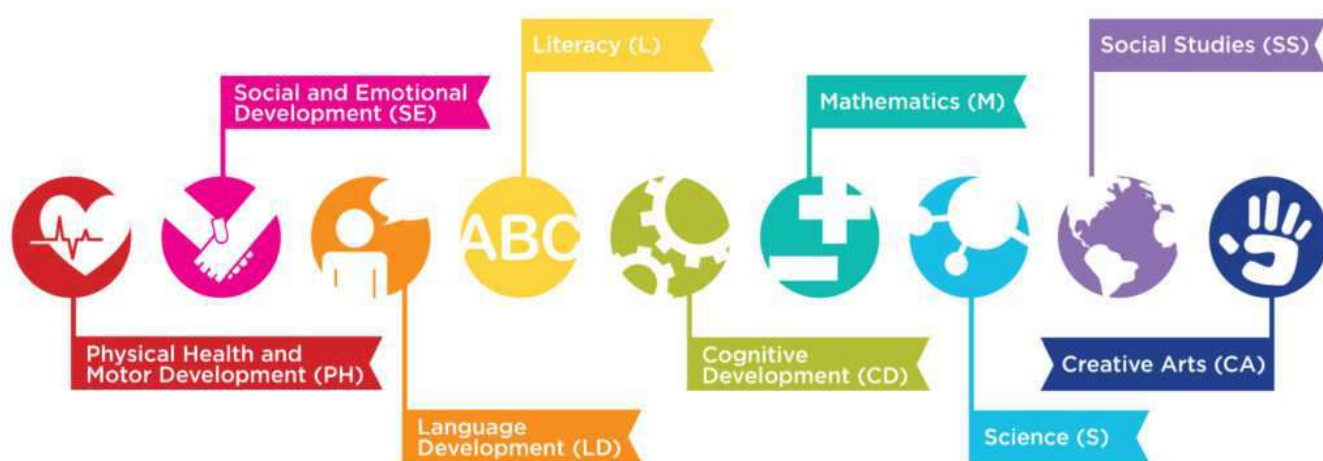




North Smithfield Early Learning Center

Curriculum Concepts

September 2026 - August 2027



Weekly Themes

8/31-9/4: All about me & my family

9/7-9/11: Classroom routine and rules

9/14-9/18: Building friendships and kindness

9/21-9/25: Pets

9/28-10/2: Apples and orchards



September

Back to School

Monthly Concepts

Letters: L, T, I

Numbers: 1, 2

Color: Yellow

Shape: Circle

Country: Greece

Culinary: Apple taste test with red, green and yellow apples.

Art Medium: Apple Printing & Watercolor

Children will use apples cut in half as stamps to create colorful prints using red, yellow, and green paint. Once the paint has dried, older children can enhance their artwork by adding stems, leaves, backgrounds, or other details using watercolor pencils or markers

Sight Words: I, see

Spanish and Sign Language:

Hello – Hola



Friend – Amigo



RIELDS Spotlight:

Social & Emotional Development

Children will establish positive relationships with peers and teachers while developing independence, self-confidence, emotional awareness, and classroom routines. Through cooperative play and daily interactions, they will begin building the social skills needed to become active members of our classroom community.

Author of the Month

Kevin Henkes



Books Written by Kevin Henkes

Chrysanthemum

Wemberly Worried

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse

Owen

Sheila Rae, the Brave

Chester's Way

Important Dates / Events

8/31: First Day of School (PS Transitions)

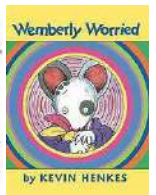
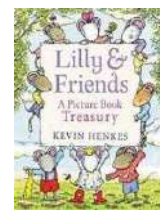
9/7: Labor Day NSEL closed

9/10: Grandparents Tea Event 3:00 PM

9/11: Wear Yellow to school

9/13: Grandparents Day

*Educational Program- Music and Movement with Author Greg Lato TBD



Family Participation

Our NSEL Family

Help us create our NSEL Family Board! Throughout the month of September, please bring in one family photo. During drop-off, take a moment to help your child hang their picture on our hallway display.

Throughout the month, children will have the opportunity to share their family photo during circle time, talk about the special people in their lives, and learn that every family is unique. Together, we'll create a beautiful display celebrating all of the wonderful families that make up our special community.



