

HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Children at Play . . . Learning

(CAP Program)

August, 2011



Course Overview

The Children at Play . . . Learning program is a revenue producing component of Hillsborough Township Public Schools initiated by a member of the community and established in 2011. The CAP program is not an academic program and therefore does not require a typical standards-based curriculum approach. The philosophy of the program is based upon the premise "*Play is children's work*" and an integral piece of early childhood education and development. As children explore, experiment, and interact through play, they learn how the world works under the supervision of caring and knowledgeable adults to facilitate, guide, and become part of their play experience. The Children at Play (CAP) program is the bridge between our current academic kindergarten program and a thematic play-based program.

The CAP Program is designed to augment children's natural love of learning as well as their ability to get along with others in a developmentally appropriate and stress-free environment. Play is the fundamental element of this thematic-based program. Opportunities for intentional social expansion through interaction, imagination, oral language development, extended creative outlets, self-discovery, and exploration will be the primary components of the CAP classroom.

The teacher's role will be to facilitate and guide students by leading and funneling their individual and group play experiences through active participation in the process while creating and sustaining a caring and nurturing environment. Play-based thematic units will be the foundation of the CAP program.

Timeline For CAP Learning Themes

September

- “*Friendship*” *alternate unit – optional*
- “Paint It Up”

October

- “Dance And Sing Your Heart Away”
- “Learning Luau”

November

- “Talk To Me”

December

- “Fairy tales/Fables”

January

- “Act Me A Story”
- “Mad Science”

February

- “Getting To Know Eric Carle
- “Getting To Know Laura Numeroff”

March

- “Nocturnal Nights”
- “Build Me Something”

April

- “Go Green”
- “Getting To Know Leo Leoni”

May

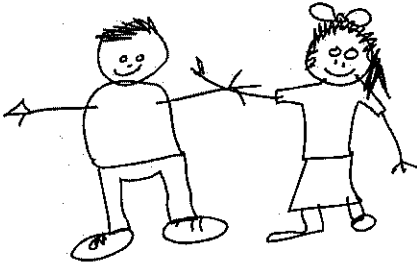
- “Fun With Food”
- “Waterworks”

June

- “Olympics”
- *“Here We Grow And Here We Go” alternate unit - optional*

Alternate Units (optional):

- *“Friendship”*
- *“Here We Grow And Here We Go”*



Unit: “Friendship”

Students will learn to cooperate, take turns, develop problem-solving skills (conflict/resolution), and important life skills through role-playing and other activities. They will learn what it takes to be a “good” friend.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Billy Bully, by Alvaro & Ana Galan (bullying) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- I’m A Good Friend, by David Parker (characteristics of a good friend) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- My Friends, by Taro Gomi (learning from friends)- *Literacy, Character Education*
- Friends, by Helme Heine (characteristics/traits of a good friend) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- Making Friends, by Kate Petty & Charlotte Firmin (how to develop friendships) - *Literacy, Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” (special friend version on Dr Jean CD), “Shake A Hand” (Dr. Jean CD), “The More We Get Together”, “Friends” (Greg & Steve – On The Move), Please & Thank You song – Children’s Silly Songs - *Drama, Music*
- Introduce board games/partner games. -*Literacy, Character Education, Math*
- Role play/act out problems between friends. - *Literacy, Character Education, Drama*
- Class book – Illustrate what you enjoy doing with a friend. -*Literacy, Art*
- Make friendship bracelets. -*Math, Art*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Make a “Friendship Fruit Salad.” Each child brings in something for the fruit salad and then work together cutting it all up and sharing it with the class. - *Literacy, Math, Health, Character Education*

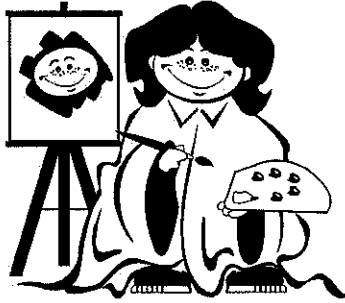
Additional Stories and Activities:

- Two Good Friends, by Judy Delton (friendship) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- A Splendid Friend Indeed, by Suzanne Bloom (friendship) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- The Crayon Box That Talked, by Shane DeRolf (cooperation) -*Literacy, Character Education*

- Please & Thank You Book, by Jillian Harker (manners) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- Mine-O-Saur, by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen (sharing) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- I am a special friend because... (have children complete the sentence and illustrate)

Resources to Purchase:

- Dr Jean CD – “Kiss Your Brain
- Greg & Steve -- On The Move



Unit: “Paint It Up”

Students will appreciate art, develop artistic basics, learn forms of art, and become familiar with famous artists.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Circles, Triangles, and Squares by Tana Hoban (shapes) -*Literacy, Math, Art*
- Who Said Red? by Mary Serfozo (colors) -*Literacy, Art*
- Red Day Green Day by Edith Kunhardt (colors) -*Literacy, Art*
- Tar Beach, by Faith Ringold (painting on variety of surfaces) -*Literacy, Art*
- Little Blue and Little Yellow, by Leo Lionni (mixing colors) -*Literacy, Art, and Science*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “I know the Colors of the Rainbow;” “The World is Such a Colorful Place.” -*Music, Art*
- Video: Baby Van Gogh (of the Baby Einstein series) art-focused video showing famous prints in an age appropriate demonstration. - *Music, Art*
- “Secret Shape Hunt”: Students hunt around the classroom for items shaped the same as their secret shape, followed by a guessing game. -*Math, Art*
- Shape Bingo.- *Math, Art*
- Shape Hats-Create black hats decorated with neon shapes.-*Math, Art*
- Paint with water colors, easel paints, finger paints etc. - *Art*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Paint like Michaelangelo. Students lie down on backs and paint on paper that is taped to the underside of their tables. -*Art*
- “We are artists, let’s show our work!” Children’s paintings are hung one next to each other to mimic an art gallery. Students hand in a “ticket” and pass through the gallery. Build community relations and invite parents in to visit the art gallery as well. -*Art*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- Liang and the Magic Paintbrush, by Demi (painting) -*Literacy, Art, Social Studies*
- Mary Wore a Red Dress, by Merle Peek (colors to a song) -*Literacy, Art, Music*
- The Shape of Me and Other Things, by Dr. Seuss (shapes of unusual objects) -*Literacy, Math*

