

Andover Elementary School
EARLY LEARNING CENTER



GENERAL THEMES

Habitats

During this month, we will explore animal habitats and how animals survive in the winter. We will discuss animals that hibernate, migrate, and adapt. The children will be exposed to a variety of fiction and non-fiction books about animals and habitats.

Friendship

February is the perfect time to reinforce and teach about friendship. Throughout the month, we will discuss and read stories about ways to be a good friend to one another. This includes using nice words, listening to our friends, taking turns, sharing, and playing together.

Measurement

We will use classroom objects; such as blocks, pencils or even footprints, as non-standard units to measure different objects. We will compare the measurements using the vocabulary; **more, less, equal, same.**

THINGS YOU CAN DO AT HOME

Practice drawing and writing. This can be drawing pictures, scribble writing, writing random letters, writing your child's name, or inventive spelling. Tracing objects is also a great way to increase writing control. To make writing more fun, you can tape paper to the wall and have your child write on a vertical surface. Shaving cream on a cookie sheet makes a great sensory experience that ties in writing, too.

Practice counting (either to 5, 10, 20 or beyond). The teen numbers are especially tricky for many children, so provide guidance for your child. Find a variety of things to count, such as place settings at the kitchen table, windows, stuffed animals, legs on the chairs in your dining room, and pictures hanging in your house. Compare groups by using the vocabulary: **more, less, equal, same.**

Practice turn taking while playing games with your child. Talk with your child about how to take turns and how you feel when you are taking turns.

February 2021

CHARACTER TRAIT THEME: EMPATHY

Throughout the month we will work on recognizing feelings in others, as well as ourselves.

SKILLS AND CONCEPTS

Social Emotional Development

Social emotional development is an important skill that helps children be ready to learn academics, work with others, identify emotions and learn to express feelings in appropriate ways. Some of the concepts we will focus on this month include relationships with peers, problem solving, having meaningful conversations, listening to others, demonstrating empathy, controlling impulses and demonstrating a variety of friendship skills.

OTHER INFORMATION

We will recognize Valentine's Day on Friday, February 12th. Your child is welcome to send in Valentines for their peers. Please only fill out the "From" portion of the Valentine. Make sure there are enough for each child in the class (each preschool class has 12 children), as this will make it easier for your child to pass them out. Valentine cards are optional. We ask that you do not send in any candy or food items with your Valentines.

There will be no school on Monday, February 15th and Tuesday, February 16th