

# Curiosity Corner

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Dear Family,

Welcome to Curiosity Corner, an early childhood program that will help your child grow in his or her social, physical, emotional, thinking, and language abilities. Each week Curiosity Corner is filled with activities organized around a theme that helps young children learn skills and concepts that will help them better understand their world. Though the theme may change weekly, the daily schedule is usually the same, making it predictable and comfortable for your child. Each day consists of the following components:

## Greetings & Readings

After the children are welcomed to the class by the teachers, they begin exploring the weekly theme through books and tabletop activities, such as puzzles and small toys.

## Clues & Questions

A cat puppet named Curiosity introduces the concepts for the day. The puppet builds the children's curiosity by asking questions and giving clues about what they will learn that day.

## Rhyme Time

Through music, movement, songs, fingerplays, and other rhymes and poems, the children begin to understand that sounds make up words in our language. This knowledge is one of the first and most important steps to becoming successful readers.

## Learning Labs

The classroom is divided into different areas; such as art, blocks, dramatic play, library, sand/water, science, and writing. In these Learning Labs the children explore and learn about the concepts of the day and build on their language, math, science, social, and creative abilities.

## Story Tree

As they enjoy a wide variety of wonderful children's stories, the children develop thinking and language skills. They say what they think will happen in the story, recall events from the story, relate the story to their own lives, and retell or act out the story.

## Outside/Gross Motor Play

The children run, jump, climb, play with balls, and engage in group games and other activities to develop physically and socially and to build self-confidence.

## Snack Time

As they sit together to enjoy wholesome food, the children learn manners and skills for getting along, as well as good health practices and eating habits.

## Question/Reflection

At the end of the class time, the children gather together to talk about what they have learned during the day.



Home Link Page • Curiosity Corner®

# Home Link Page CONTINUED

## Home Link

Every day your child will have an activity to do or a question to explore that will link what happens in school with what happens at home or in the neighborhood. Be sure to ask your child about the Home Link activity each day.

At the end of each week you will receive a Home Link Page that describes the theme and activities for the upcoming week. You can help your child learn and grow each day by:

- encouraging him or her to tell you about activities at school and other important experiences
- including him or her in simple household activities such as setting the table, putting away the laundry, and helping with grocery shopping
- talking regularly to your child's teachers
- reading to your child every day.

As you prepare your child for the first day in a new class, these simple suggestions will help ease the transition from home to school. Explain that there will be new children and teachers in the class. Tell your child the teachers' names, if possible. Mention that there will be many things to do, new toys to play with and new books to read, and lots of time to try everything. Let your child know that the teacher will show everyone where the bathroom is. Say, "I will miss you and if you miss me it's okay to

tell the teacher." Assure your child that you will be there when class is over, and that you will want to hear all about the day.

We hope that you and your child enjoy a year filled with growing and learning. Below is one of the first songs that will be learned at school. You might want to learn it too.

### **The More We Get Together**

The more we get together,  
together, together.

The more we get together,  
the happier we'll be.

'Cause your friends are my friends  
and my friends are your friends.

The more we get together  
the happier we'll be.



# Curiosity Corner Theme Schedule

Unit No.	Title	Letter (4s only)	Unit No.	Title	Letter (4s only)
<b>September: <i>Creating a Classroom Community</i></b>			<b>February: <i>It Takes a Village</i></b>		
1	Welcome to School	—	20	Highlighting Heritage	D
2	Marvelous Me	—	21	Where We Live	—
3	How Do You Feel?	—	22	Ways to Say "I Love You"	L
4	Fun with Friends	—	23	Stay Safe	N
5	Fun with Families	F	<b>March: <i>Healthy Habits</i></b>		
<b>October: <i>Seasons—Fall</i></b>			24	Body Talk	X
6	Sensational Senses	S	25	Yum! Yum! Nutrition	Y
7	Fall into Fall	—	26	Something from Nothing	E
8	Apples and Pumpkins	A	27	On My Own Two Feet	J
<b>November: <i>Life in Our Community</i></b>			<b>April: <i>Seasons—Spring</i></b>		
9	To Market, to Market	P	28	Blowing in the Wind	K
10	Bread and Butter	B	29	Swing into Spring!	U
11	Here We Go!	G	30	Roots & Shoots	V
12	Many Thanks!	—	<i>Spring Break: 1 Free Week to be inserted as schedule requires</i>		
<b>December: <i>Fun with the Familiar</i></b>			<b>May: <i>Animals</i></b>		
13	Boxes and Balls	—	31	Baa-baa, Moo...	T
14	Good Morning, Good Night	O	32	Zoo Clues	Z
15	Celebrate Curiosity!	C	33	Six Legs or Eight?	I
<i>(1 Free week/1 Holiday week)</i>			34	Go Fish	—
<b>January: <i>Seasons—Winter</i></b>			<b>June: <i>Seasons—Summer</i></b>		
16	Winter Wonders	H	35	Just Add Water	W
17	Art & Artists	Q	36	Splash into Summer!	—
18	Making Music	M	37	Gather for Games	—
19	Pet Parade	R	38	Fun with Favorites	—