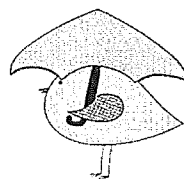




April 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 NO SCHOOL	3 8:15-Sports Physicals	4	5 CMS Author Visit	6	7
8	9 8:30-Dental Varnishes	10 7:30-School Bd. Mtg.	11	12	13 4th Qtr. Midterm	14
15 	16	17	18	19 StuCo Meeting	20 Kindergarten Field Trip	21
	23 7:00-OPT Mtg.	24 MAP Testing	25 MAP Testing	26 MAP Testing	27 7:00-A Night of the Arts	28
29	30					

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Menus

School: Livingston County R-3

Meal: All

Month: April 2018

Academic Year: 2017-18

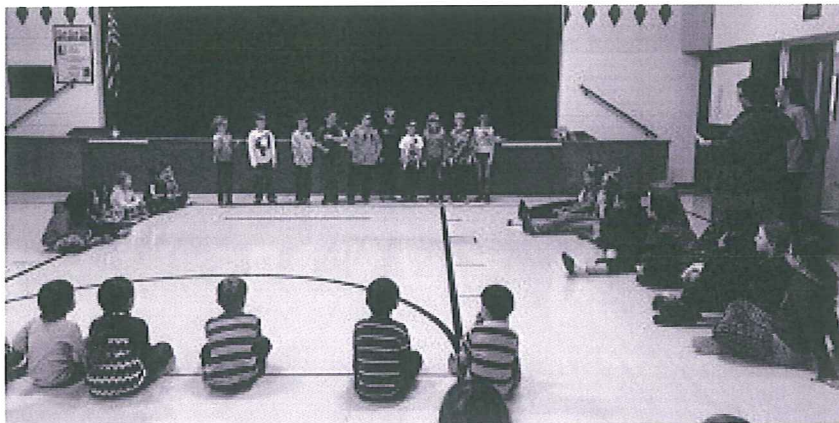
April				
M	Tu	W	Th	F
2	Breakfast: Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Whole grain chicken patty, mashed potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Hot dog on whole wheat bun, potato wedges, whole kernel corn, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain waffles, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Ham & cheese on whole wheat bread, raw baby carrots, celery sticks, baked chips, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain biscuit, sausage gravy, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Walking tacos, shredded lettuce, refried beans, fruit, milk
9	Breakfast: Cereal bar, Go-gurt, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Whole grain chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain pancakes, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Whole grain fish wedge, au gratin potatoes, sliced carrots, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Lasagna roll-up, tossed Romaine salad w/low-fat Ranch dressing, whole kernel corn, whole wheat breadstick, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain biscuit, sausage patty, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Hamburger patty on whole wheat bun, potato wedges, baked beans, fruit, milk
16	Breakfast: Whole grain French toast, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Whole grain chicken patty, mashed potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: BBQ Pork Ribette, au gratin potatoes, peas, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain waffles, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Beef & bean burrito, whole kernel corn, refried beans, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Sloppy Joe on whole wheat bun, potato wedges, carrots, fruit, milk
23	Breakfast: Breakfast bites, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Hot dog on whole wheat bun, potato wedges, peas, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Whole grain chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain biscuit, sausage gravy, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Pepperoni Pizza, tossed Romaine salad w/low-fat Ranch dressing, whole kernel corn, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain pancakes, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Turkey & cheese on whole wheat bread, baked chips, celery sticks, raw baby carrots, fruit, milk
30	Breakfast: Whole grain waffles, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Whole grain chicken patty, mashed potatoes, carrots, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain cereal, whole wheat toast, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: BBQ Pork Ribette, au gratin potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Breakfast burrito, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Mac & cheese, cole slaw, peas, whole wheat bread & butter, fruit, milk	Breakfast: Whole grain biscuit, sausage patty, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Grilled cheese, tomato soup, celery sticks, fruit, milk
	Breakfast: Whole grain French toast, reduced calorie syrup, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Hamburger patty on whole wheat bun, potato wedges, baked beans, fruit, milk			

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From the Principal's Desk...

