
April 2024

April Curriculum

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 discuss Earth Day and the importance of recycling. We will also be focusing on learning the color yellow, the number 9, as well as continue with our weekly letter themes (letters V, W, X, Y & Z).

End of the year assessments will be distributed in May at our Open House on Wednesday, May 22nd.

Spring & Graduation Picture Days

Graduating students who will be moving on to TK or Kindergarten in the fall will have their graduation pictures taken on Tuesday, April 23rd 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.

We will be providing a cap and gown for students to wear for these portraits.

If your student does not normally attend school on Tuesday’s, they will take their graduation portrait on Wednesday, April 24th.

Spring portraits will be taken Wednesday, April 24th beginning at 9:00 am for all other children in the Little Stars, Little Monkeys, and Little Owls classes along

with any students in Bay and Sunshine Room who will remain at Storyland next school year. If your student does not normally attend school on Wednesdays, they will be able to take their portrait on Tuesday, April 23rd instead.

Please note that graduation and spring portraits are optional. We will send out an email to notify you once order forms have been distributed to your child’s file folder for pick-up.



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Happy Birthday!

Finley Phan	4/7	Emerson Ho	4/26
Neel Batta	4/15	Madeline Johnston	4/30
Sean Williams	4/15		
Iljas Larsen	4/18		
Abigail Saenz	4/20		
Kaden Estrada	4/24		



Reminders

- To ensure the safety of our children, please make sure the front entryway door is completely closed upon entrance and exit of the building.
- Please refrain from parking on the right half of the driveway on the right side of the 4th Street building. That space belongs to our neighbor.
- If you love Storyland School, please share your experience at [yelp.com](http://www.yelp.com) or you can go directly to <http://www.yelp.com/biz/storyland-preschool-livermore>

Upcoming Events

April:

Storyland closed- Monday, April 1st
Graduation Pictures- Tuesday, April 23rd
Spring Portraits- Wednesday, April 24th

June:

Pre-K Graduation- Wednesday, June 5th
Summer Session begins Monday, June 10th

May:

Open House- Wednesday, May 22nd
Storyland closed- Monday, May 27th



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.