



## Storyland Closure & Distance Learning Curriculum

While things certainly remain fluid, the current federal recommendation is to maintain social distancing through at least April 30<sup>th</sup>. We hope to reopen in early May (1st or 4th, and will be simultaneous to when general employers will allow employees to return to work). Storyland School will continue to follow the lead of the CDC, state and local public health agencies. Based upon the mandates and recommendations of these agencies, we will update you as more is learned later in April.

With that being said, the Storyland Staff has been working on a virtual preschool program and it will be available to everyone on April 8th. Please look out for more information from Miss Jessica and your child's teacher(s).

We are sincerely grateful and appreciative of the overwhelming support on this program.

Our theme for the month of April is "Springtime and Weather"! Along with the arrival of spring comes unpredictable weather, the perfect time for our students to become "weather watchers" as we introduce the concept of the changing weather and seasons. We will also be focusing on learning the color yellow, the number 9, as well as continue with our weekly letter themes (letters W, X & Y).

Unfortunately, our Easter Egg Hunt has been cancelled due to our school closure.

## Week of the Young Child

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children). It's purpose is to focus attention on the needs of young children and their families, and to recognize and support early childhood programs who meet those needs. It is also a time to recognize that children's opportunities are our responsibility. We are committed to ensuring each child experiences the type of environment at home, at child care, at school, and in the community that will promote their early learning.

This year we are following NAEYC daily themes and incorporating them into our curriculum for the Week of the Child, which begins Monday, April 13th through Friday, April 17th.

The themes for the week are as follows:

- Music Monday
- Tasty Tuesday
- Work together Wednesday
- Artsy Thursday
- Family Friday

## April 2020

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## Graduation Pictures and Spring Portraits Rescheduled:

Graduation and Spring Portraits have been re-scheduled for Wednesday, May 20th and Thursday, May 21st

Both Pre-K classes, Sunshine and Bay Rooms will have their graduation pictures taken on Wednesday, May 20th beginning at 9:00 am.

Each child will be wearing a cap and gown for these pictures. Girls will wear maroon and boys will wear white. It is suggested boys wear a plain,

light colored shirt that day, as patterns or graphics will show through their white gown.

Spring portraits will be taken Thursday, May 21st beginning at 9:00 am for all other children in the Little Stars, Little Monkeys, and Little Owls classes.

We will update you if there are any additional changes in the upcoming month.

## Happy Birthday!

Ms. Cassie	4/1
Ms. Sammie	4/1
Ethan Suhay	4/5
Jacy Fantone	4/9
Mia Caldarelli	4/11
Reagan Crossley	4/13
Jace Fahnhorst	4/15
Larissa Garduno	4/20
Jesse Coughlan	4/21
Chester Williams	4/28



## Reminders:



- Check your email for Flipgrid links to stay connected with us.
- Virtual Preschool Program will launch on Wednesday, April 8th. This will include daily Morning Meetings via Zoom with their teachers and accessible class activities in Google Classroom. More details to come.
- If you love Storyland School, please share your experience at [yelp.com](http://www.yelp.com/biz/storyland-preschool-livermore) or you can go directly to <http://www.yelp.com/biz/storyland-preschool-livermore>

## Upcoming Events

### May:

Muffins for Mom Friday, May 8th

Open House Thursday, May 21st

Storyland closed Monday, May 25th

### June:

Donuts for Dad Tuesday, June 2nd

Pre-K Graduation Thursday, June 4th

Last day of the School Year Friday, June 5th

Summer Session begins Monday, June 8th



## Parent Center

### Promoting Independence

While 2 to 4-year-olds still need plenty of parental help, preschool teachers agree that children are typically able to do more than many of us think.

Here's how you can encourage them:

- 1. Expect more.** Most people have a way of living up (or down) to expectations – preschoolers included. Raise the bar and your child will probably stretch to meet it.
- 2. Resist doing for her what she can do herself.** While it may be quicker and easier to do it yourself, it won't help to make your child more self-sufficient.
- 3. Don't redo what they've done.** If your child makes their bed, resist the urge to smooth the blankets. If they dress themselves in stripes and polka dots, compliment their "eclectic" style. Unless absolutely necessary, don't fix what your child accomplishes, it may discourage them.
- 4. Let them solve simple problems.** If you see your child trying to assemble a toy or get a book from a shelf that they can reach if they stands on a stepstool, pause before racing over to help.
- 5. Assign a chore.** Putting your preschooler in charge of a regular, simple task will build their confidence and sense of competency. A child who is entrusted to water the plants or empty the clothes dryer is likely to believe they can also get dressed by themselves or pour their own cereal. Just be sure the chore you assign is manageable and that it's real work, not busywork, since even preschoolers know the difference. The goal is to make your child feel like a capable, contributing member of the family.
- 6. Praise is key.** Especially if your child is not in a cooperative phase, try to catch them being good. Children repeat behaviors that get attention.
- 7. Develop predictable routines.** Children cooperate in school because they know what's expected of them, while it would be impractical to have the same level of structure at home, the more consistent you are, the more cooperative your child is likely to be.
- 8. Lighten up.** If your child refuses to do something, try turning it into a game. Humor and games are two great tools that parents sometimes forget about in the heat of the moment.
- 9. Warn of transitions.** If your child pitches a fit whenever you announce it's time to switch gears –whether that means shutting off the TV, stopping play to come eat, or leaving a friend's house – it could be that you're not giving enough advance notice. Give a specific time or set a timer so they know when the time is up.
- 10. Use sticker charts and rewards judiciously.** Reserve rewards for finite endeavors, such as potty training, but avoid offering them for everyday things, such as dressing themselves or brushing their teeth.
- 11. Give structured choices.** If, for example, your 3-year-old refuses to sit at the dinner table, you might offer the choice of sitting and getting dessert – or not sitting and missing out on a treat. Just be sure, if you want your child to choose option A, that option B is less attractive.
- 12. Encourage teamwork.** If your child is fighting over a toy with another child, set a timer for five minutes. Tell one child he can have the toy until he hears the timer, and then it will be the other child's turn.
- 13. Let your child work out minor squabbles.** Instead of swooping in to settle disputes, stand back and let them work it out (unless they're hitting each other). You won't always be there to rescue your child.
- 14. Redirect.** If your preschooler is jumping on the couch or grabbing for their big sister's dolls, distract them by asking if they would like to draw a picture or read a short story together.
- 15. Involve your child in righting her wrongs.** If you find them coloring on the walls, have them help wash it off. If they knock over a playmate's block tower, ask them to help rebuild it.
- 16. Don't delay discipline.** If you must reprimand your child, do so when you see them misbehaving. If you wait to reprimand "later" or when "we get home" your child may forget the incident.