 Mrs. Megan Hardie

Caring & Kindness



Ms. Stone's 1st/2nd Grade class presented at morning rally on the character trait of Caring & Kindness. These students showed kindness & caring by showing compassion for others, expressing gratitude, forgiving others, and helping others in need.

How can I help my child perform well on the MAP assessment?

Tip #9: What can a parent or guardian do to help on test day?

<https://dese.mo.gov/map-information-parents>

- * Be aware of the testing schedule.
- * Be certain that your child has had adequate rest (this may mean getting them used to an earlier bed time before the week of testing).
- * Be on time for school.
- * Avoid scheduling appointments that can be made at a later date.
- * Dress your child in layered clothing. This way, the child may add clothing to get warmer or remove some clothing to be cooler.
- * If your school allows it, make sure your child has a book to read when the testing session is complete.
- * Be certain that your child has two or more number two pencils (not mechanical).
- * Have a positive attitude about testing.

Looking to the Future

May 3 1st & 2nd Grade Field Trip
 May 4 7th & 8th Grade Field Trip
 May 7 Bobcat Book Lover Field Trip
 May 9 Preschool Early Dismissal
 Preschool Graduation
 May 11 3rd-6th Field Trip
 8th Grade Banquet & Graduation
 May 14 Field Day



☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
 ☆ The OPT Carnival was a HUGE success! ☆
 ☆ **Thank You** to everyone who helped ☆
 ☆ plan this awesome event and to ☆
 ☆ everyone who came and participated! ☆
 ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Jill Perkins Young Writers Contest

Country Ella



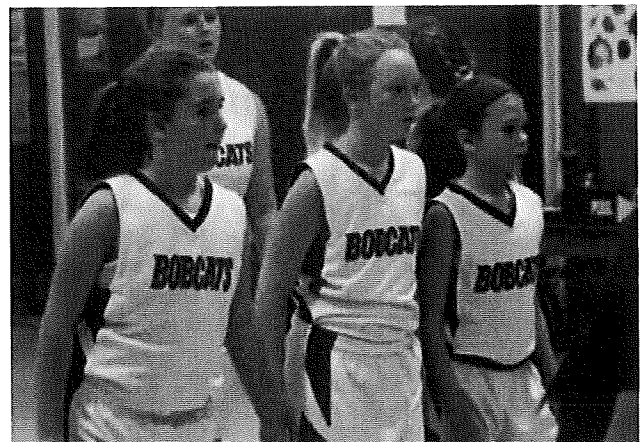
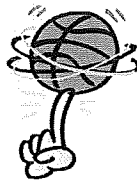
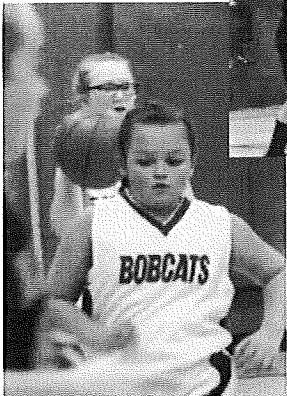
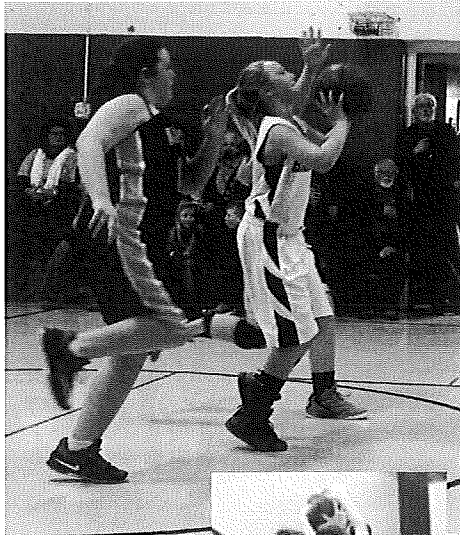
Joshua Meserve —2nd Place
Addison Lewis —3rd Place



Congratulations to Mrs. Kerr, Mrs. Warner, and the 7th & 8th grade class on a job well-done on their dinner theater performance of Country Ella! It was a very enjoyable evening!