- Clay or Play Dough sculptures-*Art*

Resources to Purchase

- Recordings: Baby Van Gogh video of the Baby Einstein series
- Finger paints and finger-paint paper



Unit: “Dance and Sing Your Heart Away”

Students will appreciate types of music and musical instruments, develop singing and dancing skills, and become familiar with famous musicians.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Oh A-Hunting We Will Go by John Langstaff (singing and rhyming) –*Literacy, Music*
- Max by Rachel Isadora (dance school) –*Literacy, Drama*
- The Little Band, by James Sage (parade/instruments) –*Literacy, Music, Character Education*
- The Wheels on the Bus, by Raff (singing) –*Literacy, Music*
- Barnyard Dance, by Sandra Boynton (dance to directed motions) –*Literacy, Drama*
- It Sounds Like Music, by Sarah Vazquez (instruments) –*Music, Literacy*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “If You’re Happy and You Know It,” kids can replace the motions with their own ideas. –*Music*
- Venn Diagram: Do you like to sing or dance? Students will sign their names in the sing circle or dance circle or where the circles interconnect as it applies to them. –*Math*
- Dancing: The Freeze Dance and The Bean Bag Boogie as recorded on “Kids In Motion: Greg and Steve.” –*Music, Drama*
- Rattlesnake Rattles: Using rice or popcorn kernels, create rattling instruments using film containers or toilet paper rolls. Rattles can be used with the story “Baby Rattlesnake.” –*Literacy, Art, Music*
- Guess that instrument: Sound a variety of instruments that are hidden from sight and students guess the instrument they think matches the sound. –*Music*
- Video: Baby Mozart (of the Baby Einstein series) music-focused video playing famous compositions by Mozart, Bach, etc in a kid-friendly demonstration. –*Music*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

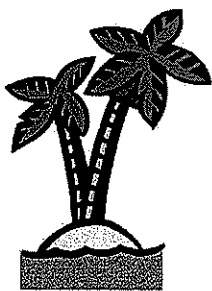
- “Come parade with us!” Parade music will play in the background while students move around the classroom as they march to the beat and play along with an instrument of their choice. –*Music, Drama, Character Education*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed, by Eileen Christelow (sing with numbers)
- There Was An Little Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly, by Pam Adams... Can be used with musical recording, "Old Lady Puppet," and miniature story characters (sequencing animals) -*Literacy, Music, Drama*
- Going on a Bear Hunt, by Michael Rosen (rhythmic onomatopoeias) -*Literacy, Music, Drama*
- Song collections by Jean Feldman/Dr. Jean -*Music, Drama*
- "Head and Shoulders Knees and Toes" using motions.- *Music, Drama*

Resources to Purchase:

- Recordings: Kids In Motion: Greg and Steve CD; Jean Feldman Songs CD; Baby Mozart Video from the Baby Einstein series



Unit: “Learning Luau”

Students will develop reading, writing and math skills through activities using a Hawaiian theme as it's back drop with the “Chicka Chicka Boom Boom Coconut Tree” book series as it's cornerstone.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by John Archambault (chanting alphabet tries to fit at the top of a coconut tree) -*Literacy, Music*
- Chicka Chicka 1,2,3 by John Archambault (rhyming numbers climb to the top of the apple tree where zero becomes the hero) -*Literacy, Music, Math*
- Boom Chicka Rock by John Archambault (counting down and tallying up with rhythmic mice) -*Literacy, Music*
- Goodnight Hawaiian Moon, by Dr. Carolan (Hawaiian day ending) -*Literacy, Social Studies*
- Old Makana Had a Taro Farm, by Dr. Carolan (Learn Hawaiian names for farm animals and facts about Hawaiian crops) -*Literacy, Science*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “The ABC song (traditional);” “1,2,3,4,5 I Caught a Fish Alive;” “The Party Line” by “Greg and Steve Big Fun.” -*Music, Drama, Character Education*
- Beach Pudding: In large sand pail create a desert with instant vanilla pudding, Nilla Wafer crumbles on top, decorated with teddy grahams on Fruit Roll up beach towels under drink umbrellas. -*Science*
- Ocean Jello: Create a blue gelatin dessert chilled with Sweedish Fish candies -*Science*
- Coconut Numbers: Create a large coconut tree labeled with 10, 20, 30, etc to 100 to be placed on the floor. Students throw beanbags at their target number to win the game. -*Math*
- Letter Limbo: Students wear letters around their necks. When their letter or sound is called they get to dance under the Limbo Stick. Words can also be called for groups of students to dance together. -*Music, Literacy*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Learning Luau: Make grass skirts and patterned leis to wear during a Luau in which the above games and desserts can be used. An additional snack of patterned fruit skewers can also be enjoyed. -*Art, Social Studies*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- Hawaiian Alphabet, by Lori Philips (alphabet) -*Literacy*
- Ten Days in Hawaii, by Dr. Carolan (counting to ten with Hawaiian objects) –
Literacy, Math
- Make Volcanoes out of clay or Play Dough. –*Science, Art*
- Find hidden seashells in the sand table. Sort them color/size/shape. -*Math*
- Students re-tell the Chicka Chicka Boom Boom story with large coconut tree and letters. -*Literacy, Drama*

