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Legacy Lines

A Newsletter for Families
February 2022



Thoughts from your Legacy Team...

Take a Peek Inside

- From the Desk of...
- Framework for Their Future® ~ February
- Enhanced Learning ~ February
- Family Time: Cultivating Creativity in Children
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Let's Celebrate



Valentine's Day
Monday, February 14th

President's Day
Monday, February 21st



February Class Themes of the Month



Dreamers ~ Theme: Lullabies, Love, and La! La! La!

We'll bring peace and calm, through beautiful, enduring lullabies. The babies continue to master a sense of self through problem solving, exploration and play. Our routine allows baby to anticipate familiar events and notice the beginning and the end of a time interval!



Travelers ~ Theme: Guess How Much I Love You

Continued experiences include activities that involve puzzles, finger plays, music and song where Valentine's Day will take shape. The heart will be viewed as a symbol of love; and what better way to carry out activities in our loving classroom during the month of February? Colored water in tubs, a Valentine collage, Valentine Tube Rhymes and open-ended easel options round out this month!



Adventurers ~ Theme: Hearts, Rhymes, and Valentines

Dental health, rhyme time books, poetry and winter activities will delight your child. Language skills, communication, space and time, all support the key experiences. Ground Hog Day will also make its entrance as the children learn about this special day that comes in February.



Discoverers ~ Theme: Circles, Lines, and Valentines

Listening is a way of loving as the children are taught this important concept. Classification to describe the attributes will help the children better understand concepts of the color red – light and dark. Hearts of many sizes will help them seriate from small to large. What better way to learn than through "love". A heart hunt will add to their familiarity with this shape to round out experiences relative to the holiday.



Voyagers ~ Theme: Shapes, Signs, and Valentines

A wide range of activities will leave room for creativity and interests of the children. A simple geometry lesson and great sink and float activities will combine the holiday with science and sensory fun. Continued use of fingerplays, poems, rhymes and song will provide the balance of early learning that you have come to expect in your child's classroom.



Navigators ~ Theme: Community Project

Friendship pins, Chinese Dragon, Heart Blots, Mosaic Hearts, Community Service Awards – these are but a few exciting activities in which your child will participate this month. With continued efforts to promote literacy, drama, creativity and brain entertainment, like a rebus Valentine, your child will delight in what they experience and bring home. We are so glad you share your child with us! We are confident that your child feels just as we do and are happy to complete their school day the Legacy Academy way. Welcome to February!

February

Dreamers



Math- Dreamers will work on their color and shape recognition skills as they learn all about the color blue and hearts!

Science- January is all about discovery as infants learn all about their legs and where their heart is. They will participate in sensory exploration and have a chance to discover what their legs can do as they move their bodies.

Social Studies- February's Social Studies Enhanced Learning lessons will focus on love and positive self-identification.

Travelers



Math- Travelers will work on their shape recognition skills as they go on a hunt for hearts! They will learn all about triangles this month and practice their differentiation skills.

Science- Toddlers will learn about the body this month. They will learn what their body can do and why it's important to keep it healthy. They will participate in sensory exploration and work on their body part recognition skills.

Social Studies- Travelers will work on positive self-identification as we learn about playing nicely with our friends and how important family is.

Adventurers



Math- Adventurers will work on the mathematical concept of more and strengthen their differentiation skills with multiple characteristics.

Science- Adventurers will learn about what it takes to make things sink in water as they conduct several experiments. They will also learn all about groundhog's and whether seeing their shadow really means anything for winter.

Social Studies- Adventurers will learn all about libraries and police officers this month. They will get a library card and a chance to "check out" books from their classroom library.

Discoverers



Math- Discoverers will be introduced to 3-D shapes as they learn all about spheres. They will also learn about different types of lines and create their own.

Science- 3-year old's will explore the human body as they learn all about heartbeats and veins and what their functions are. They will learn why it's important to keep their hearts healthy and what veins look like in their body.

Social Studies- This month, Discoverers will learn about President's Day and who we are celebrating. They will also learn all about rivers and where the longest river in the world is!

Voyagers



Math- Voyagers will work on their pattern recognition and creation skills as they work with valentine patterns. They will also be exposed to several 3-d shapes this month.

Science- 4-year old's will experiment with melting hearts and they will learn about what a pulse is and what it means inside their bodies.

Social Studies- This month, Voyagers will learn all about our 1st and 16th President and why they have their own holiday.



Cultivating Creativity in Children

There is a common misconception that the best way to encourage children's creativity is to simply get out of the way and let them be creative. Although it's certainly true that children are naturally curious and inquisitive, they need support to develop their creative capacities. Supporting children's development is a balancing act: how much structure, how much freedom; when to step in, when to step back;

when to show, when to tell, when to ask, when to listen. Below is a list of ten tips to help find the perfect balance in supporting children's creative development.

