



**BOULDER VALLEY**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Early Childhood Education**  
Spark a lifetime of achievement.



# LEARNING STARTS HERE

**2024-25 BVSD EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
SCHOOL READINESS CALENDAR**

## Dear BVSD Family,

The Early Childhood Education department is excited to launch the school readiness calendar as a resource for preschool families who have a child transitioning to kindergarten.

The calendar was created as a resource for children to practice skills that they will need for kindergarten.

Transitioning from a preschool classroom to kindergarten is an exciting time in a young child's early years in school. Transitions in early childhood are ones filled with many questions and new learning opportunities for you and your child. As educators and parents, we know that a smooth transition to kindergarten is an essential part of a child's academic experience. There are three keys to a successful transition to kindergarten:

### **Start sooner. Thrive throughout.**

It is important to build a collaborative relationship with your child's elementary

school, teachers, and principals. Strong communication with your child's school is important. This new calendar will set a strong foundation for communication and readiness skills.

### **Bright minds light up those around them.**

Young children need support and guidance to help ease the transition and promote a successful school experience, both academically and emotionally. Summertime and the year before kindergarten is a wonderful time to promote reading, language, and social emotional activities to ensure young learners are ready for the transition to school in August (strategies below).

### **And away we learn!**

It is important for the family to know that sometimes the transition process can take time. Transitions occur frequently throughout one's lifetime. The child who is able to feel safe in a gradual transition will become more confident for future transitions in life.

This new school readiness calendar provides activities each month that can fit into your everyday life. Keep in mind, children develop at different rates, and there is a wide range of what typical looks like at this age. Boulder Valley School District

ensures that administrators and teachers recognize the whole child. As educators, we are prepared and ready to work with children who have a wide variety of skills and learning styles. We see each child as an individual and want to spark their curiosity and ensure success in the early years of their educational journey.

We hope you enjoy this learning tool!





# Your Guide to the 2024-25 SCHOOL READINESS CALENDAR

Early childhood education matters. This is the true "launch pad" for all your child can accomplish, discover and learn in the years ahead. **But learning doesn't stop at home!**

BVSD created this calendar to aid in school readiness for those going into kindergarten next year.

Inside, you'll find fun family activities, individual learning projects and opportunities for those precious "a-ha" moments you share with your child.



Each month highlights one "learning objective" starting with "I am learning." These objectives have been prioritized by the BVSD community as key success indicators for kindergarten readiness.



Activities that help children develop multiple skills are on select days every month. Feel free to switch the days to work better for your family and repeat the ones your child enjoys!



**Try a Fingerplay!**  
Try washing your hands to "Wash Your Hands" (tune: Row Row Row Your Boat). Wash, wash, wash your hands. Wash those germs away. Soap and water does the trick. To keep them clean all day!

**Learn to make clay at home**  
You need:  
• 1 cup water  
• vegetable oil  
• 1/2 cup salt  
• 1 Tablespoon cream of tartar  
• Food coloring  
• 1 cup flour  
• newspaper  
Directions: Combine all ingredients EXCEPT flour in a saucepan. Stir and heat until warm. Remove from heat and add flour. Stir, mix, knead until smooth. Roll out the clay and use for anything you like. Be creative!

**Five Little Ducks**  
1 Little duck went out one day, over the hill and far away, where the quack quack and quack quack came back.  
4 Little ducks went out one day, over the hill and far away, where the quack quack and quack quack came back.  
3 Little ducks went out one day, over the hill and far away, where the quack quack and quack quack came back.  
2 Little ducks went out one day, over the hill and far away, where the quack quack and quack quack came back.  
1 Little duck went out one day, over the hill and far away, where the quack quack and quack quack came back.  
But when the daddy duck and quack quack came waddling back.

