

Family Newsletter



Pond Life

Pack a picnic and meet us at the pond for a month of learning about frogs, ducks, fish, snails, turtles and more! Become scientists and build a pond habitat. Paint with algae, relax on a lily pad and count dragonflies as you observe pond life from different perspectives.

What animals and insects live in and around the pond? What plants grow there? It's a place teeming with life and activity, and you'll dig in and explore it all!

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



Practice math at home!

Math is all around us from the day we are born. "When was he born?" "How much did she weigh?" "How long was she?" Encourage children to see the math all around them and in their everyday lives by having fun with it at home.

- Count, count, and oh, by the way— COUNT! Count the steps you take, the cars
 you see on the road, the flags and the animals to help your child connect counting
 and numbers.
- **Point out numbers in daily activities,** such as phone numbers, digital numerals on a clock, dates, times, addresses, microwave and television displays, recipes and more.
- Invite your child to help you measure with recipes or build small projects, e.g., a birdhouse or fort.
- Find items around the home to sort, such as laundry, buttons or books. Use words such as "more" and "less" to compare the piles.

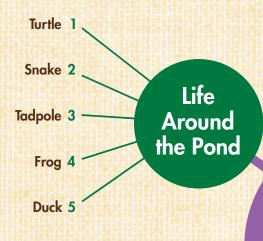
• Make a homemade hopscotch or tossing game and encourage your child to write the numbers with chalk or on paper for the game.

• Seriate items around the home by placing them in order from smallest to largest, shortest to tallest, lightest to darkest or lightest to heaviest.

 Allow children to handle, count and play with coins and dollars to become familiar with monetary units.

If you show joy and excitement over math and numbers, your child will mimic that attitude. Math can be entertaining and informative from the start; pass that on to your child by adding fun!





Topics your child will explore this month:



Pond

Insects

- 6 Submergent **Pond Plants**
- **Bog Plants**
- 8 Emergent **Pond Plants**
- 9 Floating **Pond Plants**
- 10 Algae

Pond Life

Snail 16

Crawfish 17

Lizard 18

Alligator 19

Fish 20

Life in the Pond

11 Dragonfly

12 Mosquito

13 Water Strider

14 Mayfly

15 Backswimmer

RECOMMENDED READS

Cuddle

An Extraordinary Egg

by Leo Lionni

It's Mine! by Leo Lionni

Nine Ducks Nine by Sarah Hayes

Ducks Don't Get Wet by Augusta Goldin

Little Quack by Lauren Thompson



Tadpole

(Sing to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

Hop around the house with your children as you sing this song about the frog's life cycle:

> I'm a little tadpole, Watch me grow, First my tail, Then my back legs show. When I get all grown up, see me hop, All around the pond, and then I stop.

Family Activities

Pond Outing

If you have a pond or other source of fresh water nearby, explore it with your family. Look for signs of life: insects, plants and animals. You can take a virtual tour of a pond online if you are unable to travel to one, or you can make a mini pond in your own backyard!

