Family Newsletter

THIS MONTH'S THEME

Birds & Eggs

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to fly like a bird? Soar into this month's theme as you spread your wings, try on a beak and move like birds in flight. Children explore birds and their habitats through observation, movement and imaginative play. Test birdwatching skills, follow bird tracks and discover a rainbow of birds, from bluebirds and red robins to yellow hummingbirds and white bald eagles. Transform your classroom into a nest of learning.

Look for the daily notes about your child's art projects!

Discover science around the home!

Curiosity is a natural trait in all young children. They love to ask questions, make guesses, explore, search and discover. Science is built on exploration and the search for answers. As a family, you can foster a love of science by building on your child's eagerness to learn and discover.

- **Create an environment of discovery.** Children learn best through hands-on exploration. Provide a variety of textures and experiences that engage all five senses and encourage deeper investigation.
- **Use everyday experiences to promote science.** The kitchen is one place where science naturally happens at home. When you involve your child in cooking, they can observe changes in foods (from raw to cooked), notice what happens when ingredients are combined and try measuring and pouring.
- **Explore the natural world.** Explore the outdoors together. Whether you live in the city or the country, nature is all around you. Observe birds, squirrels and other wildlife with your child, and wonder together about what foods the animals might eat. Plant flowers and watch how they change over time as they grow. If you don't have outdoor soil, try planting in a box or tub.
- **Encourage wonder and curiosity.** Ask questions that begin with "I wonder…," "What if…" or "How can we find out…" to encourage further investigation.
- **Show your child how to record information.** Invite them to draw or write about something you're exploring together. Talk about what sparked your curiosity, what you did to find out more and what happened. Follow up by wondering together about what you might try next to keep exploring together.

Birds & Eggs

Topics your child will explore this month:

In the Nest

1 Nest
2 Egg
3 Hatchling
4 Bird Food
5 Learning to Fly

Bird Parts

6 Head & Beak
7 Body
8 Wing
9 Feet & Claws
10 Tail

Exotic Birds

16 Ostrich
17 Penguin
18 Blue Crane
19 Peacock
20 Birdwatching

Tree Birds

11 Bluebird
12 Woodpecker
13 Eagle
14 Hummingbird
15 Chickadee

RECOMMENDED READS

Cuddle Up WITH A GOOD BOOK

Whose Egg?
by Lynette Evans

Time to Fly
by George Ella Lyon

Birds in my Backyard
by Lisa Donovan

On Eagle Cove
by Jane Yolen

Undercover Ostrich
by Joe Kulka

Bird Watch
by Christie Matheson

Little Hatchling

(Sing to the tune of "Frère Jacques")

Little egg, little egg,
(Make a fist.)
Open up, open up.
(Open hand.)
Time to be a hatchling,
(Move arms up and over head.)
Time to spread your little wings.
(Flap arms at sides.)
Open up, open up.
(Raise arms up from sides.)

Family Activities

For the Birds

Take a walk with your child and document the birds you see. Discuss where in your area the birds might live, what they might eat and where they might keep their eggs safe. Discuss the dangers birds might face and how you could help. Decide as a family what you would like to do for the birds. For example, you may build a bird house, grow flowers or pick up garbage to keep their area clean.

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