

# Family Newsletter

## THIS MONTH'S THEME

## EcoVenture

Summertime is full of mystery and new adventure. Your children will explore the sights and sounds of their natural environment as they create nature-based art. They will investigate, discover and experiment in the outdoors as they hone their observation skills and become nature detectives.



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

### Today I built a mushroom house.

Mushrooms grow in the ground and some are good to eat. I constructed my own mushroom house with a bowl, stickers and a paper cup. I can pretend a creature is living inside.



### Today I painted a tree.

Trees can be all different shapes and sizes. I made my own tree by sticking pieces of tape on my paper. I used a clothespin and pom-pom painting tool and painted over the tape.



ASK ME: Did you pull the tape off? How many trees did you make?



## Encourage Summer learning!

Here are a few ideas to encourage your child's learning all summer long:

- **A book a day keeps the chaos away.** The simple routine of having quiet time with books can offer a needed rest in the early afternoon. Try reading one book with your child, then invite them to select 3-4 books to take to a quiet spot.
- **Share the work of real-life jobs.** There are many meaningful jobs for preschoolers to do in the summer, from watering plants to fun outdoor chores, such as washing toys and sweeping out the garage.
- **Eat the alphabet for a healthy mind and body.** Keep a pack of letter cards on the table. Find the matching letter card for the beginning sound of each food that you and your child eat. How many days does it take to eat the whole alphabet?



## RECOMMENDED READS

# Cuddle Up WITH A GOOD BOOK

**Leaf Man**  
by Lois Ehlert

**The Alphabet Tree**  
by Leo Lionni

**The Lorax**  
by Dr. Seuss

**Harry the Dirty Dog**  
by Gene Zion

**Water Dance**  
by Thomas Locker

**Oscar and the Bat: A Book About Sound**  
by Geoff Waring



## Family Activities

### Nature Path

Invite your child to gather stones, twigs or other nature items. Use them to outline a path in your backyard. Follow the twists and turns of your creation together. Try hopping, running or dancing down the nature trail. For more fun, create a maze with the nature items and bury a special object at the end. Invite your child to solve the maze, then dig up the treasure.



### Little Cloud Is Floating By

*(Sing to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes.")*

Little cloud is floating by, floating by,  
Little cloud is floating by, floating by,  
I see you up floating in the sky.  
Little cloud is floating by, floating by.