Imagine

1. Show examples to spark ideas. A blank page or canvas can be intimidating, sharing a collection of examples can help spark the imagination.
2. Encourage messing around. Most people assume that imagination takes place in the head, but the hands are just as important. Offer materials and encourage children to tinker around to generate ideas. For example, ask your child to start a drawing or put a few LEGO bricks together and pass the project to you to add on, then continue the back and forth. Activities such as these can help get the creative juices flowing.

Create

3. Provide a wide variety of materials. Children are deeply influenced by the toys, tools, and materials in the world around them. To engage children in creative activities, make sure they have access to a broad variety of materials for drawing, building, and crafting. The greater the diversity of materials, the greater the opportunity for creative projects.
4. Embrace all types of making. Different children are interested in different types of making. Some enjoy making houses and castles out of LEGO bricks. Others enjoy making jewelry or desserts, writing poems or short stories, or making games. Children can learn about the creative process through all of these activities. Help children find the type of making that resonates for them. Even better: encourage children to engage in multiple types of making to deepen the understanding of the creative design process.

Play

5. Emphasize process, not product. Many of the best learning experiences happen when people are actively engaged in making things. As children work on projects, highlight the process, not just the final product. Ask children about their strategies and their sources of inspiration. Encourage experimentation by honoring failed experiments as much as the successful ones.

Cultivating Creativity in Children (continued)



6. Extend time for projects. It takes time for children to work on creative projects, especially if they are constantly tinkering. Create a space for children to work on or store projects that allows for creations that require extended periods of time.

Share

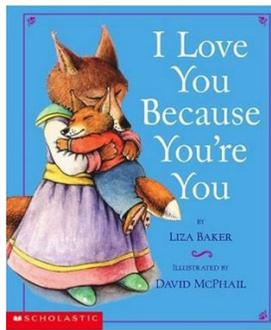
7. Play the role of matchmaker. Many children want to share ideas and collaborate on projects, but they're not sure how. You can play the role of matchmaker, sign them up for local classes that interest them or connect children with others who have similar interests.
8. Get involved as a collaborator. Parents sometimes get too involved in children's creative projects, telling children what to do or taking over; other parents don't get involved at all. There is a sweet spot in between, where adults and children form true collaborations on projects. When both sides are committed to working together, everyone has a lot to gain.

Reflect

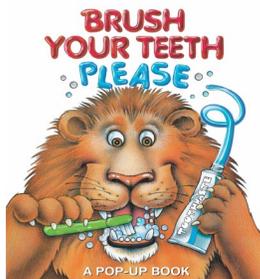
9. Ask (authentic) questions. It's great for children to immerse themselves in projects, but it's also important for them to step back and reflect on what's happening. You can encourage children to reflect by asking them questions about their projects. You can start by asking "How did you come up with the idea for this project?" The question prompts them to reflect on what motivated and inspired them.
10. Share your own reflections. Most parents and teachers are reluctant to talk with children about their own thinking processes. But talking with children about your own thinking process is the best gift you could give. It's important for children to know that thinking is hard work for everyone – for adults as well as children.

<https://ideas.ted.com/10-tips-for-cultivating-creativity-in-your-kids/>

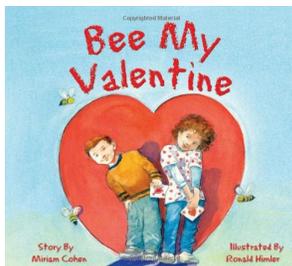
February Books



I Love You Because You're You
By: Liza Baker

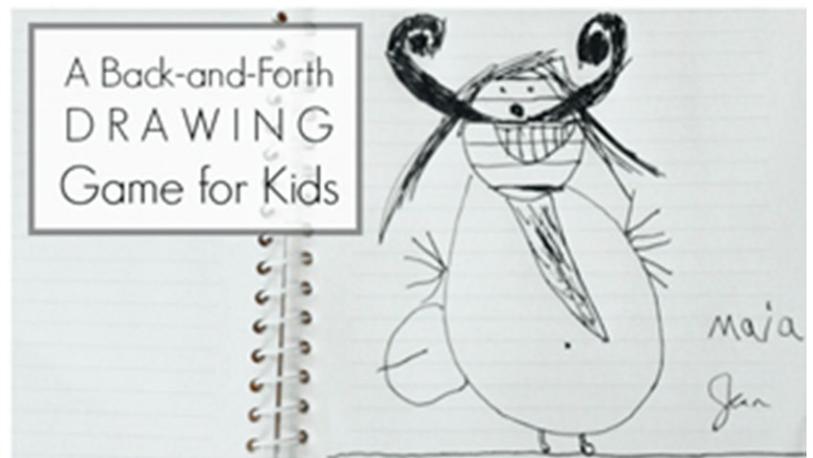


Brush Your Teeth Please
By: Leslie McGuire



Bee My Valentine
By: Miriam Cohen

Back and Forth Drawing



Supplies

- Paper
- Pen or other drawing tool

Instructions

One person starts the drawing with something simple and quick. For example, you might draw a circle or a line, a pair of eyes, or the outline of a house.

Then take turns adding elements back and forth to create a collaborative drawing.



<https://artfulparent.com/a-back-and-forth-drawing-game/>