**At-Home Ideas for the Week of April 13, 2020**

The Week of the Young Child (although we all know every week is the week of the young child, the National Association for the Education of Young Children recognizes this week as their official week!)

**Full Day Preschool**

**Monday:**

Literacy:

Letter search: Using an old magazine, catalog or newspaper, ask your child to circle all of the uppercase letters. When they are done, ask them to identify each letter. Do they know the sound that letter makes?

Math:

Counting days: Have your child name the days of the week. Count how many days there are in a week. How many days does a weekend have? How many days until the next birthday at your house?

Large Motor: Get outside and play! But only if the weather is safe. Check your local forecast to be sure. Springtime in Colorado has weather that changes quickly. Take a look at this link from Scholastic Books with weather lessons.

<https://mybigworld.scholastic.com/issues/2019-20/030120.html/?promo_code=8655&magazineName=mbw&eml=CM/smd/20200310//txtl/STSBLOG/edMBW>

Art/Fine Motor:

Tracing/cutting: Trace your child’s hands and feet (with shoes on). Encourage them to color them and cut them out. Keep them somewhere safe, we are going to use them for a game later this week!

Ways to Help at Home:

Sort through your socks. Do you have any with holes or missing a match? These fit right onto your hand for dusting or cleaning up small spills.

**Tuesday:**

Literacy:

Start a word wall: Hang up a large piece of paper with each letter of the alphabet written on it. Create a column for each letter. Ask your child if they know any words that start with A, then write them in the column. This is an ongoing project that can be added to each time your child notices the beginning letter of a word.

Math:

Month count: Ask your child to name the months of the year. Write them down and count them. Now count how many family members have a birthday or anniversary in each month.

Large Motor: Go on a nature walk: Do you notice anything changing in nature? Do you see any tree buds? Are there green places in the garden today that looked brown last week? Find one small stone that you will use to make Stone Soup on Thursday.

Art/Fine Motor:

Cutting/coloring: Continue to color and cut hand and feet shapes. You will want at least 12 total. Save these.

Ways to Help at Home:

Help your family clean up after your pet. Clean the kitty litter, scoop the puppy poop or change the bedding for your hamster. No pet at your house? Pretend to be the pet you wish you had!

**Wednesday: Pajama Day (wear your PJs to Ms. Kim’s Story Time today)**

Literacy:

Story telling: Ask your child to remember what they saw on your nature walk yesterday. Write down their words, exactly as they say them. Read it back to them and encourage them to add illustrations.

Ms. Kim’s Zoom Story Time is at 11:00

Use Meeting ID# 703 778 326

Math:

Play clay: Following Ms. Kim’s recipe make Play Clay with your child. Allow them to measure, pour and mix the ingredients together. (Recipe follows after the week’s At-Home Learning Activities.)

Large Motor:

Play Twister: Using the hands and feet that you cut and colored, place them on the floor. (You might want to use tape loops to keep them from sliding around.) Call out the instructions: “left foot on red hand, right hand on green hand” etc. It should be a twisted good time!

Art/Fine Motor:

Bird nest starter: Using a mesh bag from oranges or onions, add bits of fabric, ribbon, string or cotton balls pulled apart. Think of warm and cozy items a bird would use to build a nest. (This is an ongoing project)

Ways to Help at Home:

Pull weeds! If you start pulling weeds from gardens and lawns now, you will help keep them from taking over as the seasons change.

**Thursday: Hat Day (wear any type of hat to Ms. Sally’s Story Time today)**

Literacy:

Shared writing: Write a story together that helps your child reflect and remember. Ask them to tell you some of the things you have done together at home and write them down. If they are having a hard time remembering, give them hints.

Ms. Sally’s Zoom Story Time is at 11:00

Use Meeting ID# 751 615 5602

Math:

Make Stone Soup. The recipe is: use whatever you have in the pantry, starting with the stone you found on the nature walk. Clean the stone to make sure it is not dirty. Place it in a pot then start adding ingredients. Anything goes, except for pasta! (It will turn to mush and ruin your soup. We’ve learned this lesson in the classroom!) Add broth, potatoes, onions, carrots and whatever meat/protein you choose. The idea is, we can make soup from very few items and enjoy it together!

Large Motor:

Sing and act out the song Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes. Start out in slow motion, then a little faster, then super fast! Slow the song down again to regroup and calm the fun!

Art/Fine Motor:

Tie your bird nest starter somewhere away from a door. Leave a small space opened so you can continue to add items to the mesh bag for the birds to build nests.

Ways to Help at Home:

Be the Area Inspector at home. Using an empty box or laundry basket, collect all of the toys and learning items that are around the house. Now, work together to put each item where it belongs.

**Friday:**

Literacy:

Read your child their reflective story and have them add illustrations if they want to. Now, make a list of the things that they enjoyed doing so much they want to do them again.

Math:

Using your favorite collection (toys, rocks, or stuffed animals), sort them from largest to smallest. Then from smallest to largest. Separate them into groups and explain why, “All the babies are here, all the parents are there” or “Here are the shiny rocks, here are the plain ones”.

Large Motor:

Play your Twister game with music playing. You can dance on your spot between moves!

Art/Fine Motor:

Using the Play Clay you made on Wednesday sculpt what you want to your heart’s content!

Ways to Help at Home:

Family massage caterpillar: Help everyone feel more relaxed at home. Teach them how we sit on the floor with another person in front of us and each person massages the back of the person in front of them. After a few minutes turn around so you are now being massaged by the person you massaged.

**Fun Clay**

1 cup cornstarch

2 cups salt

1 1/3 cups cold water

Put salt and 2/3 cup water in a pan and boil.

Mix corn starch with remaining water in a bowl and stir well.

Add salt mixture to cornstarch mix in a bowl.

Knead.

Model or mold clay and let dry several hours.