Elementary Basketball

We Try!



The elementary basketball team dwindled to only nine players by the last two games when injury and sickness depleted our ranks. The first game of the season we lost Madalyn to an ankle break after she fell while an opponent was standing on her foot, twisting her ankle enough to break it. Although no other players were injured enough to take them out of the season, many suffered nagging damage to fingers, feet and even to the face! Illness took our big gun Phebie out of our last two games of the season for the girls.

My goal as coach was to try and teach fundamentals of basketball and to try to get all the players to shoot at least once. I am happy to report that all but one player did shoot in a game! Five out of seven of the girls scored and two out of five boys tallied points.

I think the most exciting game of the season for the girls was an 18-19 loss to Spickard. It was a battle all the way. One of the most well-played games was against Tina- Avalon for the girls who played without Phebie. The girls did a good job passing and taking shots and were just way shorter than the other team! The boys were very young and always out-sized and did their best in every game. Highlights for the boys were seeing them learn to dribble and take a shot with proper form.

I enjoyed watching both teams learn to make a layup and by the end of the season you could see them accomplish this in warm ups. It was a big challenge getting them to first commit to shooting one handed and then doing it in a game. We did get it in practice and hope to accomplish this more in the future.

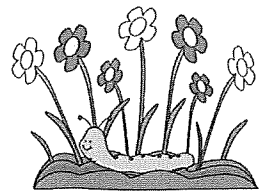
Post season awards—GIRLS: Defender award goes to Emily "Spider" Criner; Coach's Award to Maci Stover; Offense Award to Phebie Sanders; Best Re-bouncer to Katie Searcy; Best Shot to Marley Slattery; and Most Improved to Madison Burris. Playing part of one game for the girls was Madalyn Howe. For the BOYS: Defender Award to Dewayene Yount; Offense Award to Dewayene Yount; Most Improved to Lucas Gramenz; Team Player to Noah Meservey; and Best Rebounder to Nicholas Swan. Also playing for the boys was Gabe Herring.

Team motto: Just Try. And we did.

Coach Locker

Chula Accelerated School

April 2018



Preschool News

Happy Spring!

Say!

I like green eggs and ham!

I do like them, Sam-I-am!

We started out the month by celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday with Kindergarten and 1st and 2nd grade. We read one of our favorites, *Green Eggs and Ham* and decided to try them out for ourselves. We graphed our opinions and got thumbs-up all around! Moving on from our Dr. Seuss celebration, we started learning in depth about the weather and the season of Spring. We watched the weather very closely because we needed no rain and a perfect breeze to fly our class kite. The day finally came and we all took turns holding onto that string as we watched it soar! A great memory for all of us.

March also included a successful Preschool and Kindergarten screening event. We screened several from the community and we hope to see all of them again in the fall. With April upon us, our schedules will be busy preparing for preschool graduation. This memorable event will take place on Wednesday, May 9 at 7:00 pm in the gym. Nine kiddos will be moving on to Kindergarten and four will be moving up to the four-year old program. Our year has been filled with much laughter and love and we are so blessed to have been a part of their lives!

Mrs. Mindy & Mrs. Tabby

Kindergarten News

WOW! What a busy month!

We started our month off with a Dr. Seuss party with our preschool and 1st and 2nd grade friends. We got to hear Ms. Stone read several books while Ms. Mindy and Mrs. Cypert made green eggs and ham. It was such a treat!



Later that same day we had "Read Across America" in the gym with the WHOLE school! We got to read books of our own choice then had a wonderful snack!

Next came the quarter party. That is our reward for getting all our homework done and staying out of trouble for a WHOLE quarter! We got to play dodge ball and watch a movie. It was so much fun!

The following week we had Open House. I got to talk to a couple of parents and tell them how wonderful their kids are! It was such a nice time to be able to brag about my kiddos for a bit!

This past week we experienced our OPT Carnival. Kindergarten was in charge of the golf game and the lollipop game. We had a lot of fun in our room!

