

August 2018

Monthly Concepts:

Shape: Octagon (8 points) **Colors:** Rainbow **Opposites:** Largest/Smallest **Values:** Perseverance **Motor Development:** Skipping

August 6-10

Let's Go Camping

- **Discussion:** "When I went camping I..."
- **Dramatic Play:** Camping Trip; enhance with theme-related props.
- **Arts & Crafts:** Painting with tree branches, painting with animal track stampers and Leaf Impressions
- **Cooking Experience:** Making "S'more Playdough"
- **Learn & Sing:** "A Camping We Will Go"
- **Math Activity:** Jumbo Marshmallow Graphing

August 20-22

Children's Choice Theme

- **Discussion:** Describe a happy memory about school... teacher dictate children's responses
- **Arts & Crafts:** Paint Scrape Art and 3-D Popsicle Stick and Yarn Turtle
- **Science Experiment:** Make a solar oven and create a S'more to eat
- **Dramatic Play:** Jewelry Shop (Add props)
- **Math:** Ball and Tube Addition

Special Events:

July 30: *Bring a Teddy Bear to School*

August 17: *Kids' Night Out & Spirit Shirt Day*

August 21: *Last Day of Kinder-Camp and Summer Camp*

August 22: *Last Day of Nursery & Early Childhood Program Infant, Toddler, Preschool and Junior Pre-Kindergarten*

August 23 - 28: *Fall Preparation & Staff Development (School Closed to Children)*

August 29 - September 4: *Orientation & First Days of 2018-2019 School Year*



August 13-17

Summer Fun

- **Discussion:** "This year I...!"
- **Outside Activities:** Throw tennis balls at octagons—largest to smallest.
- **Read:** *How I Spent My Summer Vacation*
- **Arts & Crafts:** Open-ended weaving with yarn and yarn needles or molding with clay
- **Sensory Exploration:** Black beans with red-colored sand; add spoons, cups, and straws
- **Science Experiment:** Planting flower and grass seeds

August 29-31

Ready For School

- **Discussion:** Let's talk our classroom!
- **Group Activities:** Go on a Classroom Hunt and Beach Ball Question game
- **Sensory Exploration:** Cornmeal with grass seeds; add ramps and cars
- **Learn & Sing:** "Where is _____?" -interactive song
- **Math:** Weighing real apples or Racetrack Launch and Measure with cars
- **Read:** *How Do Dinosaurs Play With Their Friends*

Did you Know...?

Tuning Out to Tune In: How Time Outside Can Improve Readiness to Learn Inside

"Nature has beautiful and unexpected ways of capturing our attention--the wind suddenly blowing across our face, our feet slowly sinking into the sand at the beach, or seeing an animal run in full stride in its natural habitat. Research call this type of attention "involuntary attention" and believe that time spent in involuntary attention may actually be giving our voluntary attention an important time of rest (Kaplan, 1995, and Taylor, Kuo, & Sullivan, 2001). Voluntary attention includes such activities as focusing on a math problem, or writing letters- basically tasks that make a person focus on what he is doing. Involuntary attention is when we don't mean to pay attention to something, but our brain shifts our focus anyway (an animal making noise, the sound of thunder, the smell of lilacs, etc.)"

Read the full article at: <http://families.naeyc.org/how-time-outside-can-improve-readiness-to-learn-inside>