

# April 2018

## Monthly Concepts

Shape: Pentagon (5 sides)   Colors: Blue and Turquoise   Opposites: Top and Bottom (and middle)   Values: Truthfulness   Motor Development: Crawling/Creeping

### Spring & New Life

March 9-12

- **Discussions:** “How high can a flea jump? How is silk made? Why do bees buzz?”
- **Math:** “Smack the Number” counting game
- **Sensory Exploration:** Explore real Earth and Mealworms
- **Science Experiments:** Build a “Bug House”; track insects found. Observe insects in specimen containers with magnifying glasses.
- **Arts & Crafts:** Create a “Buggy Hat” to wear
- **Group Game:** “Bug in a Web” (tape and cotton balls)
- **Small Group:** Look at real pictures of insects & arachnids
- **Dramatic Play:** “Enjoying a boat ride”

### Earth Week

April 16-20

- **Discussion Questions:** “What do you know about Planet Earth? Does Earth have more water or more land?”
- **Science Experiment:** Sponge Sprout Houses; build a house using sponges, water and grass seed. OR Create a worm composting center; collect foods from lunches/snacks.
- **Arts & Crafts:** Homemade Bird Feeders; use recyclable materials, sunflower butter and bird seed.
- **Group Activity:** Worm Composting; collect lunch and snack scraps to add to compost. Observe & document findings.

### Flourishing Farms

May 23-27

- **Discussion:** “On a farm...”
- **Outside Activities:** Jazzy Jumping Jacks Contest
- **Dramatic Play:** “Fun on the Farm” with props and bird seed sensory
- **Group Game:** Go on a Nature Walk; play “Body Charades” and look for items that are purple
- **Math:** Graphing number of farm animals
- **Sensory Exploration:** “AB Seed” (bird seed with farm animals)

### Dinosaurs: Carnivores and Herbivores

April 30-May 4

- **Discussion:** “Dinosaurs like to \_\_\_\_\_.”
- **Cooking:** Watermelon & Bell Pepper *or* Orange & Lime Citrus Slushy; prepare and enjoy!
- **Science Experiment:** “Twice the Balancing Magic”
- **Outside Games:** Jumping rope & “Riverstone Jump”
- **Math:** “DINomite Math” (theme-related games)
- **Sensory Exploration:** Cornmeal, soil and water mixture with dog bones and paint brushes
- **Cooking Activities:** “Fascinating Fossils” (imprint on dough)

### Special Events:

**April 2-6:** Spring Recess and Staff Development


**April 13:** Kindergarten Bike & Scooter Rally. Children must bring a bike, scooter or ride-on AND a helmet to participate.

**April 16-20:** Scholastic Book Fair- “Paws for a Good Book” in a comfy spot in the atrium with some furry, stuffed animal friends.

**April 18:** Kindergarten Graduation Pictures. Children will take pictures in a cap and gown. Pictures will be available to view and purchase the same day from 2:00-6:00 pm. Please see the front office for questions.

**April 20:** Kid’s Night Out & Spirit Shirt Day. Be sure to wear your favorite Turtle Rock

**April 24 & 25:** IUSD Health Screening . More information to follow...

**April 30-May 4th:** Teacher Appreciation Week! 

**Did You Know...** There are many great places to visit in Orange County that are perfect for your curious and imaginative preschoolers, here are just a few... -Orange County Great Park (Irvine) , Adventure Playground (Irvine or Huntington Beach), Giant Slides at Santiago Nature Preserve (Santa Ana), Concerts in the Park (Irvine), Outdoor Movies (Irvine), Atlantis Play Park (Garden Grove), Discovery Science Center (Santa Ana), Marina Park (Newport Beach), Centennial Farms (Costa Mesa) and Zoomars (San Juan Capistrano). Go exploring today! 