



# OP TIMES

The Onionpatch  
Academy

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## Academic Expressions

Even though we are in the middle of summer we have to remember September will be here before you know it. This month we focus on taking our students back to basics. We will explore foundational concepts that are applicable in their everyday lives.



In Week One we will explore colors - "Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, don't forget the purple too - rainbow colors for me and you!" From finger painting to color collages, our students will be reintroduced to colors and how they are used in our world.

In Week Two we will look at shapes. Using shape art, song and rhymes students will learn about and discover everyday shapes.

In Week Three is numbers mania. Students will be use traditional ditties such as "One, Two, Buckle My Shoe" and "The Ants Go Marching One by One to explore numbers in their world.

In Week Four we will focus on the alphabet. Everyone knows the alphabet song but we will use multisensory activities and realia (objects from real life) to improve letter recognition.

In our Bible stories students will hear of some of the well known characters such as Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego who used their belief in themselves and the power of God to overcome challenges.

## New Students

We welcome to the Onionpatch Family:

Lauren Caines - Baby Onions

Zalika Leverock - Baby Onions

Djimin O'Connor - Green Onions

## Upcoming Birthdays

ZaRyah Holman - 3<sup>rd</sup> August

Isaiah Carreiro Lightbourne - 7<sup>th</sup> August

Ava Simons - 16<sup>th</sup> August

Nasir Beckham - 31<sup>st</sup> August

## Upcoming Events

Labor Day Holiday - 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2012

## Summer Students

In support of the Community Education and Development Summer Internship programme for the high school students sponsored by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and as good corporate citizens, the Onionpatch Academy has agreed to host two (2) female summer students for the month of August 2012 beginning Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2012.

Ke-Anne Adcock-Smith (17) and Solay Thomas (16) are senior students at Cedarbridge Academy.

This programme provides a "work shadow" experience for young people in their career interest. These young ladies will perform basic duties such as observation and will assist the teacher as necessary.

Let us welcome them to the Onionpatch Academy and encourage them as they gain practical knowledge as a foundation for their future endeavors.

## Making Back to School Easy for Kids

Preparing for the kids going back to school is very stressful for parents, but it can also be very stressful for the kids themselves. Everyone resists change and making transitions is always a little difficult. This anxiety is especially more in cases where a child is making the transition from elementary to middle or from middle to high school. Anxiety is normal in such cases, but you can help ease the transition by getting the kids involved in preparing for their new school year like choosing school supplies and clothes, helping to prepare their meals etc.

Try these tips for a fun and easy back to school season:

1. Make shopping for school supplies special for the kids by letting them choose what they want. Younger kids might want supplies with their favorite cartoon character on them and older ones might want their favorite sports hero or movie star on them. Whatever their likes, they will feel better in school on seeing things that they love in their backpack.

2. Help kids give you a hand in preparing their lunches. They will love being involved in the process and are also more likely to finish the lunch they themselves selected and helped prepare.

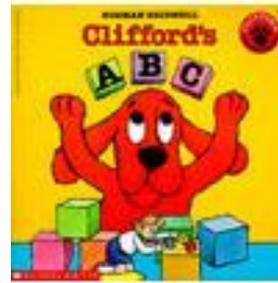
3. Set up an interesting study table for the kids to study complete with a bulletin board. New and creatively arranged things will make the kids want to go to school and start studying.

4. Before school starts, throw a Back To School party for your kids and their friends to say good-bye to summer vacation and flag off the school season.

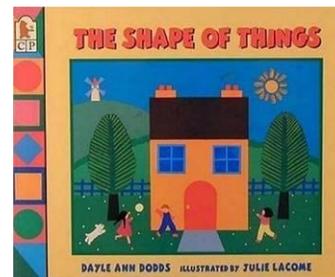
5. Start a morning activity like some kind of sports or other outdoor activity at least a month before school starts so that the kids get accustomed to waking up early for school.



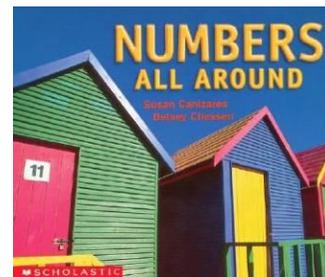
Here are some book suggestions:



Clifford's ABC by Norman Bridwell



The Shape of Things by Dayle Ann Dodds



Numbers All Around by Susan Canizares



Color Dance by Ann Jonas

The Mixed-Up Chameleon  
by Eric Carle



The Mixed Up Chameleon by Eric Carle