

Sandy HighScope Preschool Newsletter  
September 10<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>

What a great first week of preschool! Some of the children were a little upset when parents left, but this is an adjusting period that they will get through. I know it is difficult hearing a child upset, but rest assured that we comfort them and after a few days, or sometimes a little longer, they figure out that mom or dad is coming back, and that we have lots of fun at preschool☺ If you want to talk to any parents that have been through this last year, and now have children that ask their parent to leave, please let me know and I can see if I can get you connected with another parent to help during this process. If you need anything from me to help you or your child, please email or call me.

**Please Note:**

- Last week some parents only received the first page of the newsletter, and some students did not get the reader of the week. We are starting a new folder system so we can make sure everyone has the newsletter, your child's work, and any other papers that need to go home. There will be a bin on the purple cubby outside of room 1. Each folder has your child's name. Red folders are for the children that attend 2 days, yellow for 3 days, and blue are for Kindergarten. Please empty your child's folder at the end of each day, but please leave the folder in the bin. Thank you!
- Tuition and registration is due the first week of each month. Mon/Tues class tuition is \$100 and Wednesday/Thursday/Friday class is \$145. Registration is \$60. Payments can be made to LWF or Sandy HighScope. Please give payment to Julie in the office, or Sandy if Julie is not in. Thank you!
- Back to School night for the preschoolers is scheduled for Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30pm. This is a time to go over policies, get information about our schedule and curriculum, and any online usernames that you will need for their reading and assessment account. We will have parent/teacher conferences later in November, so if you have specific question or concerns please email or call me. The Kindergarten parents are scheduled to come in at 7:00pm, so I will need to prepare for their back to school night when the preschool session is done.
- We will have family field trips this year! On Back to School night I will give families more information. Basically, I realized that many of the families live in the same area, so we will schedule field trips on Saturdays. It will be optional, but a great time for the children and families to get to know one another!

**Goals for the Week**

Last week we focused on the schedule, routines, meeting friends, and following directions for small and large group time. For the first three weeks, we do a project for small group time, but all of the children are together. This helps me assess what skill levels the children are at, so I can place them in small groups according to skill level. This week we will continue with some of the same goals.

Phonemic Awareness: We will learn what the signal "use your listening ears" means. We will practice this with listening and identifying words that start with the "a" (short a sound, like apple). We did not get to humpty dumpty last week, so we will start that nursery rhyme this week. Over the course of two weeks, they will learn it, do an art project, and then act it out. The children love learning about nursery rhymes!

Alphabetic Principle: The children will be introduced to the zoo-phonics animal letters. We are starting with letter "a", Allie Alligator. We will also go through letters Aa-Ee this week during our meeting time. We start with lower case letters, and in the middle of the year add capital letters to the letters we have learned. This is a researched way to teach children, with the idea that the majority of letters that we read are lower case. We will also identify our names and the letters in our name during meeting time and a small group activity.

Comprehension: Children will answer questions about our story of the week and our reader of the week.

Concepts about print: We will talk about the cover of a book and the title. The children attending three days a week worked on making a book about their first week of school. We will finish the books this week. We will also make the letter "a" with red circles.

Vocabulary: We will pull words out of our book of the week and go over the meaning and use it in a variety of ways to connect the word to real life experiences. We will also start to focus on art vocabulary words. This week, and for the next couple of weeks, we will learn what primary colors are. Our first primary color is Red.

Book of the week: This week our book will be Kippers A to Z.

Sight word: I and can

Reader of the Week: I Can

Color of the week: Red (this will be our color for at least the first two weeks of school)

Shape of the week: Circle (this will be our shape for at least two weeks)

Number of the week: 1 (this will be our number for at least two weeks)

Other math goals: We did not get to make a graph about how we got to school (bus, walk, car), so we will do this for both 2 day and 3 day a week classes. This will incorporate identifying numbers, counting, following directions, and interpreting a simple bar graph.

If your child knows their numbers, colors and shapes, we will adjust activities to still challenge them.

Thank you again, for giving us the privilege of teaching your child about friendships, caring, learning, and having fun while we learn. If you ever have any questions, please email or call me. I will return phone calls in the evening after the Kindergartners leave. If it is something that is more urgent, please wait for all families to pick up their child and I can chat for a few minutes. Please remember the teachers only have 30 minutes in between preschool and Kindergarten, so if it something that can be answered via email or phone please use that form of communication first. Thank you for understanding!

### At Home

Each week I will add a few ideas of fun ways to incorporate what we are working on.

- Search for the sight words and letter of the week in their take home readers, other books at home, and signs around them (road signs while driving, grocery store words, food words on labels during dinner prep time, etc) When we start small groups, most children will search for the sight word and highlight it yellow. You can start this at home if your child finds that as a fun activity!
- Math is everywhere! Point out things in your child's environment that are made of circles. You can also count practically anything....from blueberries, to lights you drive through, you can incorporate Math.
- Read or recite Humpty Dumpty for bedtime. You can add clapping, or other body movements and have your child follow along. Copying different movements, like clapping, patting knees, or tapping cheeks helps with phonemic awareness...which leads to reading!
- Some children are catching on to beginning sounds. Play games like, guess what vegetable we are having. Tell them the sound it begins with. For example, "c" sound for carrot. Give them a couple of vegetable words like, carrot, beans, and corn. Then give them the next sound, "cor". We do this with names during meeting time and they love figuring it out. Not all children are at this level, so if your child is not, you can think aloud of how you are figuring it out.

Whatever you do, have fun with your child!