

#### Dear REACH Parents:

Listed below are some suggestions for activities during our extended break from school.

#### Language and Literacy

-Practice rhyming skills (i.e., "What word rhymes with your name?" "Cat and hat rhyme. What other words sound the same?")

-Share books or look up information about spring, planting, etc. on the computer.

-When reading books together, ask open-ended questions that encourage higher level thinking skills (i.e., "What do you think will happen next?" "How do you think the character was feeling?" What do you like/not like about the ending of the story?")

-Encourage your child to practice "writing." (i.e., Ask your child to practice writing/tracing his/her name (uppercase letters), draw a picture or make a list--even if s/he uses shapes instead of letters.)

## **Mathematics**

-Notice and count different shapes inside your home and outdoors.

-Count any number of items. Sort them by color, size, etc.

-Compare size, shape and position (in front, under, beside, next to) of everyday items.

-Match socks that are exactly the same, while folding the laundry.

-Color shapes.

-Watch/sing along with the Shapeltown video (guest author visited this week).

# <u>Shapeltown</u>

🔁 ABC Alphabet Phonics - Preschool Game for Kids (free on app. store)

#### Science

-Give your child toys that can be used to explore (boxes, balls, ramps, bubbles, magnets, containers, magnifying glasses, etc.).

-Grow things. Plant some seeds and talk about what will happen and what the seeds need to grow.

-Go outside. Look at the sky, trees, plants and animals. Collect items to talk about or make a craft.

-Include them in simple cooking projects: measuring, adding ingredients and tasting new foods.

# Social Studies

-Talk about where things are in your town. Make a map from your house to the store or park.

-Talk about how people in the family (or friends and neighbors) are the same or different.

-Share stories about when you were little and what life was like. Notice with your kids what was the same or different between your childhood and your parents (their grandparents).

-Play store. Children love to learn about buying and selling everyday things at home.

## Social Activities

-Help your child understand routines. Have a quiet time after lunch or use the mornings for errands and field trips and the afternoon for more stay-at-home activities.

-Make time to go to the park, have a playdate. We realize social distancing is important during this health-related break; practice safe habits for your family.

-Play a board game or game of cards. (We have been playing games like Candy Land, Go Fish, and the kids love them.)

-Play preschool games that reward attention and self-control such as Simon Says or Red Light/Green Light.

# **Creative Arts**

-Play music and have a dance party.

-Sing songs together like (check on YouTube for these favorites to sing along with):

- Twinkle Twinkle
- Wheels on the Bus
- The Itsy Bitsy Spider
- Baa Baa Black Sheep
- On Top of Spaghetti

-Watch dancing.

-Look at paintings.

-Explore art supplies.

-Look at pictures to name colors and shapes.

We hope this is helpful. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

## REACH teachers

Ann Wescott, Anthony Weymouth, Jill Horan