



# OP TIMES

The Onionpatch  
Academy

February 2015  
Volume 4, Issue 7

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February is filled with thoughts of love, appreciation, and special people. These are defiantly matters of the heart! February is also Dental Health and Heart Health month. During the last two weeks, we'll take a look at healthy habits including dental health. It's never too early to begin healthy habits that will last a lifetime.

#### **Week One:**

Unit theme – Black History Month  
Bible Focus – Jesus is our Leader

#### **Week two:**

Unit Theme – Be my Valentine  
Bible Focus – Jesus Heals Us

#### **Week three:**

Unit Theme – Healthy Habits  
Bible Focus – Jesus Calms The Storm

#### **Week Four:**

Unit Theme – Healthy Habits  
Bible Focus – Jesus Gives Us Life

### **New Students**

We welcome to the Onionpatch Family:

- Jordan Jn Pierre-Wilkinson
- Micah Gotosa
- Kessi Clarke

### **Upcoming Birthdays**

Ricky Saltus- 5<sup>th</sup> February

Ms. Naadei- 15<sup>th</sup> February

Chayce Minors-Butterfield – 28th February

### **Friday Hot Lunches**



February 6 – Meatloaf & Smashed Potatoes

February 13 – Cheese Pizza

February 20 – Fish Sticks & Corn on the cob

February 27 – Tuna Casserole w/Peas & Carrots

### **Feel the Love Campaign**

This month is the month of Love. We show it and receive it in many ways. We are asking for your participation in the first ever Feel the Love campaign here are the Onionpatch Academy. This is a way for us to engage you, find out a bit more about you and to share our love for your children with you. We know you are busy but hope you can find the time to participate.

- **February 9-13** - tell us what you like about the Onionpatch Academy – what are we doing right. Write us a note and pin it on our bulletin board.
- **February 16-20** – work with your child to produce a poster 8 1/2 x 11 and tell us about your loved ones – spouse, family, friends, pets. Be creative. Posters will be displayed in the classrooms.
- **February 23-27** – show us the love. Do something special for the school, a teacher or the class. Examples are to volunteer to read to the children, use one of your special talents to improve the school environment or bake cookies with your child and bring them in to share.

Special Feel the Love Hot Lunch on Friday, 27 February. Come and eat (bring a packed brown paper bag lunch) with your child and Show us the Love! Please note all posters and notes are subject to be photographed and shared on our Facebook page and website so we can let others see how we show love at the Onionpatch Academy.

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## Help your child build Fine Motor Skills

Many of your child's daily activities—like getting dressed, eating, and writing—require control of small muscles in the hands. We call these skills fine motor skills.

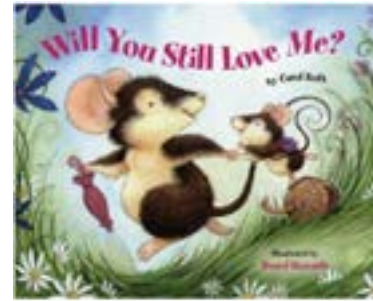
Your child can do more things for himself when he has opportunities to practice these skills. There are lots of activities that can increase muscle strength and coordination, preparing children for more advanced skills, from writing with a pencil, using a computer mouse, or playing a musical instrument.

Help your child build fine motor skills at home by providing opportunities to...

- Set the table
- Hold knives, forks, and spoons to eat
- Pour juice into a cup
- Wipe the table with a sponge
- Help with meals—stir, shake, chop, cut, and mix
- Get dressed—button, zip, snap, buckle, and fasten
- Use Velcro tabs
- Open and close containers with lids
- Cut with child-safe scissors
- Finger paint
- Use a paintbrush
- Play with playdough and clay—roll, smooch, pat, pound, and use tools like popsicle sticks or stamps
- Draw, scribble, or write with crayons, pencils, and markers
- Put together puzzles
- Place pegs in a board
- Build with small blocks
- Play board games
- Play with puppets



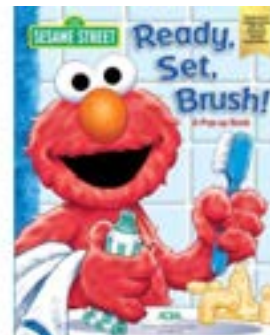
## LITERACY



By: Carol Roth



By: Robert Munsch



By: Sesame Street

The  
Leader in Me™  
great happens here



Covey Connection:

- Sometimes you win. Sometimes you learn.
- You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagreements.
- Find ways where everyone can win.
- You have to know you can win. You have to think you can win. You have to feel you can win.