We are looking forward to Easter break this weekend!

Mrs. Cypert

First and Second Grade News

We've been tracking the weather in March to see if it's true that when March comes in like a lion, it goes out like a lamb. The kids created criteria for each kind of weather and we've been recording it on our calendar. Lamb weather is sunny, warm weather when only a jacket is needed or no jacket at all. Lion weather is cold enough for a heavy coat, cloudy, rainy, snowy, or stormy. We started off with lamb weather this month and it's gone back and forth. It looks like we're ending the month with lion weather so we've decided the saying is not always true.

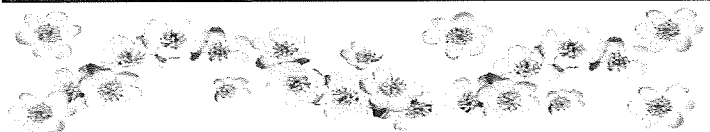
Our favorite March activity was our visit from the Leprechauns. The kids put a lot of time and effort into creating traps to try to catch a leprechaun. Unfortunately, those little leprechauns are very sneaky and couldn't be trapped. They made a giant mess of our room - messing up desks, dumping things on the floor, stacking up chairs. They even made a bed for themselves and helped

themselves to our jelly beans.

Also in March we read science fiction and mysteries. We have some clever detectives in our room. If you've been in the building you might have seen the second graders' displays about bobcats, the Titanic, and making paper airplanes. They had to read books about their subject and create a display. First graders have been learning about contractions and working on learning their plus 9 math facts.

In April we're looking forward to our next science unit about seeds and plants. We'll be growing several different things in our classroom while we're learning. If you have any plants you'd like to share with our classroom, we'd love to have them.

Miss Stone



Third & Fourth Grade News

Wow! I can't believe March is already over and April is upon us. March was a very busy month with basketball and cheerleading wrapping up. We also had many different after school events, like the Bobcat Reading Night and the Spring Open House. March also brought the Carnival, which was a blast! It was great to see so many faces there and visit with everyone.

The kids have worked so hard this month! They were very busy working on their Famous Missourian papers and presentations. Fourth grade also had a fun day the Children's Literature Festival in Warrensburg. We heard from several different authors about their writing process, what it takes to be an author, and many other interesting facts. I am sure everyone is excited for the four day weekend and some much-needed rest!

Mrs. Leadbetter

Fifth & Sixth Grade News

First of all, my class would like to thank all of you that support them during the 5th and 6th grade basketball season. There was so much improvement in the sport! And it just goes to prove the comment I always make about my class, "I can't believe how much they improve with the new things that they learn!" They are like a bunch of sponges ready to absorb anything that comes their way. For example, it seems like Math gets more intense for the kids every year. But this group of kids is loving the Algebra that they are learning that used to only be taught in the upper grades. Of course, it's always fun to know that you're doing some of the same work that high school students are doing! They have also really enjoyed researching different dog breeds for their latest essay. What kid doesn't want to research about dogs?

We are getting close to celebrating the end of the year by starting on our field trips soon. We look forward to going to the Middle School in Chillicothe to meet an award-winning author, visit with her, eat lunch together, and get our books signed! Later in this year we will also get to go on our annual fishing trip. We will need the weather to cooperate a little bit better first though!! Enjoy your spring.

Mrs. Pauley

Save those receipts!

When the school submits eligible receipts, Hy-Vee will donate a portion of the total to the school! Qualifying receipts must:

- Be a minimum of \$25
- Not have gasoline, pharmacy, tobacco, or alcoholic items
- Be from the Chillicothe store
- Be dated during the current school year



Seventh & Eighth Grade News

More awards have come our way!

The 7th and 8th grade entered the Jill Perkins Young Writers Contest. Awards were presented on March 17 at the Rolling Hills Library in St. Joseph. Two young writers represented our school as winners!

Joshua Meservey received 2nd place in the short stories category.

Addison Lewis received 3rd place in the short stories category.

Both students received certificates and a cash prize.

