ SCI 3 PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Use a straw to blow and create art.



LESSON 3

STORY PLAY I'm a Musician

LLD 2 COMMUNICATION

Make conversation between the Story Pieces and child photos to role-play being in the story and playing instruments.

LIFE SKILLS Breath Control

★ SED 3 ATTENTION & PERSISTENCE

Use breath to race pompoms and feathers across a finish line.

CREATIVE MOVEMENT Frozen Animals

SED 2 SELF-REGULATION

Freeze, hold different animal poses and count to five.

COLLAGING Rectangle Collage

MR 3 SHAPES

Collage rectangle shapes to create art.

LESSON 4

ACTIVE LISTENING Donkey Kick

LLD 1 LISTENING

Listen for the word "donkey," then kick one foot.

MEASURE WITH ME Stacking Tall

MR 4 MEASUREMENT

Stack cups and compare which tower is taller, then toss pompoms at them.

COORDINATION Dance on the Rectangle

PD 1 GROSS MOTOR

Bend over and place foam shapes or pompoms on a line while dancing along it.

DRAMATIC PLAY Violin Prop

★ CA 1 MUSIC

Make a violin prop, then pretend to play it.

LESSON 5

COMMUNICATION Donkey & Dog

LLD 1 LISTENING

Listen to a read-aloud and make the signs for "donkey" and "dog."

NUMBER PLAY Piano Key Game

★ MR 6 CLASSIFICATION

Find matching colors and patterns.

RHYTHM PATTERNS Repeat the Beat

CA 1 MUSIC

Make music with friends by tapping together with sticks or spoons on one box.

COLORING Coloring Musicians

PD 2 FINE MOTOR

Color the musician animals from the storybook.

