Fall is my Favorite

Building Blocks
October 2019
Ms. Larissa and Ms. Rebecca

This month in Building Blocks...
We will spend this month looking for signs of fall, exploring trees and squirrels, and celebrating Halloween! Our month begins with falling leaves and changing colors. We will graph our favorite fall colors, and listen to fall music. The create-it-corner will provide us with endless projects using reds, yellows, and oranges. We'll explore acorns and trees, and the animals that depend on them for food and shelter. We will cook with apples and pumpkin and in music we will "build" a scarecrow using our instruments! Halloween begins to creep in by the end of the month, and we'll decorate pumpkins, ride a witches' broomstick, meet some spiders, and watch out for silly monsters! The month will end with a party to celebrate this not-so-scary holiday, complete with costumes, treats, and a parade!

Bring your smiles!
Picture Day is Wednesday Oct. 9!
We will take both class and individual photos.

No School Monday, Oct 14

Our letters this month
Tt...for tree
Nn...for nuts
Pp...for pumpkins
Ss...for spooky

September in our classroom has been a time for making new friends, learning classroom routines, and beginning to explore what it means to be part of our school community. For many of the children, this is their first experience being in a school setting. Sharing toys, verbalizing feelings, and understanding teacher expectations are just a few of the many ways we guide social emotional development in Building Blocks.

You can reinforce what we are doing in school by identifying emotions, both in real life and in books, by presenting scenarios about sharing and handling conflict, and by discussing personal space boundaries.

*Remind kids that the toys in our classroom belong to everyone. Model ways they can invite friends to play, and how to use words to ask a friend for a turn with toys and materials.

*Remind kids that if they are feeling frustrated with another friend or situation to come to a teacher for help. Model ways to talk about feelings; talk about ways to resolve conflict and problem solve.

*We talk a lot about personal space and "bubbles", reminding kids that we don't enter a friend's "bubble" without asking. Model ways to keep our hands, feet, and bodies to ourselves, both during play and group activities. Encourage kids to be aware of where their bodies are in relation to friends and materials.
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>1 graph</td>
<td>2 What is your favorite fall color?</td>
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<td>8 Say &quot;cheese&quot; for Picture Day!</td>
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<td>6 Letter of the week</td>
<td>7 Exploring rocks of all shapes and sizes</td>
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<td>9 Say &quot;cheese&quot; for Picture Day!</td>
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<td>13 Letter of the week</td>
<td>14 NO SCHOOL</td>
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<td>16 Spider! We'll hunt for and build our own spider web!</td>
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<td>20 Letter of the week</td>
<td>21 How does a pumpkin grow?</td>
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<td>23 Big monsters, small monsters, silly monsters, and more!</td>
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<td>25 Music</td>
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<td>27 Letter of the week</td>
<td>28 Is there room on the broom?</td>
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<td>30 Halloween! Costumes, treats, and a parade for families!</td>
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<td>Fun on the farm, turkey talk, and all the ways we go from here to there!</td>
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Last month in Building Blocks

In music we explored instruments, making sounds that were loud/soft and fast/slow. We listened to different music and thought about how the music made us feel, using colors to draw the sounds we heard. Our song for the month was about the rainbow of friends we’re making this year in Building Blocks!

A Rainbow of Friends
(sung to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star)
Red and yellow, blue and green
All the colors in between.
Like them all we are unique
From our noses to our feet.
Red and yellow, blue and green
A rainbow of friends for all to see.

Shape Sugar Cookies
You’ll Need:
*3 cups flour
*3/4 tsp. baking powder
*1/4 tsp. salt
*1 cup butter
*1 egg
*1 Tbsp. water (or milk)
*1 cup sugar
*Jolly ranchers candy

To make:
*Mix flour, baking powder, and salt. Set aside.
*Mix butter and sugar in a large bowl. Add milk and egg and stir until combined.
*Gradually add flour mixture.
*Divide dough in half, wrap in plastic wrap, and refrigerate for 2 hours.
*Place one jolly rancher candy in a Ziploc bag and crush.
*Preheat oven to 375. Spray a cookie sheet well.
*Use a cookie cutter cut out cookies. We used triangles, circles, and square shapes.
*Sprinkle crushed candy over the top of the cookie.

Rainbow Fruit salad
We used fruits that matched all the colors of the rainbow. We cut up the fruit, then mixed it all together for a colorful treat!
Purple — grapes
Blue — blueberries
Green — green apples
Yellow — pineapple
Orange — cantaloupe
Red — strawberries

Books we enjoyed this month:
My Friends by Taro Gomi
What Makes A Rainbow by Betty Ann Schwartz
My Many Colored Days by Dr. Seuss
Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh
Shape by Shape by Suse MacDonald
Ladybug on the Move by Richard Fowler
Put me in the Zoo by Robert Lopshire
A Rainbow of My Own by Don Freeman