



OP TIMES

The Onionpatch
Academy

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Marching Into Spring

Spring...

What springs in Spring?
Buds spring!
Leaves spring!
Flowers spring!
Trees spring!
Plants spring!
Grass springs!
Robins sing in
the Spring!



Week One:

Unit theme – A Tribute to Dr Seuss
Bible Focus – Jesus teaches us to love

Week Two:

Unit Theme – March Winds
Bible Focus – Jesus teaches us to pray

Week Three:

Unit Theme – Birds and Butterflies
Bible Focus – Jesus speaks to us

Week Four:

Unit Theme – Spring Things/Interesting Insects
Bible Focus – Jesus wants us to speak to him

New Students

We welcome to the Onionpatch Family:

Tyler Rance
Carter Rance
Kree Joynes

Upcoming Birthdays

Taniah Simmons – Mar. 1st
Gabiella Denos – Mar. 21st

Friday Hot Lunches



March 7 – Meat lasagna

March 14 – Corndogs

March 21 – Chicken Fried Rice

March 28 – PB&J sandwich

Upcoming Events

Easter Eggs Hunt and Kite Flying Day

This year our Easter Egg Hunt and Kite Flying Day will be held at the Arboretum from 2:00pm-5:00pm on Thursday, April 2nd. The students will be having a fun train ride to this location at a cost of \$10 (This year the train increased its cost due to operations). Every year we ask parents to donate 6 Easter eggs that are filled with goodies. For Example: candy, small toy, stickers etc. As this is a family and friend event, it is mandatory that one adult is present per child. Please remember to bring your empty Easter baskets, kites and blankets to hang out with us for this joyous afternoon.

The hot lunch for this day is fish cakes and hot cross buns. If you would like your child to receive hot lunch this day, please remember to sign up.

Sport's Day

We apologies for an inconvenience but Sport's Day has been scheduled for Friday, April 2nd due to the fact that we were unable to secure the field for Friday, March 27th. Sport Day will be held at North Village Field from 9-12pm. More information to follow.

Uniform Orders

Summer uniform orders will go out on Monday, March 9th. The due date for the uniform order will be Monday, March 16th. This will ensure that the orders arrive on time for Picture Day in May.

Early Literacy Development



"Early language and literacy (reading and writing) development begins in the first three years of life and is closely linked to a child's earliest experiences with books and stories. The interactions that young children have with such literacy materials as books, paper, and crayons, and with the adults in their lives are the building blocks for language, reading and writing development. This relatively new understanding of early literacy development complements the current research supporting the critical role of early experiences in shaping brain development.

Early Literacy Does Not Mean Early Reading

Our current understanding of early language and literacy development has provided new ways of helping children learn to talk, read, and write. But it does not advocate "the teaching of reading" to younger and younger children. Formal instruction which pushes infants and toddlers to achieve adult models of literacy (i.e., the actual reading and writing of words) is not developmentally appropriate. Early literacy theory emphasizes the more natural unfolding of skills through the enjoyment of books, the importance of positive interactions between young children and adults, and the critical role of literacy-rich experiences. Formal instruction to require young children who are not developmentally ready to read is counter productive and potentially damaging to children, who may begin to associate reading and books with failure.

What Infants and Toddlers Can Do - Early Literacy Behaviors

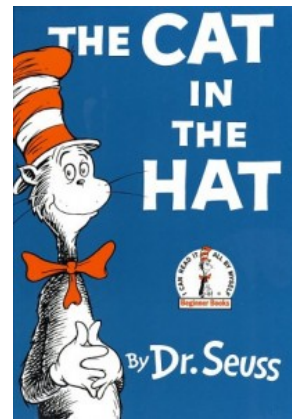
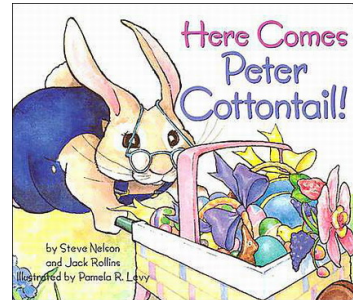
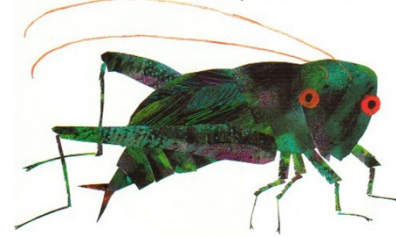
Early literacy recognizes that language, reading, and writing evolve from a number of earlier skills. Judith Shickel first described categories of early literacy behaviors in her book, *Much More Than The ABCs*. Her categories, listed in the box below, can be used to understand the book behaviors of very young children. They help us to see the meaning of these book behaviors and see the progression children make along the path to literacy.

Early literacy skills are essential to literacy development and should be the focus of early language and literacy programs. By focusing on the importance of the first years of life, we give new meaning to the interactions young children. "

Retrieved from <http://www.zerotothree.org>

Here are some Spring book suggestions:

Eric Carle The Very Quiet Cricket



The Leader in Me™

great happens here

Habit 5 – Seek First to Understand then to be Understood

"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger" ~ James 1:19

Covey Connection:

- I listen to other people's ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints. I listen to others without interrupting. I am confident in voicing my ideas. I look people in the eyes when talking.
- Children have a lot to say, take time to listen to them!