Resources to Purchase

- Food ingredients for cooking activities
- Seashells
- Recordings: “Greg and Steve: Big Fun”



Unit: “Talk to Me”

Students will develop an understanding of the various methods of communication including those used by the hearing and visually impaired communities.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- The Black Book of Colors by Menena Cottin (illustrations and text are read tactically) –*Literacy, Art*
- Handtalk Zoo by George Ancona (“sign” each animal in the story) –*Literacy, Life Skills*
- “Paddle, Said the Swan” by Gloria Camen (use of quotation marks in print/animal sounds) –*Literacy*
- The Listening Walk, by Paul Showers (listen for sounds all around) –*Literacy*
- Lester’s Dog, by Karen Hesse (having a friend who is deaf) –*Literacy, Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “Little Red Caboose,” students create a train as they move around the room and sing loudly then softly. –*Music, Drama, Character Education*
- “Tap into Your Senses”: Students will use watered down glue to paint the alphabet, numbers, shapes, their names etc., then Kool Aid powder will be sprinkled on the glue designs. With eyes closed students will use their hands to trace what they have made tapping into their sense of touch and smell. –*Literacy, Math, Art, Science*
- “Flavor Savors”: Students will taste a variety of Life Savors while their eyes are closed and try to guess the flavor. –*Science*
- “Feel My Name”: Students will use cheerios or black-eyed peas to spell their names using the Braille Alphabet. –*Literacy, Life Skills*
- Shaving cream will be spread on the table and students will use their fingers to spell simple words as they enjoy the smell and touch of their work. –*Literacy, Art, Science*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- “Listening Walk” Pairs of students will go for a walk. While one student is blindfolded the other one holds the back of their partner’s arm and serves as their “seeing eye dog.” They then will then switch rolls. When the walk is complete the students will articulate about what they heard and felt during their walk. –*Life Skills, Character Education*

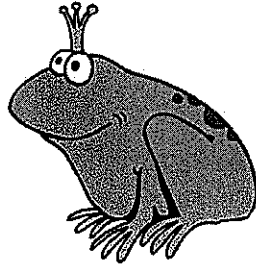
Additional Stories and Activities:

- In the Park, by Ezra Jack Keats (rhyming) –*Literacy*

- Big Talk, by Miriam Schlein (mother and child kangaroo in a conversation) – *Literacy, Character Education*
- Sounds All Around, by Wendy Pfeffer (sounds in the world) – *Literacy, Character Education*
- I Broke My Trunk, by Mo Willems (use of speech bubbles) – *Literacy, Character Education*
- Create a class book that is patterned after “Paddle” Said The Swan – *Literacy, Art*
- Sound Bingo: Create a Bingo Board of things that make noise in the world like car horns, birds chirping, telephones ringing etc. Play these sounds on a recording and mark the board accordingly. -*Science*
- Simon Says: Practice listening skills. -*Literacy*

Resources to Purchase

- Kool Aid Powder
- Cheerios or black eyed peas
- Shaving Cream



Unit: “Fairy Tales and Fables”

Students will develop an appreciation of fairy tales (or fantastic stories from oral folklore) and fables, develop story re-telling skills and learn valuable life lessons through literature.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- The Three Billy Goats Gruff by Peter Chr. Asbjornsoen (Norwegian Fairy Tale) - *Literacy, Geography, Character Education*
- Goldilocks and The Three Bears by Robert Southey (English Fairy Tale) - *Literacy, Geography, Character Education*
- Little Red Riding Hood by Charles Perrault (French Fairy Tale) - *Literacy, Geography, Character Education*
- The Emperor’s New Clothes, by Hans Christian Anderson (Danish Fairy Tale) - *Literacy, Geography, Character Education*
- The Boy Who Cried Wolf, by Aesop (Aesop’s Fable/English) --*Literacy, Geography, Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “The Three Bears Rap;” “The Three Little Pigs;” “Hey There, Goldilocks” by Ron Brown -*Music*
- Bar Graph: Students will graph their favorite fairy tale. -*Math*
- Crossword Puzzle: Jack and the Beanstalk words would be hidden in a crossword puzzle (ie: beans, egg, Jack, giant, etc.) -*Literacy*
- Story Sequencing: Using the pocket chart and pre-written sentences for Little Red Riding Hood, students will put the story in order. -*Literacy*
- Compare and Contrast: Goldilocks and the Three Bears and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. – *Literacy, Math*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- “CAP Kids and the Three Bears” Act out the CAP Kids version of “The Three Bears” for parent visitors. -*Literacy, Drama*
- Library Field Trip: Visit the Library and get your own library card. -*Literacy*

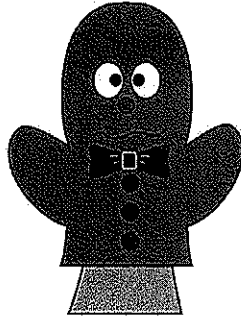
Additional Stories and Activities:

- The Frog Prince, by Brother’s Grimm (German Fairy Tale) -*Literacy, Geography, Character Education*

- Cinderella, by Strabo (Greek Fairy Tale) -*Literacy, Geography, Character Education*
- Make swords, magic wands, crowns etc. -*Art*
- Use masks and or felt board characters to re-tell any of the stories. -*Art, Literacy*

Resources to Purchase

Recordings: Ron Brown



Unit: “Act Me A Story”