The American Legion Auxiliary has announced the winners of their essay contest. In the 7th and 8th grade division, Livingston County R-III School won all 3 places!

Joshua Meservey received 1st place

Kyler Klein received 2nd place

Cooper Murphy received 3rd place

These students will be attending an awards banquet on April 17.

Our classroom also received a \$700 Target Field Trip Grant to help pay for our end-of-year field trip to Hannibal!

School is rapidly winding down. Students are now working on banquet and graduation preparations as well as preparing for MAP tests.

Mrs. Kerr

From the smART Room

In March, two of our talented elementary art students had items displayed in the Chillicothe Cultural Corner Art Show. Fifth grader Emily Criner had a blue, purple and black perspective drawing, and third grader Charlee Campbell had a water color landscape painting that included a lake and a tree with birds in it. Congratulations to these two artists!

In April more of our students will have items in a student art show at "The Corner." If you would like to see the displays, the Chillicothe Art Guild building is located one block east of Washington Street at 424 Locust Street. They are open on Saturdays from 10-2 and 10-4 Tuesday through Friday. There will even be a display there from the kindergarten class!

We are getting ready to do our final big projects in the upper grades. The junior high students are finishing up their stained glass paintings and getting ready to do a large water color painting. The fifth and sixth graders will do a spring floral acrylic painting on canvas board. I am looking forward to seeing what they do!

The student's art projects from all grades second semester will be on display on April 27th at the night of the arts event at Chula School.

Mrs. Locker

Early Years

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREAT START

April 2018



Livingston County R-III School
Megan Hardie, Principal

KID BITS

Respect personal space

Help your youngster understand personal space with the “hula-hoop strategy.” Have her place a stuffed animal in a hula hoop, and explain that the space inside the hoop belongs to that animal. Then if you notice her crowding someone, remind her to visualize a hula hoop around that person.

“I’m an expert”

Boost your child’s speaking skills and confidence by encouraging him to share his expertise with others. Together, make a badge out of construction paper that says, “Ask me about ____,” and fill in the blank with his specialty. *Examples:* pandas, finger painting, building castles with blocks. Let him wear the badge to your next family get-together.

Capture character

Reinforce good character by catching your youngster in the act—with a photo. If you notice her helping her little brother zip his jacket, for instance, snap a picture. She could glue the pictures on poster board and hang it up to make a “Wall of Good Character.”

Worth quoting

“The earth laughs in flowers.”
E.E. Cummings

Just for fun

Q: What goes up when the rain comes down?

A: An umbrella!



Growing a responsible child

When your child learns responsibility at an early age, he’ll be more likely to grow into a dependable teenager and adult. Here are everyday ways to plant the seeds of responsibility in your youngster.

Sow the idea

Use the word *responsible* to describe your youngster’s actions. (“It was responsible of you to put your library book in your school bag.”) Also, talk about what you’re thinking when you show responsibility—he’s likely to imitate your behavior. You could say, “I want to sit down and read, but I’m responsible for making sure we all have clean clothes tomorrow. I’d better start the laundry first.”

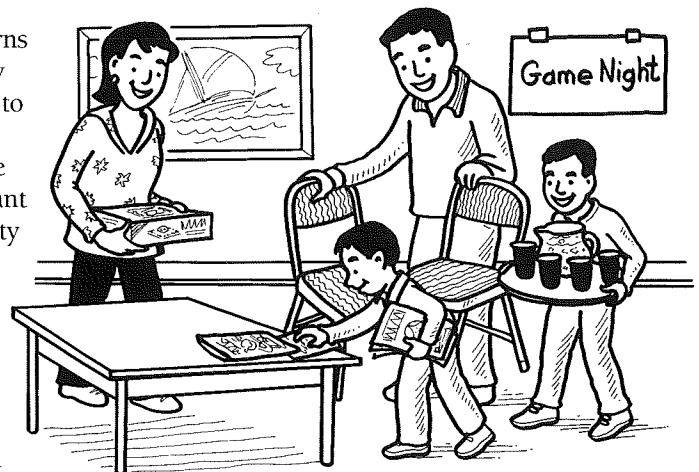
Nurture it

Even the youngest child can handle simple responsibilities like hanging up his jacket or flattening cereal boxes for recycling. Together, make a list of things your youngster is capable of doing, and

give him at least one job each day. Help him print each day’s task on a dry-erase board as a reminder.