Weekly Themes

10/5-10/9: Fire safety and community helpers

10/12-10/16: Farmers market

10/19-10/23: Pumpkin, leaves and fall changes

10/26- 10/30: Halloween / Spooky Spirit Week



October

Fabulous Fall

Monthly Concepts

Letters: H, F, P

Numbers: 3,4

Color: Orange

Shape: Square

Country: Egypt

Culinary: Jack-O-Lantern Fruit Cups

Art Medium: Leaf Rubbings – Children will use real leaves and crayons to discover the unique textures and patterns found in nature while strengthening fine motor skills and exploring the beauty of the fall season.

Sight Words: be, the

Spanish and Sign Language:

Pumpkin - calabaza



Leaf - Hoja

RIELDS Spotlight:

Approaches to Learning – Children will strengthen their curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills through hands-on exploration of the fall season. Opportunities to investigate, ask questions, and make discoveries will encourage active participation and a lifelong love of learning.



Spooky Spirit Week

10/26 – 10/30

Monday, 10/26 – Monster Mis-Match

Wear your craziest mismatched outfit!

Tuesday, 10/27 – Batty Tuesday

Wear black/orange, or your favorite spooky colors.

Wednesday, 10/28 – Crazy Hair Don't Scare Day

Style your hair in the wildest, silliest way you can.

Thursday, 10/29 – Time Travel Thursday

Dress from your favorite decade or as someone from the past or future.

Friday, 10/30 – Halloween Pajama Day

Wear your favorite Halloween or fall-themed pajamas. Have fun and stay cozy!



Author of the Month

Lois Ehlert



Books Written by Lois Ehlert

Growing Vegetable Soup

Eating the Alphabet

Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf

Important Dates / Events

10/9: Wear Orange to School

10/12: Indigenous people day NSEL

Closed

10/21-10/22: Families bring in their decorated pumpkins

10/23: Halloween Bash NSEL closes at 4:30 PM

10/23: Halloween Bash @5:00 pm

10/26-10/30: Spooky Spirit Week

*Fundraiser TBD *Firefighter visit TBD

Family Participation

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Decorate a mini – medium sized pumpkin and bring it in to school before the Halloween bash to be displayed in the hallway for a contest. Votes will be casted during the Halloween Bash. Get Creative!



Weekly Themes

11/2-11/6: Forest animals

11/9-11/13: Veterans day and Harvest Crops

11/16 – 11/20: Thanksgiving (Turkey, Settlers)

11/23 – 11/27: Teachers Choice



November

A Thankful Heart

Monthly Concepts

Letters: M, N

Numbers: 5, 6

Color: Brown

Shape: Rectangle

Country: New Zealand

Culinary: Mini corn bread muffins

Art Medium: Nature Printing – Children will experiment with printmaking using natural materials to explore texture, pattern, and color inspired by the harvest season. (corn cobs, leaves, pinecones, apples)

Sight Words: my, like

Spanish and Sign Language:

Thank You – Gracias



Family - Familia



RIELDS Spotlight:

Social Studies – Through discussions about families, traditions, gratitude, and community helpers, children will develop an understanding of the world around them and the important roles people play in our lives.

Author of the Month



Books Written by Karma Wilson

Bear Says Thanks

Bear Wants More

Bear Snores On

Bear's New Friend

Bear Feels Scared

Important Dates / Events

11/2: Operation Stand Down Collection Begins

11/9-11/10: Fall Picture Day

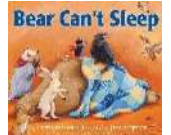
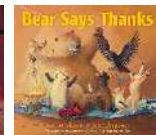
11/11: Veterans Day NSEL Closed

11/13: Final Day for Operation Stand Down Collections

11/13: Wear Brown to school

11/25: Thanksgiving Break NSEL closes at 4:30 PM

11/26-11/27: Thanksgiving break NSEL Closed



Family Participation

Disguise a Turkey

Oh no! Thanksgiving is almost here, and our turkeys need your help! Families are invited to disguise their turkey so it won't be recognized for Thanksgiving dinner. Use your imagination and any craft materials you have at home to transform your turkey into something completely different.

We'll proudly display everyone's creative masterpieces throughout the school for our annual Disguise a Turkey Gallery.