Students will develop skills in re-telling and re-enacting children’s literature, gain an appreciation for the performing arts and enjoy bringing literature to life.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- The Farmer and the Dell by Kim Mitzo (sequencing from large to small) - *Literacy, Math*
- The Great Big Enormous Turnip by Jackie Andrews (team work) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- Rosie’s Walk, by Pat Hutchins (following directions) -*Literacy, Math*
- Where the Wild things Are, by Maurice Sendak (dream sequence) -*Literacy*
- Caps For Sale, by Esphyr Slobodkina (mischievous monkeys steal the peddler’s caps) -*Literacy, Math*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes;” “Little Cottage in the Wood” leave out a successive verse to the song each time it is sung until there are only motions and no lyrics. -*Music, Drama*
- “Cap Stacking”: How many caps can you get on your head without dropping any?
- “It’s a Jungle in Here”: create monkeys, each wearing a different colored hat, to hang on vines in the classroom. -*Math*
- Make a circle and sing/act out the “Farmer in the Dell” making one student the farmer, who picks out a wife, who picks a child etc. -*Literacy, Music, Drama*
- “Which Way:” Make an obstacle course using the positional words used in Rosie’s Walk for students to complete. -*Math, Drama*
- Barrel of Monkeys: monkey linking contest. -*Math*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- “Let’s take this show on the road!” Visit several classrooms (or have parents in) and act out “The Great Big Enormous Turnip.” -*Drama, Literacy*

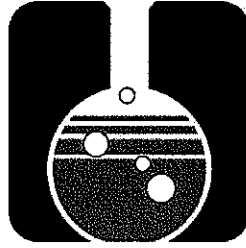
Additional Stories and Activities:

- Rainbow Fish, by Marcus Pfister (friendship) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- Head to Toe, by Eric Carle (animal movements) -*Literacy, Drama, Science*

- The Mitten by Jan Brett (animals sleep snugly until bear sneezes) –*Literacy, Science, Math*
- Each student creates a decorative fish scale to re-create “Rainbow Fish.” –*Art*
- Using a giant mitten made of bulletin board paper or an old sheet, re-tell “The Mitten” with students acting out the story. –*Literacy, Drama*
- Hand Puppets –*Drama, Art, Literacy*
- Finger Puppets –*Drama, Art, Literacy*
- Masks –*Drama, Art, Literacy*
- Stick Puppets –*Drama, Art, Literacy*

Resources to Purchase:

- Barrel of Monkeys



Unit: “Mad Science”

Students will become familiar with scientific discoveries and gain an understanding that effective scientists are patient, ask questions and record data collected through experimentation and observation.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Scientists Ask Questions by Ginger Garret (how to be a scientist) –*Literacy, Science*
- What’s Science All About by Kate Davis (facts about scientists and their discoveries) –*Literacy, Science*
- Thinking About Ants by Barbara Brenner (ant facts) –*Literacy, Science*
- The Magic School Bus Gets Ants In Its Pants: A Book About Ants, by Joanna Cole (ant facts) –*Literacy, Science*
- Very First Things to Know About: Ants, by Patricia Grossman (ant facts) –*Literacy, Science*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Song: “The Ants Go Marching One By One” –*Music, Math*
- Ant Farm: Observe ant life for ten days and record observations in an “ant journal.” –*Literacy, Science*
- Science Experiment: “mixtures”-Make a fizzy (gas) mixture by mixing baking soda and vinegar or mix oil and vinegar which will not mix because the oil is lighter than the vinegar. –*Science*
- Science Experiment: “food”- Make raisins dance by dropping them one at a time into seltzer water where the gas in the soda will lift the raisins up and down (play music) or float an egg which is light in salt water, it will sink to the bottom in tap water. –*Science*
- Science Experiment: “nature”- Make celery change color by placing it into colored water or grow a plant from a sweet potato by placing toothpicks in the middle so that it can rest on the rim, the bottom soaks in water and soon roots will grow from the bottom and a plant from the top. –*Science*
- Science Experiment: “weather”-Make a rainbow by filling a shallow aluminum pan with water and placing a mirror near the water surface to allow the sunlight to shine into the mirror, which separates the colors in light or lift an ice cube by placing a string over the top and pouring salt over it to melt the surface of the ice which then refreezes the string to it. –*Science*
- Science Experiment: “balloons”-Rub a balloon on a fuzzy sweater to create static electricity and then hold it over a salt and pepper mix to watch only the pepper

(which is lighter than the salt) get lifted to the balloon or fill two balloons with equal amounts of air and freeze one for a day when it is taken out of the freezer it will be smaller because cold air takes up less room than warm air. -*Science*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

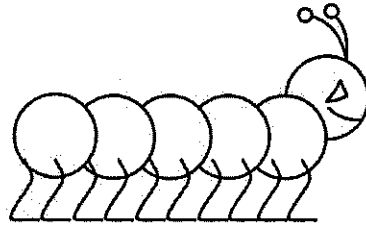
- Ant Antics: Students will share their ant farm journals and the ants will be released into nature. *Literacy, Science*
- “Mad Science”- Host a Science Fair with pairs or groups of students conducting the above experiments for guests, which can include students in other classes or grade levels or parents and staff. -*Science*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- All About Ants, by Sue Whiting (ant facts) -*Literacy, Science*
- Out and About with Anthony Ant, by Laura Philpot (ant facts) -*Literacy, Science*
- 100 Hundred Hungry Ants, by Elinor J. Pinczes (ants march in different quantities) -*Literacy, Science, Math*
- “I Can’t,” Said the Ant, by Polly Cameron (ants and other things in the kitchen work together) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- Sink and Float experiments -*Science*
- Heavy or Light experiments -*Science, Math*

Resources to Purchase

- Ant Farm



Unit: “Getting To Know Eric Carle”