**OCTOBER**  
SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY  
1 Laundry helper: Have your child sort, count, and match items of clothing. (Example: socks, three pairs, four shirts)  
2  
3  
4 Storytime: Have your child read you a book by describing the pictures.  
5  
6 Routine talk: Talk through a part of your child's daily routine. (Example: Getting dressed: "First I put my shirt on.")  
7 Screen-Free Day!  
8  
9  
10 Office work: Have your child be the "Office Helper" in the kitchen and open the containers for what you need. You may have to help get them started.  
11  
12  
13  
14 Kitchen helper: Have your child be the "Office Helper" in the kitchen and open the containers for what you need. You may have to help get them started.  
15  
16 Work Wash Wash: Wash your hands together and sing the hand-washing song!  
17  
18  
19  
20 Song Time: Sing a song from your own childhood with your child.  
21  
22 Choices: Offer your child a choice during a difficult routine activity. (Example: Do you want the bubble gum or nose toothpaste?)  
23  
24  
25 Fingerplay: "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes"  
26  
27 Five Little Pumpkins  
28  
29  
30  
31  
Did you know? Starting your child's educational experiences early not only encourages academic success, but also social outcomes and personal confidence.  
Give it a Try! During the fall season, the colors of plants change. See how many colors you can find at the park!

## Inside the calendar: Watch for the Fingerplays!

**Fingerplays** are songs that include finger movements. BVSD educators have recorded these and posted them on YouTube so that you can sing along with us!

To view them, scan the QR code located near the song title. If you don't have a QR scanner, visit the Google Play Store (Android) or App Store (Apple) and search for a QR scanning app. Then launch the app, aim the camera at the code and you'll be taken to YouTube, where the video can be played.



I am learning through play.

### Why?

Play is how I make sense of my world. Engaging in play helps me understand abstract concepts, improves my thinking abilities, and gives me a chance to practice making sense of new information. When you let me play, you are helping me build a strong foundation for future school success!

## Create time and space to play

Often times parents want to fill time with children with activities, crafts, or projects. Be sure to leave some time in your child's day when they can engage in pretend play. Children need time and space to act out their ideas from their imagination. You can either follow their lead and ideas, or just let them play and observe their amazing ideas.





# AUGUST



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 <b>Simplify the steps</b> Create a picture chart (draw simple pictures or use clipart) of your child's bathroom routine (wipe, flush, pull-up pants etc.).	3
4 <b>Library day</b> Go to your local library and get a library card. Check out books to read at home- look for books without words!	5 <b>Share your day</b> Have a family conversation at mealtime. Take turns telling a story about something you did that day!	6	7 <b>Listening ears</b> Let your child tell you a make-believe story while you write what he says.	8	9	10 <b>Hide and seek shapes</b> Go on a walk outside and try to find shapes hidden in your neighborhood.
11  One Two Three Four Five Six Seven Eight Nine Ten	12 <b>Fun with food</b> Snack time counting: Count snacks like grapes, crackers, peas, pretzels.	13	14 <b>Game night</b> Have a board game night. Choose a game everyone can play. Practice taking turns and being respectful while you play.	15 <b>Pictures not words</b> Find a book with no words (check your library). Let your child tell the story using the pictures as cues.	16	17 <b>Have a Screen-free day!</b>
18	19	20 <b>Fingerplay</b> "Old MacDonald had a Farm!" 	21	22	23 <b>Exploring signs!</b> While in the car or on a walk, read signs. Point to signs like "King Soopers" or "stop" and talk about the letters and pictures.	24
25 <b>Follow and lead</b> Play follow the leader. Take turns being a leader around the house or yard. As the leader try moving in different ways like walking tiptoe or taking big steps.	26 <b>Fingerplay</b> "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star!" 	27	28 <b>Counting Our Snacks</b> During snack time have your child count how many pieces of food is on their plate. (Example: Grapes, cheerios, raisins)	29	30	31



**Did you know?**

Starting your child's educational experiences early not only encourages academic success, but also social outcomes and personal confidence.

**Give it a Try!**

If the weather is nice and the wind is blowing, try flying a kite in a park!



I am learning to follow rules and routines in different places.

### Why?

Rules help keep me safe and help me understand expectations. Routines help me feel secure in knowing what to expect.

 Set an ideal bedtime schedule

### Bedtime

 pajamas

 brush teeth

 go potty

 read

 lights out




**Sing the Clean-Up Song**  
*Clean up, clean up  
Everybody, everywhere  
Clean up, clean up  
Everybody do your share!*



# SEPTEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 <b>Create spaces</b> Encourage independence by creating specific places for your child's belongings (coats, shoes, backpack, etc.).	4	5	6	7 <b>Puppet talk</b> Use puppets or stuffed animals during play and have a conversation.
8	9	10	11 <b>RAUL</b>	12 <b>Name puzzles</b> Write your child's name and cut out each letter. Then have them put it back together using a model, matching each letter.	13	14 <b>Listening game</b> Play I spy! (Example: I Spy with my little eye something blue)
15 	16 <b>Scavenger hunt</b> Go on a walk and collect different items (rock, stick, pine cone). Once done, lay out all objects to count and sort. Talk about which items have more, less, or the same.	17	18 <b>Again, again, again</b> Read the same favorite book over and over again across many days then invite your child to read it to you.	19	20 <b>Give your child variety</b> Use different types of paper; lined, blank, and paper of various sizes and shapes. Let your child use pens, pencils, markers, crayons and more!	21
22	23	24 <b>Fingerplay</b> Sing and do actions for "Itsy Bitsy Spider." 	25	26 <b>Library day</b> Go to your local library and get a library card. Check out books to read at home – look for books without words!	27	28
29	30 <b>What's next?</b> Create a routine for your child. Use pictures to help understand. 					



**Did you know?**

Starting your child's educational experiences early not only encourages academic success, but also social outcomes and personal confidence.

**Give it a Try!**

Make up a story about the pictures in a book without words.





I am learning to dress myself,  
keep myself healthy and use the  
bathroom independently.

### Why?

I can and want to do things for  
myself, and I want to! I feel proud  
when I get dressed and care for  
my body.



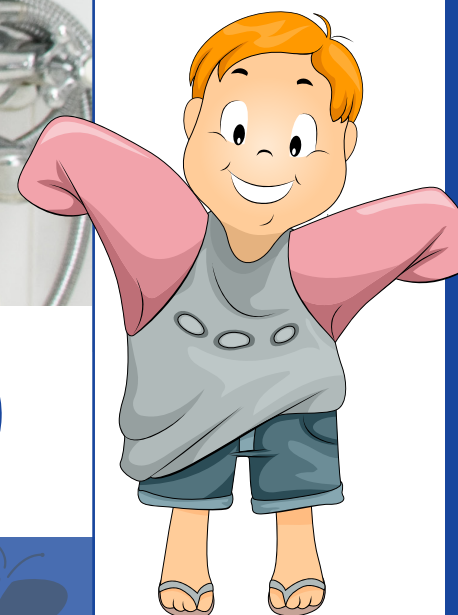
Try washing your  
hands to "Wash Your  
Hands" (tune: Row  
Row Row Your Boat).

*Wash, wash, wash your  
hands*

*Wash those germs  
away.*

*Soap and water does  
the trick,*

*To keep them clean all  
day!*



# OCTOBER





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4 	5 <b>Laundry helper</b> Have your child sort, count, and match items of clothing. (Example: six socks, three pants, four shirts)
6 <b>Storytime</b> Have your child read you a book by describing the pictures.	7	8 <b>Routine talk</b> Talk through a part of your child's daily routine. (Example: Getting dressed: "First I put my shirt on...")	9 <b>Have a Screen-Free Day!</b>	10 	11	12 <b>Office work</b> Make your child her own "office!" Fill a box or basket with different writing materials, stickers, envelopes, pens, stationery, ink stamps, and more.
13	14	15	16 <b>Kitchen helper</b> Allow your child to be the "Opener Helper" in the kitchen and open the containers for what you need. You may have to help get them started.	17	18 <b>Wash Wash Wash Your Hands</b> Wash your hands together and sing the hand-washing song! 	19
20 <b>Fingerplay</b> "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" 	21 	22 <b>Song Time</b> Sing a song from your own childhood with your child.	23	24 <b>Choices</b> Offer your child a choice during a difficult routine activity. (Example: Do you want the bubble gum or mint toothpaste?)	25	26
27	28	29 <b>"Five Little Pumpkins!"</b> 	30	31		



**Did you know?**

Starting your child's educational experiences early not only encourages academic success, but also social outcomes and personal confidence.

 **Give it a Try!**   
During the fall season, the colors of plants change. See how many colors you can find at the park!

# Registering for Kindergarten

To get your child ready for kindergarten you should:

**Decide which kindergarten you are going to attend.** Will you be attending your school of residency?

Every address in the Boulder Valley School District has an assigned neighborhood school for grades kindergarten through 12. To attend a school other than your neighborhood school, you must apply and be approved through the Open Enrollment lottery.

If you choose to attend a school outside of your neighborhood/school of residency and before completing the open enrollment process, parents/guardians should obtain information about the school to which they are applying so that they are informed about the program. Some schools/grade levels may have no open spaces to offer.

