



Links to Learning

OCTOBER BEGINNERS

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will answer “what,” “where” and “yes/no” questions, identify one object versus many, and learn the names of community helpers.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child:

- Place one cracker and a group of three crackers in front of your child. Ask him to point to one cracker. If he answers correctly, ask him to point to many crackers.
- Take a drive with your child and play a game of “I Spy.” Ask him to point out different community helpers, for example, police officers, firefighters and postal workers.
- Read a favorite book to your child. Afterwards, ask him “what/where” questions about the characters. “What toy did the boy want?” or “Where did the boy go?”



Here's what your child experienced this month.






Links to Learning

Each month's Links to Learning activities build on the month before, connecting previously learned skills with new learning. These activities include the essentials of language and math, along with a variety of other skills.

OCTOBER – BEGINNER	
🗨️ Language and Literacy	🧑🏫 Science and Social Studies
COMMUNICATION	SCIENCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaks using a variety of vocabulary Says names of some peers Refers to teacher by name (Ms. _____) Verbalizes wants/needs Answers "what," "where," and "yes-no" questions Understands spatial vocabulary Understands descriptive words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explores different textures of various objects (pumpkins, gourds, maize)
LITERACY	SOCIAL STUDIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listens to a 5-minute story with pictures Acquires new vocabulary through shared reading experiences Pretends to read a book Connects events in story to own life Talks about characters and events in a story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explores common community helpers Explores common forms of transportation in the community
WRITING	DIVERSITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begins to hold a crayon or other writing utensil correctly Makes marks on paper Draws an arc on paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talks about self Knows own gender
🔢 Mathematics	🎨 Creative Expression
NUMBERS AND NUMBER SENSE	MUSIC AND MUSICIANS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeats numbers 1-15 Tells which is one and which is many Understands the number concept of one Understands the number concept of two 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sings familiar songs/fingerplays/rhymes Identifies loud and soft noises Plays simple musical instruments
GEOMETRY AND RELATIONSHIPS	ART AND ARTISTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names simple shapes Names primary colors Does simple matching of color, shapes, and objects Sorts a few objects based on color, shape, or size Puts two halves together to make a whole 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses a paintbrush Draws a picture that has a defined shape Draws some shapes Begins to use a glue stick Makes prints using various materials Paints on a textured surface
PROBLEM SOLVING AND REASONING	DRAMATIC PLAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completes 3- to 10-piece puzzles Shows or tells the uses of familiar objects Feels and describes differences in texture and temperature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engages in pretend play connected to the weekly story Engages in pretend play connected to personal experiences Uses props or costumes to become new characters

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OCTOBER – BEGINNER (continued from front)

 Wellness	 Social-Emotional
FINE MOTOR SKILLS	SELF-HELP SKILLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Squeezes and manipulates Play-Doh • Strings large beads • Begins to use snaps, buttons, and zippers • Uses a spoon to scoop materials • Puts five pegs in a peg board • Begins to use pincer grip to pick up smaller objects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calms self when upset • Assists in dressing/undressing • Engages in clean-up routines including clearing spot after eating • Feeds self with spoon and fork • Drinks from an open cup • Indicates need for a diaper change • Locates own cubby/personal belongings
GROSS MOTOR AND BALANCE	SOCIAL INTERACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walks in a line • Jumps with two feet • Climbs over, under, in, and out • Copies simple body movements • Throws a ball underhand without losing balance • Picks up objects off the floor without falling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to greetings from adults • Shows varied feelings • Attends to and plays in a center for a short span of time • Says “please” and “thank you” • Transitions to new activities with assistance • Begins to follow classroom behavior expectations (indoor voice, calm body)
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND NUTRITION	 Citizens of the World
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follows simple hand-washing procedures • Recognizes familiar dangers (fire) • Recognizes and responds to a fire alarm • Identifies common fruits and vegetables by name 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced to new Spanish vocabulary • Review previously acquired Spanish vocabulary • Listens to music from another culture