Students will gain an appreciation for the written work of Eric Carle as they engage in the reenactment, sequencing and retelling of his stories and as they create art forms that imitate this author’s illustration techniques and discover from where this author gets his story ideas.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar, (life cycle of a butterfly) -*Literacy, Health, Math*
- The Grouchy Ladybug, (good manners, lesson in social behavior) -*Literacy, Math, Character Education*
- A House For A Hermit Crab, (adapting to change) -*Literacy, Science, Character Education*
- The Very Busy Spider, (persistence, classic) -*Literacy, Science, Character Education*
- Today Is Monday, (days of the week) - *Literacy*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “Days of The Week” and “Today Is Monday” by Dr. Jean -*Music*
- Act out the story The Hungry Caterpillar -*Literacy, Drama*
- Telling time games/ make paper clocks. -*Math*
- Watch the movie, “An Interview with Eric Carle.” -*Art, Literacy*
- Create illustrations using Eric Carle’s style of tissue paper designs. -*Art*
- Make spider webs using yarn and a paper plate with slits all around or webs out of yarn dipped in glue and then shaped on wax paper to dry. -*Art*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- “Butterfly Garden”: Make symmetrical butterflies using coffee filters, water paints and clothes pins *or* paint colors on one wing and then press it to the other wing. -*Art, Science*
- “Eric Carle Art gallery: Create tissue paper designs by painting on white tissue paper with watercolors. When dry draw one of the characters from the stories (caterpillar, ladybug, chameleon etc.) on the tissue paper design, cut out and glue onto paper. Display the final project. -*Art, Science*

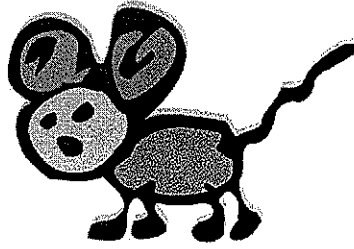
Additional Stories and Activities:

- The Lonely Firefly, (in search of friendship) -*Literacy, Science*
- Papa, Please Get The Moon For Me, (problem solving) -*Literacy, Science*
- The Tiny Seed, (plant life cycle) *Literacy, Science*
- Rooster’s Off To See The World, (number sets) *Literacy, Science, Math*

- The Mixed Up Chameleon, (celebrate your special self) *Literacy, Science, Character Education*
- The Greedy Python, (social behavior) *Literacy, Character Education*
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See? (rhythmic story about colors) - *Literacy, Art*,
- Polar Bear, Polar Bear What Do You Hear? (rhythmic story about animals sounds) -*Science, Literacy, Art*
- Story Recall: illustrate on a story “web”, the characters the spider met in The Very Busy Spider. -*Literacy, Art*
- Watch the movie, “The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Stories.” -*Art, Literacy*
- Make hermit crabs out of mini paper plates. -*Art, Science*

Resources to Purchase:

- Interview With Eric Carle DVD
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Stories DVD



Unit: “Getting To Know Laura Numeroff”

Students will enhance their literacy skills, develop cooking and measuring skills, and understand cause and effect relationships as they study about the writer Laura Numeroff as an author and illustrator.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- If You Give A Mouse A Cookie, -Literacy
- If You Give A Pig A Pancake, -Literacy
- If You Give A Pig A Party, -Literacy
- If You Give A Moose A Muffin, -Literacy
- If You Give A Cat A Cupcake, -Literacy

These stories written by Laura Numeroff all have a circular story format, presenting a chain of events that has no definite end, and rely heavily on consequences of actions in an “If>Then” set up.

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Each day make a different food from the story (cookies, pancakes, muffins, cupcakes) -Literacy, Math, Science
- Make a Cat, Mouse, Pig and Moose craft or puppet. - Literacy, Art
- Children create their own “If>Then” . . . illustrations. -Literacy, Art

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Watch a “movie” and have a “party” while snacking on what has been cooked in class during the week.
- “Special Friend Day” –Each student can invite a “special visitor” such as a grandparent/senior friend, parent or other relative. Children can play BINGO and read stories with their “invited guests.” Photographs of children with their “invited guests” can be taken and placed in frames that were made during the visit. -Literacy, Art, Math

Additional Stories and Activities:

- If You Take A Mouse To The Movies, (circular story format), -Literacy
- What Mommies/Daddies Do Best, (what Mommies/Daddies can teach us), -Literacy
- What Brothers/Sisters Do Best, (wonderful things brothers/sisters can do together), -Literacy
- When Sheep Sleep, (counting story), -Literacy, Math
- If You Take A Mouse To School, (circular story format), -Literacy

- What Grandma's/Grandpa's Do Best, (invite grandparents in), *-Literacy*

Resources to Purchase:

- Cookie, cupcake, muffin, pancake ingredients and utensils
- Picture frame craft



Unit: “Nocturnal Nights”

Students will learn about nocturnal animals and their nighttime activities, their habitats, diet, and physical features.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Skunks, by Patricia Whitehouse (non-fiction) –*Literacy, Science*
- Fantastic Bats, by Justin McCory (non-fiction) –*Literacy, Science*
- The Quiet Cricket, by Eric Carle (achieving your wish)- *Literacy, Character Education*
- Good Night Owl, by Pat Hutchins (day time animals keep owl from sleeping) - *Literacy, Character Education, Science*
- Little Raccoon’s Nighttime Adventure, by Lilian Moore, (bravery) -*Literacy, Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Song: “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” traditional -*Music*
- Make egg carton crickets painting three bumps from the carton, add construction paper for the wings and other insect details. - *Art, Drama*
- Give each child a glow stick and pretend to be fireflies in the dark classroom. - *Drama, Science*
- Imitate crickets by rubbing different instruments together. *Music*
- Make paper plate/hand print bats. *Art*
- Students pretend to be nocturnal animals and use flashlights to search for other students around the room. -*Drama, Science*
- Firefly illustrations (draw jar with fireflies in it) and have children color their bodies with highlighters. -*Science, Drama, Art*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Re-create Good Night Owl story adding the animals (made during the week) to a giant tree mural. -*Literacy, Drama, Science*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- Rufus, by Tomi Ungerer, (a bat who wants to see the beauty) – *Literacy, Science, Art*
- Stellaluna, by Janell Cannon, (baby bat raised by birds) -*Literacy, Science, Character Education*