Watch it bloom

Make your youngster part of the “team” by having him pitch in along with the rest of your family. (“It’s game night, but we need to straighten up the family room. Let’s work together to finish quickly so we have time for more games!”) Your child will feel included, and you’ll show him the benefits of sharing responsibility.♥



My history

Family history activities let your youngster connect with her heritage. Consider these suggestions:

- Look at a map together, and find the states or countries that family members came from. Ask your librarian for children’s books set in those places, and read them aloud to your child.
- Explore family memorabilia, such as photo albums, yearbooks, or scrapbooks. Your youngster will love getting glimpses of relatives when they were younger.
- Let your child ask family members about important events in their history. Her grandmother might describe her wedding, and her aunt may remember the day she became a big sister to you!♥



Big thoughts for little thinkers

At this age, your youngster is developing different kinds of thinking skills that she'll use throughout school—and all her life. Try these ideas.

Flexible thinking. Play “What could it be?” Name an object, and take turns describing a creative way to use it. Your child might say that a Frisbee could be a steering wheel or a plate. Or a comb might be a miniature rake or a toy fence.



Logical thinking. Try puzzles like this one. Get 4 pennies, 4 nickels, 4 dimes, and 4 quarters. Arrange them in 4 rows of 4. Can your youngster rearrange them so that no two of the same coins are beside each other in the same row or column?

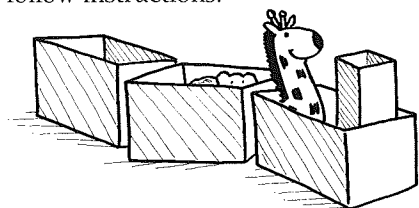
Critical thinking. Ask your child to retell a familiar story from a different character's point of view.

For instance, how would the mom tell the story of *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* (Judith Viorst)? Your youngster will need to consider how the mother thinks and acts to decide how the story would change.♥

PARENT TO PARENT

Bring learning home

Recently, my son Miguel's class did a unit on wind and learned to fly kites. That's all he talked about for days! He wanted to make his own kite, so we looked online and found some easy-to-follow instructions.



When I mentioned Miguel's interest to his teacher, she was thrilled. She explained that doing activities related to what's happening in school is a great way to keep him learning at home. Since the class is doing a train unit now, Miguel and I are planning to visit a local railway museum. We are also collecting large cardboard boxes so he can make a train to play with at home.

We had a lot of fun flying our home-made kite, and Miguel is looking forward to teaching me what he learns about trains.♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote school readiness, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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Q & A

Ways to build large motor skills

Q: My daughter prefers quiet activities to running around. How can I help her work on large motor skills so she enjoys being active, too?

A: Any active play, such as kicking a ball or riding a tricycle, will build your child's large motor skills.

Visit neighborhood playgrounds together, and encourage her to try different activities like walking on a balance beam or climbing a “rock wall.” At home, she might have fun painting words or pictures on an outdoor wall of your home or on a fence with a large paintbrush and water. Or let her “skate” around the kitchen on two paper plates.

Your child will benefit from having strong muscles and good coordination for playing and for school. For instance, she uses large motor skills in class when she paints on an easel, participates in Field Day, or plays games in PE.♥



ACTIVITY CORNER

Backyard astronomy

The night sky is filled with twinkling discoveries for your young astronomer to make. On a clear evening, stretch out on a blanket in the backyard, look up, and enjoy these activities.

Make a “telescope”

An empty paper towel tube can help your child focus on a specific spot in the sky. Let him gaze through his telescope and describe what he sees.

Compare stars

Have your youngster look for stars that are bigger, smaller,

brighter, or dimmer than others. He may also spot stars that appear to be different colors, such as green, blue, or red.

