

BIG DAY 2014-2015

| Month | Theme and Weekly Big Ideas | Knowledge Focus | Guiding Question | Vocabulary | Big Idea Weekly Projects | Habits of Mind/ Social/Emotional Focus |
|-------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| September/ October | Ready for School -My school -Making friends -Learning together -Getting along | Children learn the expectations, routines, and behaviors of school. | What do I do at school? | -Class -Help -Partners - Cooperate | -Listening to names -Ball toss game –say name -Walk with me -Bubbles | Children explore friendship and how to work together, share, and play with their classmates (Cooperation) |
| November/ December | My Family -Who is my family? -We take care of each other -Family fun and uniqueness of families -Family traditions & celebrations | Children learn about family members, family roles, and unique qualities of families. | What is family? What does my family look like? | -Family -Cousins -Thankful -Tradition | -Family album -Measure hands -Shopping trip -Holding hands for kindness | Children learn about and explore ways of showing kindness and being considerate, generous, and friendly (Kindness) |
| January | Our Community - Places we go -People we meet -Things that move -Going green | Children learn about the role of the community in their lives and the importance of good citizenship. | Who are the people in my community? | -Community -Workers -Transportation -Environment | - Make a community map -Have we met? -Try a pattern that moves -Helping the earth | Children learn and explore different roles and responsibilities they have as a part of their classroom community in which they live (Responsibility) |
| February | Awesome Animals - All kinds of animals - Animal homes - Creepy, crawly insects - Animals grow and change | Children learn about life science through the exploration of animals and animal life cycles. | What are the animals that live in this world? | -Feathers -Burrow -Wings -Develop | -Compare and categorize animals -Animal home with materials -Buzzy bugs, play dough -Egg hunt surprise | Children explore the world of animals by paying close attention to things in their surrounding environment and being attentive during learning activities (Attention) |
| March | Imagine it, Make it! - Using my imagination - Tools we use - Things we build - Art all around us | Children learn how imagination and creativity shape our world. | How can I use my imagination? | - Imagination -Structure -Invention -Appreciate | - What do I see? -Tool Banner -Build together -Shape mosaics | Children explore imagination and creativity by showing a readiness and ability to initiate, or start something new (Initiative) |
| April | Growing up Healthy -My senses -Taking care of myself -Eating well -Staying safe | Children learn about their bodies and how to take care of themselves. | How do I take care of my body? | -Smell -Exercise -Nutritious -Caution | -Body shapes -Dr. bag -Classroom feast -Crossing guard | Children explore ways to take care of themselves as they become more self-aware of their personal strengths and limitations (Self-Awareness) |
| May | Nature all Around Us -How do plants grow? -What's in the sky? -Our weather -The seasons | Children learn about their environment by investigating characteristics of the natural world. | What does my world look and feel like? | -Plant -Grow -Weather -Seasons | -Grow a plant -Hiding bugs -Flower paint print -Cup garden | Children are encouraged to be curious about their environment by watching plant growth and observing changes they see in the sky, weather, and seasons (Curiosity) |
| June | Moving On -Going new places -Trying new things -I can do it! -We're big now! | Children reflect on all the ways they have grown and changed during the year. | What are the changes that have happened in me and my world? | -Travel -Challenge -Goal -Success | -Lion hunt -Trying new things -A steep mountain -Letter match | Children learn how to persist and do their best as they try new things (Persistence) |