- Hoot, by Jane Hissey, (Little Bear finds a new nocturnal friend, an owl) – *Literacy, Science*
- Incredible Owls, by Justin McCory, (non-fiction) – *Literacy, Science*
- The Very Lonely Firefly, by Eric Carle (friendship)- *Literacy, Character Education*

Resources to Purchase:

- What's Awake, by Patricia Whitehouse (non-fiction series)



Unit: “Build Me Something”

Students will develop an understanding of the planning, materials and tools involved in building and appreciate the skills needed in the field of construction.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Changes, Changes by Pat Hutchins (building blocks) –*Literacy, Math*
- I Read Signs by Tana Hoban (road/construction signs) –*Literacy, Math*
- The Toolbox, by Ann and Harlow Rockwell (tool types) –*Literacy, Social Studies*
- Jesse Builds a Road, by Laurence Pringle (construction trucks) –*Literacy, Social Studies*
- The Three Little Pigs, by Paul Galdone (building materials) –*Literacy, Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “Gonna’ Build Me A House;” “ Johnny Builds with One Hammer.” - *Music*
- Obstacle Course: Students will follow “road signs” as they practice directional skills. -*Literacy, Math*
- Workbench: Students will use a workbench (or table clamp) as they engage in sanding and hammering into wood under focused adult supervision as they wear goggles and a construction helmet. –*Social Studies/Woodshop*
- Pigsty: Teams of students will build the houses for the three little pigs. The brick house can be constructed of sugar cubes, the stick house could be constructed of pretzel sticks and the straw house can be constructed of Shredded Wheat. - *Literacy, Art*
- Engineers:-Using wood scrapes and wood glue students will “Build Me Something” and write about it. –*Literacy, Science, Math, Art*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

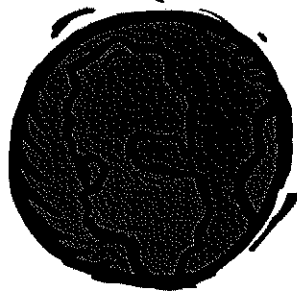
- “Look at what we built!” Students will write a brief description of their wooden constructions. The “buildings” along with the child’s written work will be displayed museum style in the classroom, hallway, library etc. –*Literacy, Science, Social Studies*
- Field Trip: Home Depot or Lowes –*Social Studies*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- Round Trip, by Ann Jonas (travel/directions) -*Literacy, Math*
- I'm Dirty, by Kate Momullan (Backhoe Loader truck) -*Literacy, Social Studies*

Resources to Purchase

- Food materials for building the Pigsties
- Bag of craft wood scrapes
- Table clamp
- One pair of safety goggles
- One child's construction helmet



Unit: “Go Green”

Students will learn that caring for the Earth is a responsibility we all share and can be obtained by reusing, reducing and recycling.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Earth Day, by Margaet McNamara, (ways to help save the Earth) -*Literacy, Science*
- The Giving Tree, by Shel Silverstein, (gift of giving/many uses of a tree) -*Literacy, Science*
- Celebrating Earth Day, by Janet McDonnell, (a class discusses ways to “go green”) -*Literacy, Science, Social Studies*
- Recycle, by Gail Gibbons, (what happens to products that are recycled) -*Literacy, Science*
- Log Hotel, by Anne Schreiber, (different animals make their home out of fallen tree trunk) -*Literacy, Science*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle;” “The Green Grass Grows All Around” traditional-*Music, Social Studies*
- Nature Walk – collect objects, sort and graph objects collected then use to make a nature collage. *Science, Art, Math*
- Make bird feeders using pine cones and peanut butter or empty milk cartons. -*Science, Art*
- Watch the movie The Lorax. - *Literacy, Science, Social Studies*
- Plant a variety of seeds and observe. -*Science*
- Paint “Earth Day” t-shirts (students bring in a solid t-shirt from home). - *Art, Science*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Visit a recycling center. *Science, Social Studies*
- Pick up trash outside around the school and then plant a tree on school property. *Science, Social Studies*

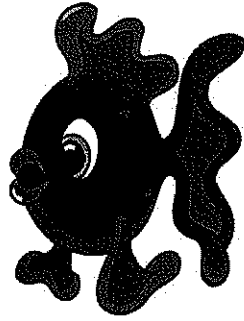
Additional Stories and Activities:

- Earth Day Fun, by Jennifer Frantz, (What is in dirt?) --*Literacy, Science*
- Where Does All The Garbage Go? by Paul Showers, (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) -*Literacy, Science*

- Easy To Be Green, by Ellie O’Ryan (activities kids can do to help save the environment) –*Literacy, Science, Social Studies*

Resources to Purchase:

- Tree seeding
- Fabric paint
- Cups, soil, seeds



Unit: “Getting To Know Leo Leoni”

Students will develop writing skills and art skills such as primary colors and how mixing primary colors can make secondary colors while studying the author and illustrator Leo Leoni.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Inch By Inch, (measurement) –*Literacy, Math*
- Swimmy, (cooperation) –*Literacy, Character Education*
- Little Blue And Little Yellow, (color mixing) –*Literacy, Art, Science*
- The Alphabet Tree, –*Literacy, Math*
- A Busy Year, (seasons) –*Literacy, Science*
- Frederick, (friends) –*Literacy, Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Mix colors with finger paints, icing and pretzels or shaving cream and paint. –*Art, Science*
- Pairs of students will measure things around the room using “inches.” –*Math, Character Education*
- Have “goldfish” for snack – graph colored “goldfish” – use “goldfish” to make a giant “swimmy.” –*Art, Math*
- Decorate a tree for each of the different seasons/see the differences. –*Science, Art*
- Make “Frederick” using construction paper or thumbprints. –*Art, Literacy*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- See the production of Leo Leoni at the State Theatre in New Brunswick. –*Art, Drama, Literacy*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- Alexander And The Wind Up Mouse, (friendship) –*Literacy, Character Education*
- Matthew’s Dream, (self-discovery)– *Literacy, Art, Life Skills*
- A Flea’s Story, (respecting differences) –*Literacy, Character Education*
- It’s Mine, (selfishness) – *Literacy, Character Education, Science*
- Tillie And The Wall, (cooperation, working together) –*Literacy, Character Education*
- Six Crows, (compromising) – *Literacy, Character Education, Science*

