



THE SUNNY SPROUT UPDATE

March 2023

For the little learners and their caregivers at Hope Ridge Preschool

Looking Ahead:

- 3/7 Fun Friday Registration Starts PM - Ridge Olympics**
- 3/8 & 3/9 Donuts with Grown Ups**
- 3/14 Stoller Bakery Fundraiser Orders Due**
- 3/27 - 3/31 Spring Break**
- 4/4 Fundraiser Orders Pickup (11:15 - 12:15)**
- 4/7 & 4/10 Easter Break**



LUCKY TO HAVE YOU WITH US

The kids have enjoyed another busy month! We had lots of fun celebrating Valentine's Day and those we love. As we move into the month of March, we will be shifting our focus to St. Patrick's Day, those sneaky leprechauns and rainbows just to name a few things. We don't need to be Irish to feel lucky. We feel so lucky to have families like you who allow us to do what we love to do.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, at school your child is engaging in Heggerty Phonological Awareness lessons. Your child has been engaging in listening games, repeating rhymes, isolating the first sounds in words, and will even begin hearing compound words.

Below are some activities you can do with your child to continue practicing phonological awareness skills!

Rhyme Repetition: Say to your child, when two words rhyme, they have the same middle and final sounds. Repeat after me! Say the following word pairs and have your child repeat them back. Add more word pairs if you wish! *red, bed hot, not did, kid bike, like*

Word Blending: Say two small words, blend them to make a new big word, and then have your child repeat the same back to you. You can use these words as examples!

my - self = myself sun - shine = sunshine rain - bow = rainbow

Be a Ninja: Say a word, chop it into smaller words, then have your child repeat the same back to you. You can use these words as examples!

popcorn = pop - corn baseball = Base - ball bookmark = book - mark

This month's Parent Information board is focused on name writing. Name writing in preschool is an essential skill in preparing for kindergarten. A child's name is generally the first word that they write. Lots of pride comes from a child learning to write his or her name. Before name writing can take place, it is important that children take the first steps: recognizing their name, spelling their name, writing the first letter, writing their name with help, and then finally writing their name independently. Would you like tips on how to develop this skill, take a moment to check out the information board which is located right before you enter the preschool wing. Are you a parent that doesn't drop off and pick up? Join us on Facebook and keep an eye out for a post coming soon about "Name Writing".

Best Wishes,

Stacey Hartman, Preschool Director

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Hope Ridge United Methodist Church Happenings



SAVE THE DATES for 2023 VBS at Hope Ridge! Hop on board the Rocky Railway to learn how Jesus' power pulls us through! July 17-21, 9 AM - noon, Monday - Friday. Ages 4 yrs. - 4th grade. Registration coming soon.

CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS over soup and bread continues in the Café, Tuesdays from 5:30 PM-6:30 PM from Feb 28th through April 4. Come enjoy fellowship before your meeting or after a busy day. Delicious soups will be provided each week by congregation members.

INFO TALK: PROBLEM GAMBLING 101— Wed, March 15, 7-8 PM— Come to Hope Ridge for an educational presentation by Claire Spada, Program Manager with the Problem Gambling Network of Ohio. Learn the prevalence and consequences of problem gambling and resources in Lake County to attain help. No registration is required. This talk is free and open to the public.

March's Playful Learning Checklist

1. Place a squirt of yellow, red and blue washable paint on a plate. Ask your child to dip her pointer finger in one of the colors and her thumb in a different color. Have her rub her two fingers together to make a new color. What combination makes shamrock green?

2. Help your child learn about spring. Talk about how the weather is turning warmer, the sun is shining more and plants are beginning to grow again. Then take a walk together looking for signs of spring like buds on trees, sprouting plants, birds flying, etc.

3. Make reading a special event. Find out when your library offers its weekly story time for kids and take your child to go and see it.

4. Build your child's creativity by challenging him to use a pile of clean recyclables to create an egg protector. When he's ready, place a raw egg inside the protector, stand on a stepladder, and drop the protector on the ground. Did the egg crack? Help your child troubleshoot ways to improve his design and protect the egg even more.

5. Read the book *"Planting a Rainbow"* by Lois Ehlert. Then help your child brainstorm seeds and sprouts to plant in your garden this year.

6. Help your child set the table for dinner by placing a plate, fork, knife and spoon at each person's spot.

7. Help your child begin learning subtraction. Place five coins or pom poms in a line. Count the coins with your child. Then say, "How many would you have left if we took one away?" Encourage her to remove a coin and figure out the number that remains. Continue the activity by having your child take away different numbers of coins.

8. Invite your child to help you cook. Read one step of the recipe at a time and then invite her to measure, mix and pour the ingredients you need. Close adult supervision is required around hot surfaces and sharp objects.

9. Help your child practice deducing. Think of a word in your head. Invite her to ask yes or no questions and figure out what you're thinking. She could ask, "Is it a food?", "Is it an animal?", etc.

10. Give your child practice following directions by playing Simon Says. If you say, "Simon says ____", she should do what you ask. But if you do not say, "Simon says" first, she should ignore you.

© Playdough to Plato

Donuts With Grownups

Please join us for a fun and memorable time to celebrate the awesome grownups in our lives!!! Kids are invited to bring parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles or any other special adult for this event

Donuts, refreshments and a craft will be available in the Hope Ridge Lobby during drop off or pick up. Please see below for the assigned date for your child's class. No need to rush to class...enjoy as much time together as you would like. To avoid too much congestion, please follow the class schedule below.

Wednesday, March 8

M/W/F 3's (Thompson)

M/W/F 4's (Blakeslee)

T/W/Th AM & PM 4's (Hildebrecht)

M-Th PM 5's (Golias)

Thursday, March 9

T/Th 3's (Shaver)

T/Th 3's (Thompson)

M-Th AM 4's (Golias)

T/W/Th 3's (Shaver)

Young 3's (Turner)



Donation Requests

The preschool is currently in need of the following items:

- white printer/copier paper
- Baby wipes
- Disinfecting (Lysol) Wipes

Your generosity is always appreciated!



Hope Ridge Preschool, Inc.
"Where Children Love to Learn and Learn with Love."

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