

# The Turtle Monthly Newsletter

## November 2011

After our Halloween celebrations, the turtles are ready to welcome another month of adventurous and exciting themes including the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be working on these themes:

- The Farm
- Transportation and Byron Barton
- Community Helpers
- Turkeys
- Weather

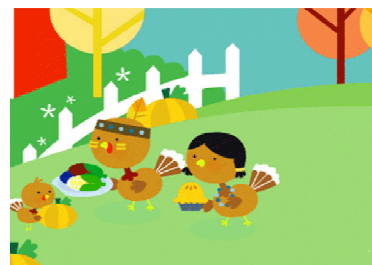


In November, we will be motivating our little Turtles to increase their basic skills, as well as their fine and gross motor skills. We will be participating in fun activities in the areas of Art, Science, and Sensory projects in order to further enhance their motor skills and creative expressions.

To start our morning, we will be learning the concepts of a calendar in our Morning Circle. Through our “Good Morning” songs with actions, we will be motivating their observation skills, actions, and language. We will be increasing their observations involving shapes and colors. We will also be learning some new sign language words such as Eat, Milk, Water and More, which will help our younger friends to express themselves and communicate effectively. Holding an object close to the lips and saying it in words is the perfect way to encourage their verbal language.

We have a great selection of books to be read for the upcoming month that will help the children with their speech, as well as building their vocabulary. In November, we will be reading many books including:

- Farm Alphabet Book by Jane Miller
- My Car by Byron Barton
- My Neighborhood by Lisa Billard
- Thanksgiving is for Giving Thanks by Margret Sutherland
- Feel! The Wind by Arthur Dorros



We will be working on basic Math skills by counting, sorting, and working with patterns. Our objective for the activities will be based on our themes. We will be using corn cobs, cars and trucks, kites, acorns and many more items to encourage the turtles to use their imaginations. For science and sensory experiments, we will be using straw, boats, ice and pumpkins. This will expose them to different textures and senses will greatly increase their sense and distinction of different objects.

For creative art, we will encourage our Turtles to express their creativity and imagination through different activities. These activities will also encourage teamwork and completing task. We will be using familiar objects, and unique tools. Some of the objects we will use to create our art projects are straws, cotton balls, and pumpkins.

For our Music and Motor center, we will be learning new rhymes while incorporating the movements to strengthen their motor skills. Our Turtles love to sing, “O Mr. Sun” and “Rain, Rain go away” and many more including, “Old MacDonald had a farm”. We will be teaching them the “Toss and Roll” game using balls, corn cobs, and pumpkins. These games will greatly enhance their hand to eye coordination. These activities will also encourage teamwork and communication amongst each other as well as one to one correspondence.

Home and School Connection: Close communication between home and school is of the most importance. Taking your child on a walk, encouraging them to use language and make observations about familiar objects will greatly help expand the mind of your growing Turtle. Reading books at bed time is also very important. Visit a working farm and talk about pets and animals and sounds they make will help our Turtles enhance their vocabulary and become more familiar with the animals. Take your child on a nature walk, point out airplanes in the sky and have fun cloud watching. Taking part in these activities with your child will reinforce everything they learn at school. Thank you in advance for your continued support and cooperation!

**Upcoming events in November:**

1. Thanksgiving lunch on- 11/17 @11 am, \$ 7.50 per adult sign up in lobby
2. School will be closed on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of November for Thanksgiving.

**Parent Reminders:**

- ⬆ Please bring back the Journals!
- ⬆ Please sign your child IN and OUT on the clipboard on the door.
- ⬆ Ask us what our classroom needs if you want Helping Hands points!
- ⬆ Bring in a family photo and we will display it on our wall!
- ⬆ E-mail us at: [teachingtodds@yahoo.com](mailto:teachingtodds@yahoo.com)