- A Color Of His Own, (searching for identity/appreciating uniqueness) - *Literacy, Character Education, Science*
- Colors, Numbers, Letters, -*Literacy, Math*
- Create pictures of "your dream." (What do you want to be when you grow up?) - *Literacy, social studies*

Resources to Purchase:

Food items for above activities (icing, pretzel sticks, goldfish)

Shaving Cream



Unit: “Fun with Food”

Students will develop an understanding of healthy food preparation, learn how to follow a recipe and be encouraged to make good food choices.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- What’s On My Plate by Ruth Belov (where food originates) -*Literacy, Health/Nutrition, Science*
- Gregory the terrible Eater by Mitchell Sharmat (Are you a good eater or a bad eater?) -*Literacy, Health/Nutrition, Science*
- “Bread Bread Bread” by Ann Morris (types of bread and where to find it) -*Literacy, Health/Nutrition, Science, Geography*
- Eating the Alphabet, by Lois Ehlert (fruit and vegetables from around the world/alphabet) -*Literacy, Health/Nutrition, Science, Geography*
- Stone Soup, by Marcia Brown (getting help to make soup) -*Literacy, Health/Nutrition, Science, Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “Short’ning Bread;” “Oats, Peas Beans and Barley Grow.” -*Music*
- “What I Wish Was On My Dish”: Students will cut from magazines, healthy foods representing many areas of the food pyramid and prepare a meal by gluing the pictures on a paper plate. They will then design a placemat to glue the plate onto as well as plastic utensils. -*Science, Health/Nutrition, Art*
- “Bumps On a Log”: Students will follow written directions and fill celery with peanut butter (or cream cheese) and add raisins to the top. -*Literacy, Health/Nutrition*
- “Math Munchers”: Use a whale puppet to demonstrate the concept of subtraction as the whale eats up the Goldfish Crackers. The students will then become the whales and eat their own Goldfish Crackers as subtraction problems are provided. -*Math*
- “Skittle Sorting”: Each student is given a bag of skittles (or m and m’s). Guesses will be made regarding the amount of each color in the bag. A graph to measure the color amounts will then be created by each student. -*Math*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- “Stone Soup” Start with a stone that has been pre-boiled for sterilization and a bouillon cube for every cup of water. Students will chop chicken dogs, zucchini, string beans, potatoes and carrots and add this to the pot. Add quick cooking barley and some chopped onion. Finally, students will spell their names with alphabet noodles and add that to the soup. –*Literacy, Math, Health/Nutrition, Science*
- “Shop Till You Drop” Take a field trip to the local super market to buy the ingredients needed for “stone soup” and/or tour the behind the scenes preparations made by the staff. –*Social Studies*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- The Berenstain Bears Too Much Junk Food, by Stan and Jan Berenstain (becoming healthy eaters) –*Literacy, Health/Nutrition*
- Elmo’s Alphabet Soup, by Naomi Kleinberg (what goes in soup/what does not) - *Literacy, Health/Nutrition*
- Song: “I Have A Bread” -Music
- Make English Muffin Pizzas in a toaster oven incorporating as many food groups as possible. –*Health/Nutrition, Science*

Resources to Purchase

- Food items to complete the activities
- Portable electric coil stove top



Unit: “Waterworks”

Students will develop an understanding about water habitats with special emphasis on pond and ocean life and the distinct life forms living within them.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- This Is The Ocean, by Kersten Hamilton, (explanation of the rain cycle) – *Literacy, Science*
- Commotion In The Ocean, by Giles Andreae & David Wojtowycz, (rhyming) - *Literacy, Math*
- Jump, Frog, Jump, by Robert Kalan (cumulative tale of what frog would eat) - *Literacy, Math*
- In The Small, Small Pond, by Denise Fleming (animals that live in/near a pond) - *Literacy*
- Rainbow Fish Series, by Markus Pfister (character traits) - *Literacy, Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Songs: “Six Little Ducks,” “Five Little Speckled Frogs,” “Three Little Fishes” from Kids Silly Songs CD, “Down By The Bay” by Greg And Steve - *Music, Drama*
- Paint seashells. -*Art*
- Create list of rhyming words (Commotion In The Ocean).-*Literacy*
- Play “Go Fish” game. -*Literacy*
- Make paper plate jellyfish (cut plate in ½ and paint, use streamers or ribbons for tentacles, add a face). -*Art*
- Make paper bowl turtles (place bowl upside down for the shell and decorate with small pebbles). *Art*
- Bill Nye (science guy) movie: Ponds, Lakes, Rivers, Streams. -*Social Studies, Literacy, Science*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Using large butcher block paper create an underwater ocean mural and using a small plastic baby pool create a “pond” to be displayed in the hallway – have children work in small groups to include different animals in the appropriate habitat. -*Science, Art*
- Experiment with the water table creating a pond habitat or an ocean habitat. - *Science, Drama*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- What Lives In A Shell? by Kathleen Wiedner Zoehfeld (shell creatures) -*Literacy, Science*
- Big Al, by Andrew Clements Yoshi (friendship, cooperation) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- Out Of the Ocean, by Debra Frasier, (treasures along the ocean shore) -*Literacy, Science*
- Fat Frogs On A Skinny Log, by Sara Riches, (repetitive language, numbers 1-10), *Literacy, Math*

- The Ugly Duckling, by Rachel Isadora (acceptance, fitting in) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- Starfish rubbings on sand paper (place starfish paper over sand paper and rub then cut out star fish). -*Art*
- Make folded paper frogs from construction paper. -*Art*
- Make bobbing frogs using corks and green pipe cleaners. -*Art*
- Ocean scene – color underwater scene w/crayons then paint over w/watercolors. -*Art*
- Fish for matching letters. -*Literacy*
- Make the lifecycle of a frog on a paper plate. -*Art, Science*

Resources to Purchase:

- “Go Fish” game
- Silly Songs CD by Madacy Entertainment Group Inc.