Weekly Themes

11/30-12/4: *Santas Helpers (reindeers, elves)*

12/7-12/11: *Hanukah, Kwannzaa and Holidays around the world*

12/14-12/18: *Sounds of the Season*

12/21-12/25: *Christmas (Trees, ornaments, gifts)*

12/28-1/1: *Winter Break*



December

Holiday Traditions

Monthly Concepts

Letters: C, E, J

Numbers: 7, 8

Color: Red

Shape: Triangle

Country: Finland

Culinary: Ice cream cone Christmas Trees

Art Medium: Salt Painting – Children will explore the fascinating process of salt painting by combining glue, salt, and watercolor to create textured works of art. Children draw with glue, sprinkle salt over their design, and use liquid watercolors to watch the colors spread.

Sight Words: we, can

Spanish and Sign Language:

Tree – Árbol



Gift - regalo



RIELDS Spotlight:

Language Development – Holiday stories, songs, conversations, and new vocabulary will encourage children to strengthen their listening, speaking, and communication skills.

Author of the Month

Anna Dewdney



Books Written By Anna Dewdney

Llama Llama Holiday Drama
Llama Llama Jingle Bells
Llama Llama Mad at Mama
Llama Llama Time to Share
Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa.

Important Dates / Events

12/4 – 12/12: Hanukkah

12/8 - 12/23: Twelve Days of Christmas Spirit

12/11: Wear Red to School

12/11: Gingerbreads due to be displayed

12/14: Gingerbread competition – Voting Begins

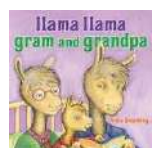
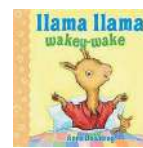
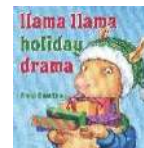
12/17: Last day to vote for gingerbread houses

12/18: Christmas Paegant **3:00 PM**

12/23: Wear Christmas Pajamas

12/25-1/3: Christmas Break

*Santa Visit TBD



Family Participation

Gingerbread House Competition

Families are invited to decorate a gingerbread house together at home. You may use a kit or create your own using any materials you choose. Please bring your completed gingerbread house to school by the due date so it can be displayed for families to enjoy.

Voting will take place during the month of December, and a winner will be announced before winter break. Be creative, have fun, and enjoy this sweet family tradition!



Weekly Themes

1/4-1/8: Snowmen, snowflake and ice

1/11-1/15: Winter weather attire

1/18-1/22: Arctic animals

1/25-1/29: Winter sports



January

Winter Wonderland

Monthly Concepts

Letters: S, O, Y

Numbers: 9, 10

Color: White

Shape: Oval

Country: Iceland

Culinary: Arctic Trail Mix

Art Medium: Ice Painting – Children will explore color, temperature, and creativity by painting with colored ice. This sensory-rich process art activity encourages artistic expression while introducing simple science concepts through hands-on exploration.

Sight Words: go, to

Spanish and Sign Language:

Snow- Nieve



Cold – frio



RIELDS Spotlight:

Science – Children will investigate winter through observation, prediction, experimentation, and exploration. Hands-on experiences with weather, snow, ice, and seasonal changes will encourage critical thinking and scientific discovery.

Author of the Month

Jan Brett



Books Written by Jan Brett

The Three Snow Bears

Gingerbread Baby

The Mitten

The Hat

Cozy

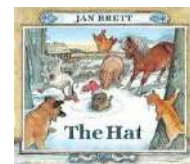


Important Dates / Events

1/4: Return from Christmas Break!

1/8: Wear White to School

1/18: MLK Jr day NSEL closed



Family Participation

Our Favorite Winter Adventures

Families are invited to send in a photo or drawing of their favorite winter activity. Throughout the month, children will share their winter adventures during circle time, and together we'll create a "Our Favorite Winter Adventures" display in the hallway to celebrate the joy of the season.



Weekly Themes

2/1-2/5: *My five senses*

2/8-2/12: *Valentines and loved ones*

2/15-2/19: *Dental health/ Healthy Eating*

2/22-2/26: *The human body / Yoga*



February

My Body and senses

Monthly Concepts

Letters: V, D

Numbers: 11, 12

Color: Pink

Shape: Heart

Country: France

Culinary: **Yogurt Berry Parfaits** – Children will create healthy yogurt parfaits by layering yogurt, fresh berries, and crunchy granola.

