

Family Newsletter



THIS MONTH'S THEME Community Helpers

Your children will take on new roles as they wear a sheriff's headband, fight fires and drive a bus. They will explore who keeps us safe and who helps us learn and grow. We are thankful for all the jobs people do in our communities. Dream big, play hard and learn together in this town helper theme.

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

Today I made an umbrella.

Umbrellas are helpful when it rains outside. I created my own umbrella and decided what colors and designs I wanted on it. It's fun to use my own ideas and create art that represents me.



Today I made a police headband.

Police carry their badges to show who they are. I used my fine motor skills to create my own police headband. I can pretend I'm a police officer, show my badge and help people in emergencies.



ASK ME: What did you write or draw on your police badge? Would you like to be a police officer?

preschool

The Importance of Play

Play is a child's work. It is through play that children learn about themselves and the world around them. They learn to understand their environment, practice what they have observed and explore objects and activities safely and thoroughly.

Your children learn many important skills through play. Here are just a few:

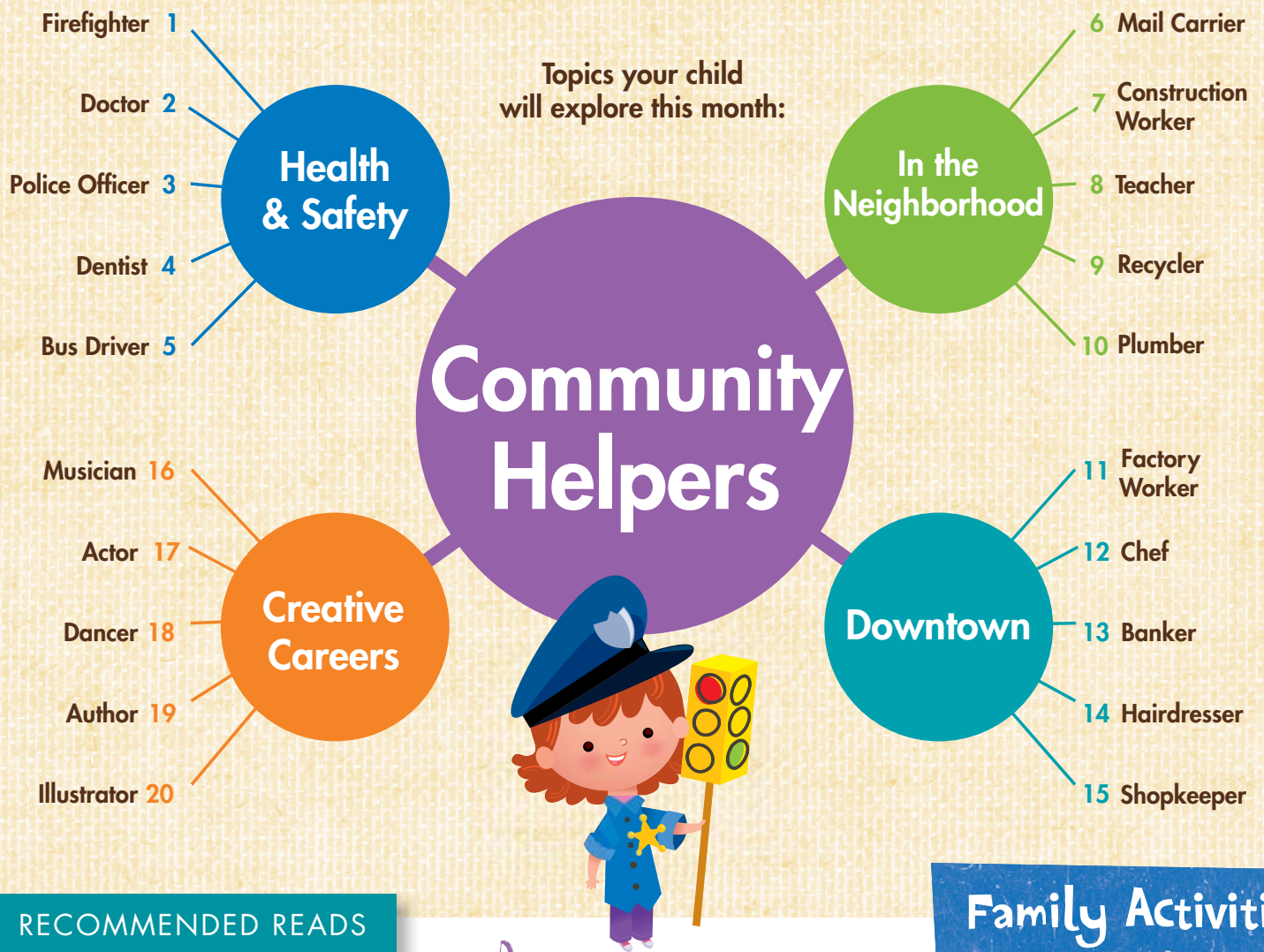
1. How to solve problems
2. How to make a plan and follow through
3. How to get along with other children
4. How to express their creative ideas
5. How to take care of their own needs
6. How to share and be kind

To help your child get the most out of his play, be sure to provide a safe, clean environment with a variety of play experiences. Rotate toys according to appropriate times of day. For instance, keep active toys out for daytime and replace them with quiet activities before bedtime or nap times. Provide household items that can be used in a safe way (e.g., pots, pans, lids) to mimic adult behaviors and begin to develop life skills.

Your child loves when you watch him play. Express interest in what your child is doing or playing with and help extend his play by asking open-ended questions (questions that encourage them to talk in their own words). For example, if a child is playing with the dishes, ask "What are you cooking in this pot?"

**Most importantly,
have fun and play together!**





RECOMMENDED READS

Cuddle Up

WITH A GOOD BOOK

On My Street
by Eve Merriam

Jobs People Do
by DK Publishing

I Got Community
by Melrose Cooper

Me on the Map
by Joan Sweeney

When I Grow Up
by P.K. Hallinan

Career Day
by Anne Rockwell



Be a Firefighter

(Sing to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb.")

Extra fun: Fill a spray bottle with water and squirt at toys in the sink or bathtub as you sing the song together.

Sara saw a little fire, little fire, little fire.
Sara saw a little fire,
And called for some help.

The firefighters came today,
Came today, came today.
The firefighters came today,
And sprayed the fire away.
(Children make water-spraying sound.)

Family Activities

Right outside the door.

Community helpers are everywhere. The mail carrier, the bus driver and the crossing guard are all helping in our communities. The next time you go to the grocery store, library or just down the street, make a list of jobs where people are helping others.

Children can help others, too. Together, brainstorm ways to help in your community. You could pick up litter in the park, plant curbside flowers or visit a nursing home. Together we can build a better community every day.