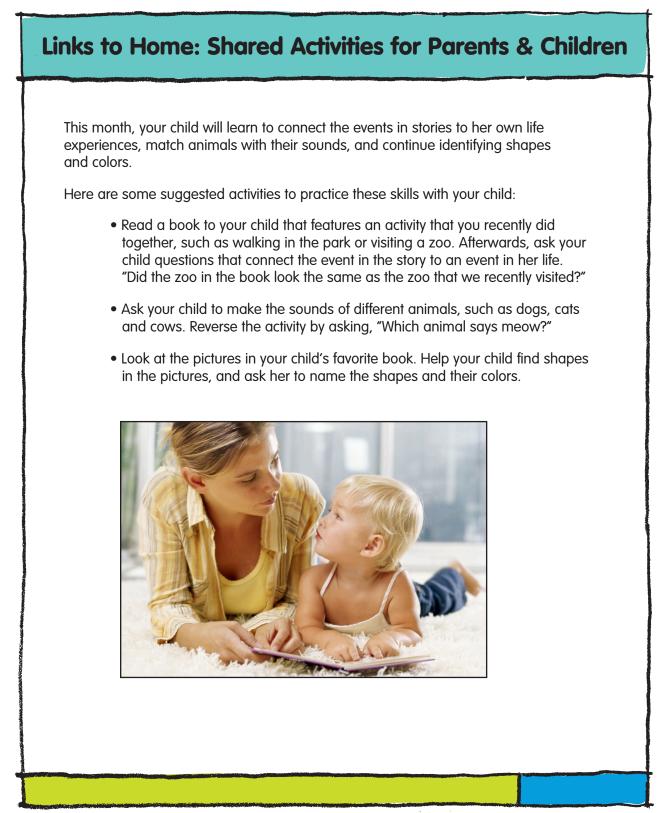


Links to Learning

FEBRUARY BEGINNERS



Here's what your child experienced this month.

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.



Links to Learning

FEBRUARY - BEGINNER

Language and Literacy	Science and Social Studies
COMMUNICATION	SCIENCE
 Speaks using a variety of vocabulary Understands and uses plurals Asks "why" and "what" questions Verbally states first and last name Follows two-step directions Understands and uses spatial vocabulary 	 Explores speed of various objects (fast, slow) Matches parent to baby animals (big to little) Identifies daily weather (sun, rain, snow)
	Social studies
	 Talks about pets in the home
LITERACY	DIVERSITY
 Recognizes first name in print Retells a familiar story in own words Acquires new vocabulary through shared reading 	 Identifies characteristics of self (hair color, gender, eye color)
	(Creative Expression
experiences	MUSIC AND MUSICIANS
 Connects events in story to own life Asks for specific books to be read Uses pictures to predict text 	 Claps hands fast or slow with music Makes simple musical instruments Dances with scarves or other musical props
WRITING	• Sings familiar songs
 Begins to hold a crayon or other writing utensil correctly Makes horizontal and vertical lines on paper "Reads" own writing aloud 	ART AND ARTISTS
	 Creates 3D art using various materials Paints or draws on a vertical surface (fence, classroom wall, easel) Creates art using basic shapes Finger paints with some control
(a) Mathematics	
NUMBERS AND NUMBER SENSE	
 Repeats numbers 1-20 Begins to hold up fingers to indicate a number Understands the number concept of five Counts items in groups of 1-5 	DRAMATIC PLAY Engages in pretend play related to animals Engages in pretend play connected to the weekly story
GEOMETRY AND RELATIONSHIPS	
 Names shapes and colors (primary and some secondary) Does simple matching of color, shapes, and objects Sorts a few objects based on color, shape, or size Matches simple 3D shapes to simple 2D shapes 	
PROBLEM SOLVING AND REASONING	
 Completes 3- to 10-piece puzzles Labels items as "fast" or "slow" through trial and error Explains everyday occurrences using simple reasoning 	
	(continued on back)

FEBRUARY – BEGINNER (continued from front)		
Wellness	Social-Emotional	
FINE MOTOR SKILLS	SELF-HELP SKILLS	
 Squeezes and manipulates Play-Doh Begins to fold paper Uses safety scissors Uses snaps, buttons, and zippers Picks up small objects with control Adheres stickers to paper Begins to put small objects in openings (buttons in 	 Removes shoes Attempts to put shoes back on Separates easily from parents Verbalizes need for a diaper change or bathrooming Expresses needs and wants 	
	SOCIAL INTERACTION	
sorting cups) GROSS MOTOR AND BALANCE • Jumps with two feet • Begins to attempt pedaling on tricycles • Climbs over, under, in, and out • Copies simple body movements	 Begins to show empathy towards the feelings of others Shows varied feelings Labels some emotions in self (happy, sad, angry) Initiates play interactions with peers Begins to share toys when asked Begins to understand personal space 	
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND NUTRITION	Ocitizens of the World	
 Identifies which foods in meals or snack are fruits Accepts water as a drink option Follows some playground safety rules 	 Introduced to new Spanish vocabulary Reviews previously acquired Spanish vocabulary Explores ways to say "goodbye" in different languages Explores multicultural music 	