Art Medium: **Bleeding Tissue Paper Art** – Children will explore color blending by using bleeding tissue paper to create vibrant artwork. Spray bottle, water, tissue paper.

Sight Words: us, me

Spanish and Sign Language:

Love – amor



Heart - corazón



RIELDS Spotlight:

Physical Health & Development – Children will develop an understanding of healthy habits, personal care, nutrition, and dental health while strengthening both fine and gross motor skills through engaging activities and daily routines.

Authors of the Month

Grace Byers



Books Written by Grace Byers

I am Enough

I Believe I Can

Anne Wynter



Books Written by Anne Wynter

The Hands on book

Just Like You

No More Sleeping In

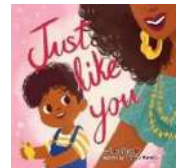
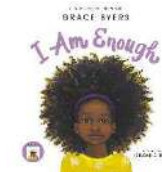
Important Dates / Events

2/4: 100th Day of School

2/12: Wear Pink to School

2/12: Snack with a loved one **2:45 PM**

2/15: Presidents Day NSEL Closed



Family Participation

Kindness Challenge

Complete one act of kindness together as a family and return the provided heart describing what you did. We'll fill our hallway with hearts celebrating kindness.



Weekly Themes

3/1 – 3/5: Dr. Seuss Week

3/8-3/12: Pond Life

3/15-3/19: St. Patrick's Day / Leprechauns / Rainbows

3/22-3/26: Music and Movement

3/29-4/2: Read across America



March

Read Across America

Monthly Concepts

Letters: R, G, Q

Numbers: 13, 14

Color: Green

Shape: Diamond

Country: Ireland

Culinary: Green Eggs and Ham

Art Medium: Sh **Rainbow foil painting** – Paint over crinkled aluminum foil to create shimmering rainbows.

Sight Words: where, is

Spanish and Sign Language:

Book - Libro



Rainbow- Arcoíris



RIELDS Spotlight:

Literacy - Through quality children's literature, rhyming, storytelling, songs, and early writing experiences, children will strengthen foundational literacy skills while developing a lifelong appreciation for books and reading.

Project Chick



Author of the Month

Dr. Seuss



Books Written By Dr. Seuss

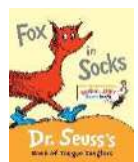
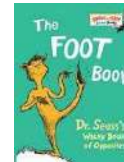
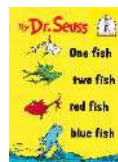
The Cat in the Hat

Green Eggs and Ham

Fox in Socks

Oh the Places You'll Go

One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish



Important Dates / Events

3/2: Dr. Seuss's Birthday

3/1 – 3/5: Dr. Seuss Spirit Week

3/16: Bring in Leprechaun Traps

3/17: St. Patrick's Day Wear Green To School

3/26: PD/Deep Clean Day **NSEL** closes at 12 PM

3/28: Easter Sunday

*Project Chick Begins TBD

Family Participation

Leprechaun Traps for Lucky The Leprechaun

Leprechauns are very clever, especially Lucky. We need to outsmart him. Its your families job to build a leprechaun trap so we can catch him. Make a trap at home with your family, you can bring it in if you would like but it is not mandatory. The more traps the better! We will catch him one way or another!



Weekly Themes

4/5-4/9: Space Exploration

4/12-4/16: Weather & Seasons

4/19-4/23: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

4/26-4/30: The Very Hungry Caterpillar



April

Earth Exploration

Monthly Concepts

Letters: B, X

Numbers: 15, 16

Color: Blue

Shape: Star

Country: Costa Rica

Culinary: Earth Day Dirt Cups

Art Medium: Recycled Art – Children will transform everyday recycled materials into creative works of art while learning the importance of reusing resources and caring for our environment

Sight Words: all, here

Spanish and Sign Language:

Earth – Tierra



Rain - lluvia



RIELDS Spotlight:

Scientific Inquiry

Children will explore weather, life cycles, plants, insects, and environmental stewardship through observation, experimentation, and inquiry-based learning. Earth Day activities will encourage appreciation and respect for the natural world.