Unit: “Olympics”

Students will have an understanding that teamwork consists of effective communication and interactions between team members; practice appropriate and safe behaviors while participating in sports games. The students will learn about and demonstrate good sportsmanship.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Tacky and the Winter Games, by Helen Lester (winter sports) -*Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
- Curious George Race Day, by Samantha McFerrin (running) -*Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
- My Baseball Book, by Gail Gibbons (introduction and basics of baseball) -*Literacy, Physical Education*
- Basketball by Numbers, by Mary Elizabeth Salzman (introduction of basketball) -*Literacy, Physical Education and Math*
- Miss Nelson Has a Field Day, by Harry G. Allard Jr. (football)- *Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
- Dino –Soccer, by Lisa Wheeler (soccer) -*Literacy, Science, Physical Education and Character Education*
- Bella’s Brazilian Football, by Adam Guilain (football) -*Literacy, Social Studies, Physical Education and Character Education*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to:

- Songs: “Take Me Out to the Ball Game;” “Sports Dance” by Greg and Steve -*Music*
- Design a medal: Students will use a metal juice top, ribbon and glitter to create a medal – *Art*
- Color tag- *Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
- “My Favorite Sport”: Class book- illustrate yourself playing your favorite sport-*Literacy*
- 3 legged races- *Physical Education and Character Education*
- “Clean Up Your Mess”: Divide a playing area in half, placing an equal amount of balled up scrap paper/newspaper on each side. A leader will yell “clean up your mess” and the children on each half will pick up the paper (only one at a time) and throw it over the other side. When time is called whichever side has the least amount of paper is the winner- *Physical Education and Character Education*

Culminating Activities:

- Nursery Rhyme Olympics -*Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
 1. Jack Be Nimble: teams will jump over cones (candlesticks) down and back a course. When the last one is finished, that team is the winner.
 2. Baa Baa Black Sheep: children will hop in pillowcases down and back a course and switch with the next in line.
 3. Jack and Jill Relay: teams will dip a pail in a large bucket of water, run to the end and dump their pail into another bucket. Next in line does the same. Team with the most water wins. (Idea- don't spill your water or fall down and break your crown)
 4. Little Jack Horner: children will hold a pie plate over their head and run down and back a course. When last one is finished, that team is the winner.
- Kickball – *Physical Education and Character Education*

Additional Stories:

- Cliffords Sports Day, by Norman Bridwell (sportsmanship)- *Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
- The Best Figure Skater in the Whole Wide World, by Linda Bailey (ice skating)- *Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
- Froggy Plays Soccer, by Jonathan London (soccer)- *Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
- Quacky Baseball, by Peter Abrahams (baseball)- *Literacy, Physical Education and Character Education*
- My Basketball Book, by Gail Gibbons (introduction to basketball)- *Literacy, Physical Education and Math*
- Show and Tell: Students share medals, certificates or trophies that they have earned with the class –*Social Studies*

Resources to purchase:

- Ribbon
- Tin pie plates
- Recordings: “Greg and Steve On the Move”



Unit: “Here We Grow And Here We Go”

Students will appreciate how they have changed and grown since birth. They will explore different career possibilities and understand the world around them in reference to where they live – town, state, country and continent.

Story Book suggestions include, but are not limited to the following:

- When I Get Bigger, by Mercer Mayer, (growing up) -*Literacy, Science*
- Me On The Map, by Joan Sweeney, (understanding where you live) -*Literacy, Social Studies*
- All By Myself, by Mercer Mayer, (growing up being independent) -*Literacy, Science*
- I Am Growing, by Aliko, (growing up) -*Literacy, Life Skills*
- What Will I Be? Dora’s Book About Jobs, by Beinstein, Phoebe/Saunders, Zina, (various jobs) -*Literacy, Social Studies, Life skills*

Extension Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Complete a puzzle of United States and locate New Jersey. -*Social Studies*
- Make a map of the classroom, town/community. Locate town, state, country, and continent from which we live. - *Social Studies*
- Children bring in a baby picture and a recent picture and have children compare and contrast the pictures. Write what they could do as a baby and what they can do now. *Literacy, Science*
- Write and illustrate “When I grow up I want to be...” -*Literacy, Social Studies*
- Visit post office or police station. - *Social Studies*

Culminating Activity suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- Career Day: Children dress like the occupation they would like to be in adulthood (i.e. teacher, nurse, construction worker etc.) and share with the class what they know about that career. - *Literacy, Social Studies*
- Invite parents in to share information about their occupations. -*Social Studies*

Additional Stories and Activities:

- Titch, by Pat Hutchins, (being the youngest child) -*Literacy, Character Education*
- Great Things To Be! Blue’s Book About Jobs, by Michael T. Smith, (different jobs) -*Literacy, Social Studies*
- As The Crow Flies: A First Book of Maps, by Gail Hartman, (mapskills) - *Literacy, Social Studies*

- I'm Busy Too, by Helen Stephens, (how children keep busy during their day) -
Literacy, Character Education

Resources to Purchase:

United States Puzzle