

Learning can happen anywhere. Interactive and hands-on learning is the best way for anyone to learn, especially our kiddos.

The following pages provide a schedule of ways to have fun learning. Each day has its own “theme” and a few suggestions to go with it. This way, you don’t have to feel overwhelmed that you have to do it all every day. Perhaps you need a little help to organize yourself and your to-do list. Maybe you need a reminder to slow yourself down from the hectic reality of our lives and spend a little time embedding a little learning into our schedule and routines.

Following the “schedule”, you will see some listed benefits of each area.

Following that, you will find a more formally guided activity.

You are encouraged to complete an activity (your own and/or the guided activity) and share your results with us. Take a photo, a video, and/or write a journal entry with your child’s dictated words.

Interactive activities: * are a fun way for kids to play & learn. *physical activities promote fitness & health. *games & puzzles aid in skill development. *collaborative activities improve social skills & tighten bonds. *cooperative games teach essential life lessons.

<https://www.journalbuddies.com/having-fun/benefits-of-interactive-activities/>

Contact teacher via email. You can also post on our school Facebook page (we have a public and private page).

M

Make it Monday:

craft, play dough, Legos,
blocks, fort...

T

Take a Trip Tuesday:

virtual museum, bike ride,
walk...

W

*What's Cooking
Wednesday:*

Make something to eat.

TH

Thinking Thursday:

science experiment,
cooperative activity, puzzle...

F

Fun Friday:

Pick a fun favorite activity.

Creativity: *is multi-disciplinary. * allows you to express yourself. *promotes thinking & problem solving. *reduces stress and anxiety. *allows you to enter your happy zone & have fun. *gives you a sense of purpose. *can lead to feelings of accomplishment & pride. *improves your ability to focus. *promotes risk taking. *is a prerequisite for innovation. *encourages us to be lifelong learners.

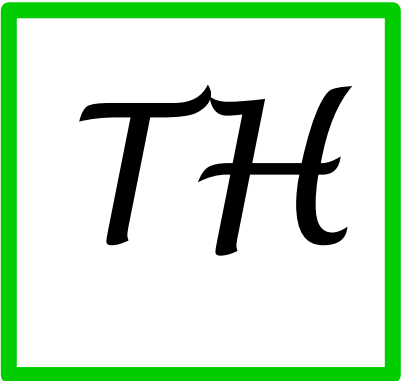
A trip: improves social & communication skills. *ensures peace of mind. *helps you gain original & creative thoughts. *broadens your horizons. *enhances your tolerance for uncertainty. *boosts your confidence. *gets you real-life education. *creates memories. *helps you have fun.

Cooking: *strengthens a child's fine motor skills. *develops basic understanding of math concepts. *develops the concept of sequencing. *expands vocabulary. *develops reading skills. *introduces scientific concepts. *develops an adventurous & diverse taste palette. *engages our senses. *increases focus & attention. *teaches life skills. *promotes healthy eating. *boosts self-confidence. *encourages family bonding.

Critical Thinking: *encourages curiosity. *enhances creativity. *reinforces problem solving ability. *Promotes: reasoning skills, analytical thinking, evaluative skills, logical thinking, organizational & planning skills, language skills, self-reflection, observational skills, open-mindedness, visualization techniques, questioning ability, and decision making. *develops independence. *is a lifelong skill.

Having fun: *reduces stress. *improves our ability to cope. *boosts energy. *improves memory & concentration. *improves our connections with others. *improves sounder sleep.

Guided Activity:



Count to Build

Combine counting and building to make various structures.

Materials:

Dice	Choose From:	Blocks	Legos
Boxes	Cans	Plastic Cups	Popsicle Sticks

What to do:

Choose your building materials.
Roll the dice and build with that number of materials.
You can add onto your building or build a new.

Extension:

Use one dice or two.
Use a mix of building materials.
Create and/or continue a pattern.

ISBE Early Learning Standards:

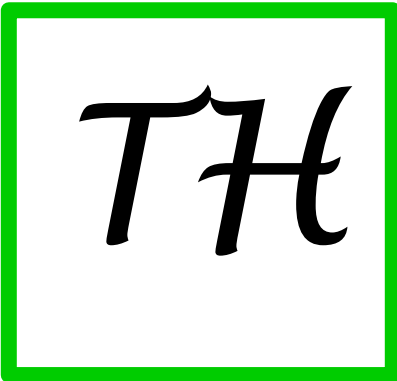
Arts: 25AECd Participate in visual arts; 25BECa Describe creative work; 26BECa Use creative arts for expression.

