



SHARING LEARNING ACTIVITIES



Below are some samples of how you can share learning activities with families:

Bright Kids



EARLY LEARNING CENTER

For your most
prized possession...
every Step
is Precious!



News & Updates for Families & Friends...

THIS MONTH'S LEARNING & ACTIVITIES

This month we are learning about Spring! Here are some activities to do with your child to help reinforce what they are learning:

- Make a bird feeder using a simple milk carton.
- Plant something in a garden.
- Encourage your toddler to interact with the world by getting dirty the natural way. Give him/her a plastic shovel and encourage them to dig a small hole in the ground.
- Let them count the number of seeds you give them. Then have them drop the seeds into the hole and use their shovel to cover the seeds with dirt.

FAMILY NEWS

- Our Parent-Child Lending Library will officially open on March 23. Stop in and see what we have worked so hard to provide for our families.
- VPK enrollment has begun. If your child turns 4 before September 1st, make sure you sign him/her up for VPK at the Early Learning Coalition.
- We are creating a "Family Board", so please bring in some pictures to share with us.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Spring Break is March 21-25
- We will be closed on March 25 for Good Friday
- We will have an Easter Egg Hunt on March 26
- The Parent Advisory Board meets on April 10 at 5:30 pm
- Ice Cream Party on April 17 at 2:00 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congratulations to Ms. Debra and Ms. Angela for winning the "Change War" with a total of \$119.00.

BRIGHT STAR EARLY LEARNING CENTER



National Apple Month

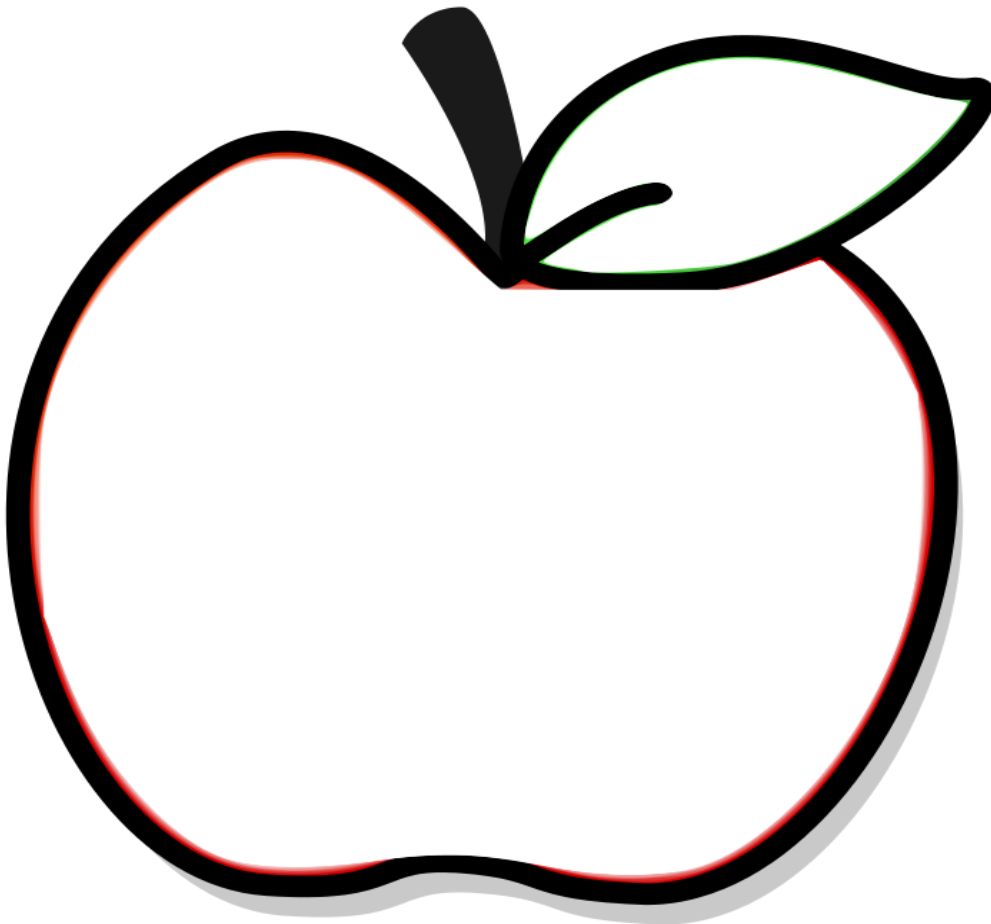
October is **National Apple Month** and in honor of this occasion, please discuss with your child the many uses for apples and ways of eating an apple. Ask your child what his/her favorite way is to eat an apple and write it on the apple below.

Please return this form to school by:

Date: _____

Thank you,

(Teacher's Signature)



March Take-Home Activities

Family Members: The following activities are for you to do at home with your child. They will re-emphasize the skills they are learning in the classroom.