Author of the Month

Eric Carl



Books Written by Eric Carl

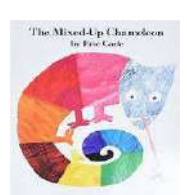
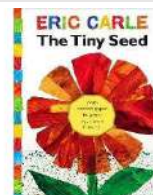
The Very Hungry Caterpillar

The Tiny Seed

The Grouchy Lady Bug

The Very Busy Spider

The Mixed-Up Chameleon



Important Dates / Events

4/9: Wear Blue to school

4/22: Earth Day

*Spring Pictures TBD

Family Participation

Recycled Creation Challenge

Let's turn trash into treasure!

We invite your family to work together to create something unique using recycled materials from around your home. Cardboard boxes, paper towel rolls, plastic bottles, egg cartons, bottle caps, newspapers, and other clean recyclables can all become amazing creations!

There are no rules—use your imagination! Build an animal, robot, vehicle, sculpture, game, or anything else you can dream up.

Please bring your finished creation to school. We will proudly display each project in our "Trash to Treasure" art gallery for all of our families to enjoy.

Weekly Themes

5/3 – 5/7: Gardening / Flowers

5/10 – 5/14: Nature's Little Helpers

5/17-5/21: On the farm

5/24 – 5/28: Construction and Transportation



May

Miscellaneous May

Monthly Concepts

Letters: A, K, Z

Numbers: 17, 18

Color: Purple

Shape: Pentagon

Country: Mexico

Culinary: Cinco De Mayo Tacos

Art Medium: Flower Painting - children use fresh flowers as natural paintbrushes and stamps to explore color, texture, and patterns while creating unique spring artwork.

Sight Words: up, down

Spanish and Sign Language:

Flower- flor



Mom- Mamá



RIELDS Spotlight:

Mathematics

Children will build early mathematical thinking through counting, sorting, patterning, measuring, comparing, graphing, and problem-solving experiences integrated into meaningful spring-themed investigations.

Important Dates / Events

5/3-5/7: Teacher Appreciation Week

5/5: Cinco De Mayo

5/7: Muffins for Moms

5/9: Mothers Day:

5/14: Wear Purple to School

5/31: Memorial Day NSEL Closed

Author of the Month

Leo Lionni



Books Writtenn by Leo Lionni

Little Blue and Little Yellow

Swimmy

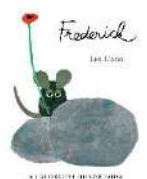
Frederick

A Color of His Own

Inch by Inch

The Alphabet Tree

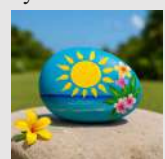
The Biggest House in the World



Family Participation

Our NSEL Rock Garden

Families are invited to paint and decorate a rock together at home using weather-resistant paint or permanent markers. Children are encouraged to use their imagination to create a design that represents them. Throughout the month, we'll add each rock to our NSEL Rock Garden, creating a lasting display that celebrates creativity, individuality, and our school community.



Weekly Themes

5/31-6/4: STEM Superstars

6/7-6/11: Zoo/Safari

6/14-6/18: Dinosaurs

6/21-6/25: Pirates and Tropical Islands

6/28-7/2: When I Grow up



June

Imaginative Adventures

Monthly Concepts

Letters: U, W

Numbers: 19, 20

Color: Gray and Black

Shape: Hexagon

Country: South Africa

Culinary: Beach snack cups made with graham crackers, blue raspberry jello and goldfish

Art Medium: Outdoor Chalk Painting –

Children will explore creativity through outdoor chalk painting using water, paintbrushes, and sidewalk chalk.

Sight Words: in, on

Spanish and Sign Language:

Summer- verano



Dad- Papá



RIELDS Spotlight:

Creative Arts

Children will express their ideas, emotions, and creativity through visual art, music, movement, dramatic play, and open-ended creative experiences inspired by the summer season.

Author of the Month

Laura Numeroff



Books Written By Laura Numeroff

If You Give A Mouse A Cookie

If You Give A Moose A Muffin

If You Give A Pig a Pancake

If you Give a Dog a Donut



Important Dates / Events

6/11: Wear gray to school

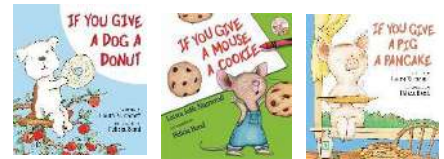
6/17: kprep Graduation Day **10:00 AM**

6/18: In Honor of Juneteenth NSEL

Closed

6/20: Fathers Day

6/21: Donuts for Dad



Family Participation

Favorite Summer Treat

Draw a picture of your favorite summer snack or dessert and tell us why you love it. We'll create a colorful hallway display featuring everyone's favorite summertime treats.