The Boulder Valley School District open enrollment application period is between November and January each year. Parents/guardians must apply online. Parents who do not have online access are encouraged to use computers available for this purpose at many schools and in the Open Enrollment office.

Please visit the enrollment website at

<https://www.bvsd.org/parents-students/enrollment>.

Collect and scan or photograph your documentation, as you will need to register online to attend kindergarten in Boulder Valley School District. The following documents will be needed:

- Birth Certificate
- Proof of Immunizations
- Proof of Residency in Boulder Valley School District. A bill for monthly services received at the home address is required for enrollment. The bill must indicate the parent name, home address and a current date (within three months). Acceptable bills include:
- Current Xcel Energy bill, including service address.



# 90%

of all 4-year-old children attending a BVSD preschool are making growth within their widely held grade level expectations in literacy, cognitive, social emotional, and physical development.

- Current city utilities bill, including service address.
- In doubled-up situations, please include a letter from the person the family is living with. You must also submit one of the above-listed forms of acceptable proof of address for the host family.
- Home phone bill (AT&T, Comcast, etc), including the service address.
- Home cable bill (Comcast, Dish Network, etc), including the service address.
- Home internet bill (Comcast, Livewire, Century Link, etc), including the service address.

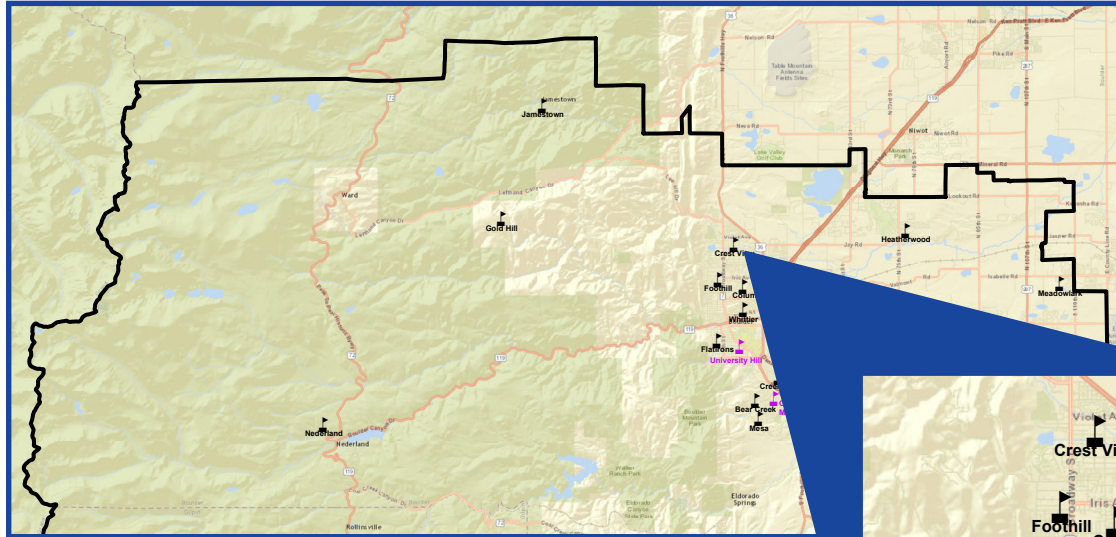
**Attend an open house or schedule a tour of your child's new school before school starts.**



# READY TO ENROLL?



Find your school!