Math: 9AECe Think about spatial orientation of shapes; 9BECb Use location & position vocabulary; 9AECd Combine shapes to make new ones.

Physical: 19AECa Engage in active play using gross and fine motor muscles; 19AECc Use strength and control; 19AECd Use hand-eye coordination.

Social Emotional: 30CECa Exhibit eagerness and curiosity; 30CECb Demonstrate persistence and creativity in solving problems; 30CECc Show initiative, self-direction and independence

Guided Activity:



Ramps

A ramp is a tool made from an inclined surface to move an object from one place to another?

Materials:

Things that roll

Things that don't roll

Blocks

Boxes

Books

Flat surface to use as an incline (board, blocks, blanket, cut up cereal box, tube, etc)

What to do:

Build a ramp. Examples: stack blocks to lay a board on from top to floor; a couch cushion from couch to floor; a blanket from table top to floor; cut a cereal box so that the long side creates a slide with sides; etc

Then, experiment and observe.

Extension:

Sort objects into categories. Rolls-No Roll-Rolls & No Roll; Slide – Roll. Graph the results.

Have a race.

Raise and lower the top of the ramp.

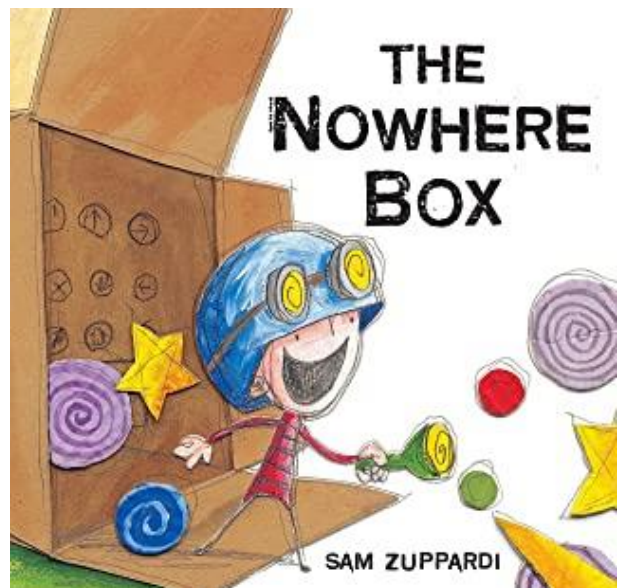
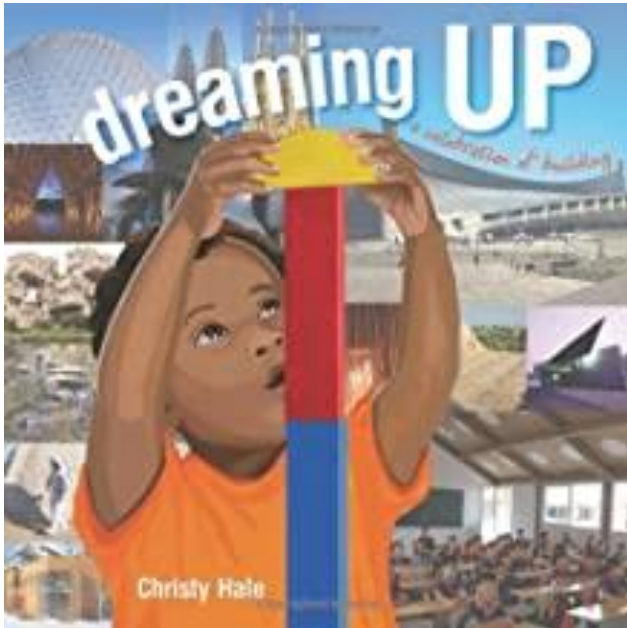
Make the ramp longer and shorter.

What would happen if you tried to roll the object *up* the ramp?

ISBE Early Learning Standards:

Science: 11AECa Express wonder and curiosity; 11AECc Plan and carry out investigations; 11AECd Collect, describe compare & record information; 11AECf Make meaning from experiences; 12DECa Describe the effects of forces in nature; 13BECb Familiarity with technological tools.

Recommended Reading:



If you do not already own these books, you can find them digitally online at your library, Hoopla, or You Tube.

Dreaming Up: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uOPWinRrdE>

The Nowhere Box: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ury1ZDoGj3Y>