

School Readiness Family Activity Calendar - Trees



Child's Name: _____

Site: _____

Month: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Class: _____

Teacher Signature: _____

Date: _____

Total: _____ + _____ = _____



	Sun Physical Development and Health	Mon Social Emotional Development	Tue Approaches to Learning	Wed Language and Literacy	Thu Language and Literacy	Fri Cognitive and General Knowledge	Sat Cognitive and General Knowledge
Week One	<p>Pretend to be a growing tree. First you are a tiny seed in the ground and then you slowly grow into a big, tall tree that blows in the wind.</p>	<p>Leafy People: Various size leaves, glue, paper, crayons. Give your child the materials and let them create a picture of your family. Talk about emotions when drawing.</p>	<p>Using paper plates as pretend stones: make an indoor nature trail through your house. Walk through the nature trail by only stepping onto the make-believe stones.</p>	<p>Place a hula hoop under a tree. Invite children to investigate only what they find in the place enclosed by the hula hoop. Talk about what you see.</p>	<p>Read "Abiyoyo" by Pete Seegers.</p>	<p>Which has more? Invite your child to join you in a counting and comparing game. Prepare 5 bags, each with a different type of number of objects. Materials: eggs cartons, re-sealable bags, collection of object that are similar size coin's counters.</p>	<p>Collect leaves of various shapes, sizes, and colors. Lay leaves on the kitchen table and have your child sort by color, size or shape.</p>
Week Two	<p>Time to get outside and take a nature walk around your house or neighborhood: Take a basket and collect different nature objects.</p>	<p>Upon returning from a nature walk, encourage your child to share objects collected from their nature walk with a friend or sibling.</p>	<p>Alphabet books: make a book about the alphabet; construction paper, paper, markers, alphabet cards. Have your child work on a single alphabet for each page of the book.</p>	<p>"I'm a sturdy oak tree, oak tree. I'm a sturdy oak tree, swaying in the wind." Ask your child to mimic a tree with you as you sing the song together.</p>	<p>Sit down with your child on the grass and have them close their eyes, keep quiet and listen carefully for five minutes. Afterwards, talk about what was heard.</p>	<p>Save the seeds of an apple or orange. Plant the seeds today and talk about what the seed will need to grow.</p>	<p>Sorting and classifying: Invite your child to join you in a sorting game. Materials include: pinecones, leaves, fruits. Sort by size, color and shape.</p>
Week Three	<p>Pretend to be a seed that is planted in the ground and then grows into a big, strong tree.</p>	<p>Make binoculars by taping two rolls of toilet paper together. Provide an opportunity for your child to share binoculars while searching for a butterfly.</p>	<p>Give your child a collection of cotton balls and a piece of construction paper. Explain that they are going to count Mary's Lambs in a pretend country game.</p>	<p>Sing a song. Teach your child a new song. Sing the song together and then clap your hands to the rhythm and let your child sing and clap the song.</p>	<p>Print your child's name in large letters. Point to and name each letter in his or her name. Post their name on the wall and have your child identify.</p>	<p>While shopping and doing errands together, point at particular places and ask your child to tell you what they are. Ex: post office, school, market, Library, etc.</p>	<p>Use a small sandwich bag, fill with different dried fruit by colors. Count the fruit and sort. Use a clothespin in the middle of the bag and use googly eyes and pipe cleaners to finish.</p>
Week Four	<p>Pretend to be a bird that is flying around your backyard from tree to tree.</p>	<p>Provide an opportunity to have your child and a friend help you prepare a healthy snack. Encourage taking turns.</p>	<p>Have a texture scavenger hunt. Look for leaves, nuts, fruits, etc. Talk about how each object feels.</p>	<p>Read "The Grouchy Lady Bug" by Eric Carle.</p>	<p>On a trip to a local grocery store, ask your child to identify where different fruit and vegetables come from.</p>	<p>Place 3 or 4 plastic containers of different sizes and their lids on a table and ask your child to match each container and lid. Then put the lids on and repeat.</p>	<p>You and your child can use sticks skewers to make a repeating shape kebab patterns with square pineapple cubes, banana rounds, and triangles cut out of melon pieces. Repeat the "square, circle, triangle" pattern along the stick.</p>

Please circle book if you read to your child for 15 minutes and circle triangle if you completed suggested activity 15 minute activity

Based on the Head Start Child Development & Early Learning Framework

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Week Five	Go on a color walk. Look for green and brown, the most significant colors on a tree. Do 5 big jumps for every color.  	Read "A Tree Named Steve" by Alan Zweibel. When finished, ask your child questions about how the character felt.  	As you point to different items in the kitchen, ask your child to answer "wood" if the item is made of wood or "glass" if the item is made of glass.  	Talk about words that rhyme, such as words in a favorite nursery rhyme. Ex: Will, Jill; wall, fall.  	Read "Growing Trees" by Judith Bayer Stamper.  	Use 10 paper bowls and label them 1 through 10. Have your child gather fruits, leaves, small tomatoes, and carrots. Then have them place the objects according to the number on the plate and count.  	On a large sheet of paper, draw a pattern of dots and dashes. Ask your child to study the pattern. Remove the paper and ask him or her to draw the same pattern from memory.  
Week Six	Rake pile of leaves and jump into them.  	Have your child draw a picture with crayons for someone who needs a little cheering up.  	Cut leaf shapes onto coffee filters. Mix 1 tsp. of water with 3 drops of food coloring. Use a straw or eye dropper to add one color at a time.  	Read "Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf" by Lois Ehlert. Follow the life of a sugar maple tree; from seeds to seedling to tree.  	Put some objects into a paper bag. Have your child feel the object texture with his or her fingers. Name the texture; smooth, rough, etc.  	Take a walk with your child. As you walk, talk about the different seasons and the signs of that season. Ex: Birds singing in Spring.  	Eat an orange today. Count how many seeds are in that orange. Eat an apple and count the seeds as well. Which fruit had more?  
Week Seven	Blow bubbles today and have your child chase them around the yard.  	Give away five hugs to make your heart happy and healthy.  	Place leaves under a piece of paper. Use a crayon to color over the paper, revealing the image of the leaf on the paper. Discuss what you see.  	Read "The Apply Pie Tree" by Eric Carle. It tells the life cycle of a caterpillar from egg to butterfly, with a mini counting lesson in between.  	This is my tickle tree. As you can plainly see it will tickle you, as it has tickled me. So if you are not careful, this little tickler tree will make you say hee, hee, hee.  	Build a pattern using different fruits. Ex: strawberry, grape, strawberry, grape.  	Use alphabet cookie cutters to spell the word "tree" from cookie dough. Have your child measure the ingredients, stir and roll dough.  

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