Find constellations

Use a book or an app to identify constellations. Give him black paper and white crayons to draw the constellations he spots in the sky. Or your youngster could locate his own constellation—perhaps he'll notice a group of stars in the shape of a heart or a dolphin.

Idea: Tell your child that stars twinkle but planets don't. Can he find a planet in the sky?♥



Home & School

CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

April 2018



Livingston County R-III School
Megan Hardie, Principal

SHORT NOTES

"I remember that!"

Your child may recall information better if she uses strategies to cement facts and details in her mind. For example, she might close her eyes and visualize each type of coin with its value written on it. Or she could silently repeat instructions immediately after the teacher gives them.

Learn about birds

Making a bird feeder will encourage your youngster to observe nature. Have him coat an empty toilet paper tube with peanut butter and roll it in birdseed. Hang it from a tree branch. Then, your child can sketch his feathered visitors and try to identify them using a library book or website.

DID YOU KNOW?

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day is April 26. If your employer allows it, give your youngster an on-site glimpse of your job. Show her what you do, and try to assign her a special job. She might help with a window display or organize your files, for instance.

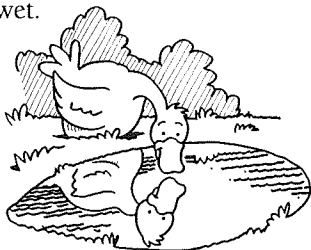
Worth quoting

"We all live with the objective of being happy; our lives are all different and yet the same." Anne Frank

JUST FOR FUN

Q: You can see me in water, but I never get wet. What am I?

A: My reflection.

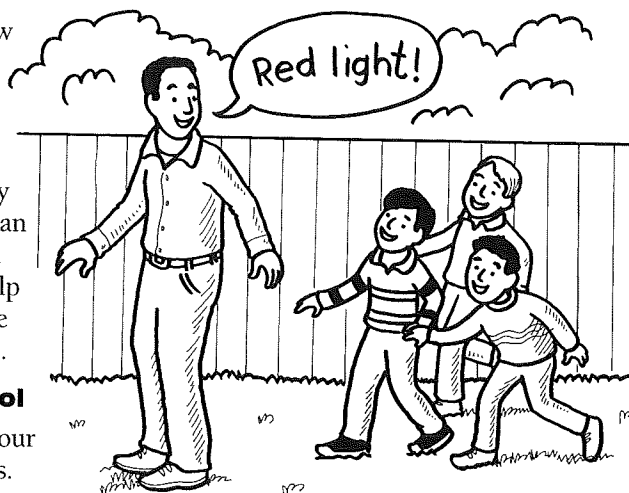


In charge of me

If your child knows how to manage his emotions and behavior, he'll do better at getting along with others and handling the ups and downs of everyday life. These skills, in turn, can make him more successful in school and at home. Help your youngster take charge of himself with these ideas.

Encourage self-control

- Play games that require your child to think before he acts. For instance, try Red Light, Green Light. Name a way for him to cross the room or yard (skip, hop, tiptoe). He'll have to resist the urge to move unless you give him the "Green light" and make himself stop when you say "Red light."
- Tell your youngster what you expect before heading into situations that are hard for him. Maybe he tends to put random items in the grocery cart. Describe what you want him to do instead, such as getting permission before taking groceries off a shelf. Then, let him know you notice when he does what you asked.



Be a coach

- Ask questions or make gentle suggestions when your child is frustrated. Say he's upset because he can't solve a math problem for homework. You could ask, "Where could you find help?" Or recommend that he take a break or temporarily switch to another assignment.
- Talk about how you deal with your own feelings. You might say, "I'm aggravated about this notice from the cable company. I'll call customer service once I've had a chance to calm down."♥

Play it safe

Visiting playgrounds gives your youngster a chance to be active and social. Keep her safe with these precautions.

Supervision. Watch your child closely as she plays. Or consider taking turns with a neighbor who has kids—that gives your youngster the added benefit of having a playmate.

Equipment use. Remind her to go down the slide instead of up it and to swing from monkey bars rather than climbing on top of them. Also, she should stand or walk a safe distance away from swings that other children are using.