Weekly Themes

7/5-7/9: Party in the U.S.A

7/12-7/16: Summer Treats

7/19-7/23: Coral Reef Explorers

7/26-7/30: Summer Spirit Week / Bubbles



July

America the Beautiful



Monthly Concepts

Letters: Review A-M

Numbers: Review 1-10

Colors: Red, White, Blue

Shape: Review

Country: U.S.A

Culinary: Make our own fourth of July popsicles

Art Medium: Firework art, string, pipe cleaners, forks, red white and blue paint

Sight Words: for, some

Spanish and Sign Language:

Sun – Sol



Play- Jugar



RIELDS Spotlight:

Integrated Learning

Children will reinforce skills across all developmental domains through purposeful play, outdoor exploration, collaborative activities, and meaningful summer experiences that encourage continued growth and learning.

Summer Spirit Week

7/26 – 7/30

Monday, 7/26 – Sports Day

Wear your favorite sports attire or represent your favorite team!

Tuesday, 7/27 – Disney Dress-Up Day

Dress as your favorite Disney character.

Wednesday, 7/28 – Tie-Dye Day

Wear your favorite tie-dye shirt or outfit.

Thursday, 7/29 – Stay Cool!

Wear a hat and sunglasses to celebrate summer.

Friday, 7/30 – Aloha Day

Wear your favorite Hawaiian shirt, tropical print, or beach-inspired outfit. Have fun celebrating summer in island style!



Important Dates / Events

7/9: Wear Red, White, and Blue to school

7/2-7/6: July Break NSELCClosed

7/26-7/30: Summer Spirit Week

*Magic Show TBD

Author of the Month

Mo Willems



Books Written By Mo Willems

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog!

The Pigeon HAS to Go to School!

Knuffle Bunny

Family Participation

Art exhibit

Create your own piece of art to display at our art exhibit at the end of July. This piece of art can be anything you'd like. A canvas painting, a paper craft, a portrait, a 3d Craft. Get Creative!



Weekly Themes

8/2-8/6: Beach Vibes (Seashells, sandcastles)

8/9-8/13: Camping/Close to Nature

8/16-8/20: Picnics and Ants

8/23-8/27: Carnival / Circus



August

Fun in the Sun

Monthly Concepts

Letters: Review N-Z

Numbers: Review 11-20

Color: Rainbow Color Review2

Shape: Review

Country: Germany

Culinary: Homemade Lemonade

Art Medium: Sensory shaving cream with rainbow sprinkles

Sight Words: Review

Spanish and Sign Language:

Water - Agua



Beach- playa



RIELDS Spotlight:

Approaches to Learning

Children will continue developing curiosity, confidence, creativity, and problem-solving skills through meaningful play, outdoor exploration, and collaborative experiences. Open-ended activities will encourage children to investigate, ask questions, and approach new experiences with enthusiasm.

Thank you for a
wonderful school
year



Author of the Month

Caldecott Award Winning Books

Interrupting Chicken – David Ezra Stein

A Sick Day for Amos McGee – Philip C. Stead

Last Stop on Market Street – Matt de la Peña & Christian Robinson

Important Dates / Events

8/9: Victory Day NSEL Closed

8/13: Rainbow Day ; Wear as many Colors

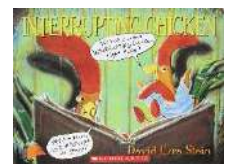
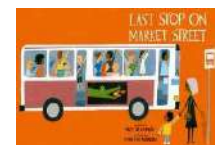
8/20: Last Day of Summer Camp

8/27: Deep Clean / Set up Day

NSEL closed Teacher Report

8/30: Preschool Transitions

*End of the Year Party



Family Participation

Closer to Nature walk

Take a walk as a family, maybe a walk on the beach, a walk in the park, on the closest bike path, or even in your neighborhood. During the walk encourage your child to be observant, talk about what you see and hear. When you get home have your child draw a picture of what they seen on their walk or make a collage of what they found. They can bring their picture to school to share with their friends.