ACTIVITY ONE: FIRST AND LAST



ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS:

1. Invite your child to choose a book that he/she enjoys.
2. Read the book with your child.
3. Ask your child to pay attention and when you reach the end of the story, invite him/her to say, "The End!"
4. At the end of the story, review the story details by asking your child to tell you what happened at the beginning of the story and then you describe what happened in the middle.
5. Challenge your child to then finish the re-telling by describing to you what happened at the end of the story.
6. Allow your child to say, "The End!" as you read other books as well.

ACTIVITY TWO: FAVORITE ANIMALS

ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS:

1. Talk with your child about different animals that live on a farm.
2. Teach your child the following chant about favorite farm animals:

Favorite Animals

Down on the farm. What do you say?
What is your favorite animal today?

3. Say the chant together and ask your child to tell you about his/her favorite farm animal.
4. Encourage your child to use simple gestures and phrases to enhance delivery while talking.
5. Discuss with your child the importance of using gestures and phrases while talking with another person.
6. Repeat the chant. Then, tell your child about your favorite farm animal. Model how to use simple gestures and phrases while talking.



Take-Home Activities

ACTIVITY: SING A SONG TOGETHER

BABY BUMBLEBEE



I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee,
Won't my mommy be so proud of me,
(Cup hands together as if holding a bee)
I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee,



Ouch! It stung me!

I'm squishing up the baby bumblebee,
Won't my mommy be so proud of me,
(Squish'bee between palms of hands)
I'm squishing up a baby bumblebee,

Ouch! It's yucky!

(Open hands to look at the mess)
I'm wiping off the baby bumblebee,
Now, my mommy won't be mad at me!
(Hold hands up to show they are clean)



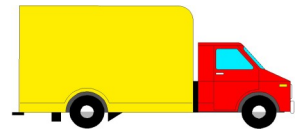
Things To Do: While You're Waiting

Family Members: You can use waiting time to show your child that **Math** is part of life.

Here are some examples:

Counting:

- Use objects to help your child learn that each item we count corresponds to a number.
- At the store, for example, you can say, "Let's put one can of beans on top of each cereal box."
- In traffic, ask your child, "How many trucks do you see?"
- In the line at the store, ask your child, "How many people are ahead of us?"



Social Relations:

- This has to do with shapes and locations of objects.
- You can hunt for shapes anywhere. Ask for squares, triangles, circles, etc.
- Use words like "on," "under," and "inside."
- Draw shapes in the air for fun.

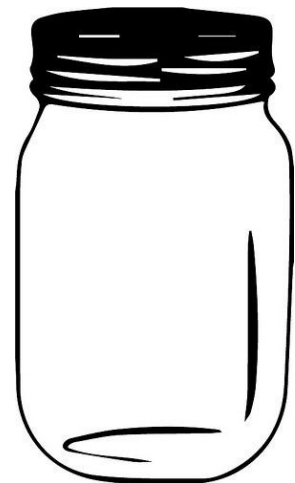
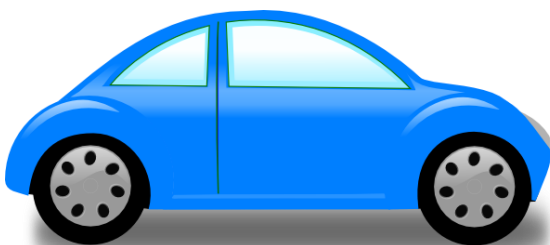


Estimation and Prediction:

- Children like to make educated guesses. Ask:
 - ⇒ "Will all of our clothes fit inside this washing machine?"
 - ⇒ "Which is higher, a stack of five pennies or five dimes?"

Measurement and Time:

- "How many hands tall is this jar?"
- "Which is heavier, your coat or your boot?"
- "How many steps to the car?"
- "How long can you stand on one leg?"



Things To Do: While You're Waiting

Family Members: You can use waiting time to show your child that **Language and Literacy** are part of life.

Here are some examples:

Talk & Listen:

- While you wait, ask “What are you thinking?” He/she will be glad to know you care.
- You and your child might want to create a story together. One of you starts it with a sentence or a few lines and then everyone else takes turns adding a sentence or line until “The End.”
- Retell a favorite story or poem together.
- You might remember that correcting a child’s speech too often may make him/her stop talking.
- If people around the child use correct language, he/she will learn to do so over time.

abcde

Sing & Rhyme:

- Songs and rhymes can help waiting time go quickly, while also helping children to learn sounds and language patterns.
- Look for poems and lyrics with plenty of repetition.
- Many children enjoy the alphabet song.

Look for Messages Around You:

- ⇒ Help your child identify letters, numbers, words, and symbols.
- ⇒ A child who knows some letters, numbers and |symbols can play, “I Spy.” For example, you might say, “I spy the letter M.”

Bring a Book:

- Tuck two or three small children’s books into your purse, diaper bag or car.
- Make a habit of stopping at the library when you run errands.