Note: Tell your youngster never to chase after a ball that rolls into the street. She can ask you or another adult to get it for her.♥



Kindness: Spring into action

Being kind is always in season—and it can give your child a more positive outlook and help her think of others. Try these tips for encouraging kindness.

Surprise, surprise! Together, brainstorm ways your youngster could surprise someone with kindness. She might leave a cheerful message for a neighbor (“You



brighten my day”) with sidewalk chalk and sign her name. Or perhaps she’ll make a list of things she admires about a sibling and put it where he will find it. At school, maybe she’ll let a classmate go ahead of her at the water fountain.

Reach out. As a family, think about how to show

kindness in your community. Deliver Meals on Wheels, and have your child decorate place mats to include. Or save spare change in a jar—when it’s full, buy crayons and coloring books from the dollar store and donate them to a children’s hospital.♥

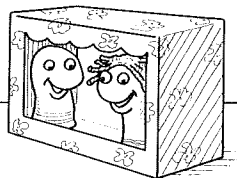
ACTIVITY CORNER

A passion for hobbies

Having a hobby gives your youngster a productive way to spend free time while building skills he can apply in school. Encourage him to develop a hobby with this advice.

Find a good fit

Notice what your child is interested in. If he likes putting on puppet shows or building things, look for supplies at home or visit a craft store. He might discover odds and ends to make a puppet theater or discover a robot-building kit.



Provide opportunity

Make sure your youngster has time to explore his hobby—limiting screen time can help! Also, give him a portable container for storing supplies or his collection of trading cards or stamps. He’ll have an easy way to enjoy his hobby wherever he goes.

Boost knowledge

Suggest that your child read books or watch how-to videos. A hobby shop may offer free classes. Or the school, library, or community center might have a club or class related to his hobby.♥



PARENT TO PARENT

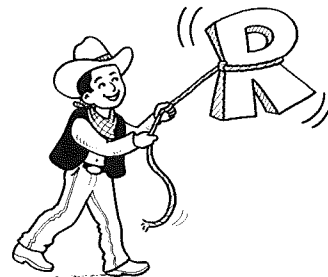
How to give effective feedback

My third grader, Jack, gets speech therapy to help him say his Rs. His therapist shared ideas for giving him feedback when I work with him at home—and her suggestions are useful for more than just speech practice.

First, she recommended that I be specific so Jack knows exactly what he did well. I might tell him, “You said your Rs correctly at the beginning and the end of river.” I’ve been trying out the therapist’s advice in other situations, too. Recently, I said, “It was nice of you to help your brother reach that toy,” instead of, “You’re a good brother.”

I also encourage Jack by being positive. When he mispronounces a word, I’ll say something like, “You’ve almost got it! Try again.” That strategy also comes in handy when he wipes down the kitchen table but leaves a few crumbs, for example.

The more I use these techniques, the more natural they feel. Jack’s speech is improving, and I feel like my parenting is, too.♥



Q & A

Reading between the lines

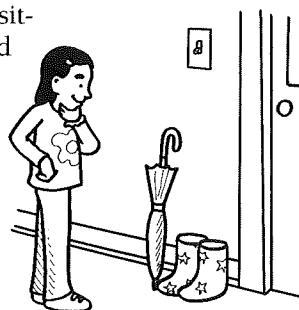
Q: My daughter’s teacher said the class is learning to make inferences—or, as Sadie explained it, “read between the lines.” What are fun ways to work on this at home?

A: Try using everyday situations to let your child practice inferring. You might have family members put umbrellas and rain boots by the door before bed and ask, “What can you infer?” (It’s supposed to rain

tomorrow.) Or set out a colander, and boil a pot of water. She might infer that you’re making macaroni for dinner.

When your daughter makes a statement like “The dog sure doesn’t like thunder!” say, “How can you tell?” She may point out that he hides under the table or is glued to your side during storms.

Ask these same questions when you read together: “What can you infer?” and “How can you tell?” Her real-life practice is sure to come in handy.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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