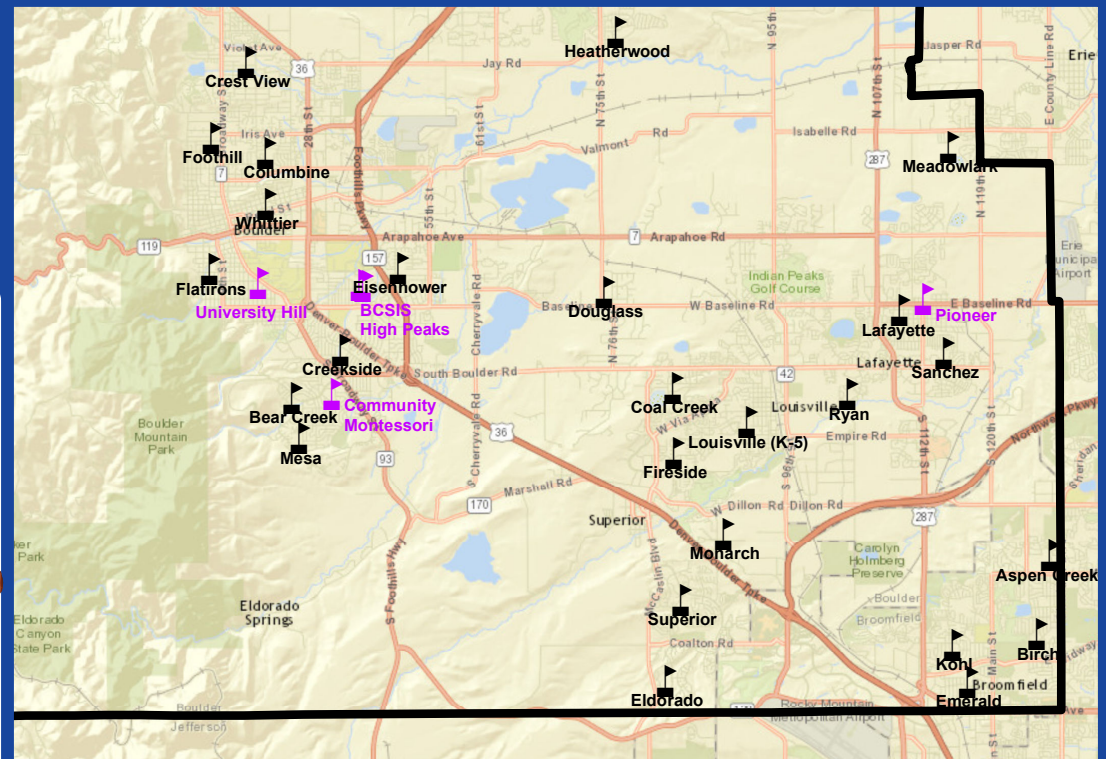


BVSD Kindergarten  
Schools

BVSD has 33 schools that feature kindergarten programs. View an interactive map at [bvsd.org/parents-students/enrollment/k-12-school-finder](https://bvsd.org/parents-students/enrollment/k-12-school-finder).

Aspen Creek (K-5)  
BCSIS  
Bear Creek  
Birch  
Coal Creek  
Columbine  
Community Montessori  
Creekside  
Crest View  
Douglass  
Eisenhower  
Eldorado (K-5)  
Emerald  
Fireside  
Flatirons  
Foothill  
Gold Hill

Heatherwood  
High Peaks  
Jamestown  
Kohl  
Lafayette  
Louisville  
Meadowlark  
Mesa  
Monarch (K-5)  
Nederland  
Escuela Bilingue Pioneer  
Ryan  
Sanchez  
Superior  
University Hill  
Whittier







I am learning to hold pencils, markers and crayons with three fingers.

### Why?

Learning the correct grip will make drawing and writing easier and less tiring on my hands.

## Learn to make clay at home

### You need:

- 1 cup water
- 1 Tablespoon vegetable oil
- ½ cup salt
- 1 Tablespoon cream of tartar
- Food coloring
- 1 cup flour
- saucepan

### Directions:

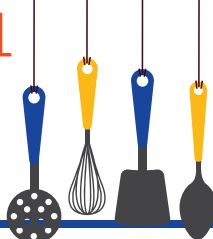








Combine all ingredients EXCEPT flour in a saucepan and heat until warm. Remove from heat and add flour. Stir, then knead until smooth. Store in baggie or airtight container.

You can hide items in the clay for your child to find, or make snakes and pancakes with it. Be creative!



# NOVEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> <b>Cooking up fun</b> Cook something simple together. Talk about each step. Point out new words; "This is a whisk, we use a whisk to mix."
<b>3</b> <b>Follow along</b> Read a book and move your finger under each word. Invite your child to help. 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>"10 Little Fingers"</b> 	<b>7</b> <b>Seeing the positive</b> Tell your child five positive things he did today (when he does them).	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> <b>Cooking time!</b> Make a family favorite recipe together. Talk about the ingredients and memories of eating the food together.	<b>16</b> <b>Fingerplay "Leaves are Falling Down"</b> 
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Have a Screen-free day!</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Dinner time</b> Eat together as a family. Talk about the number of people, plates, forks, etc.	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b>Card making</b> Encourage your child to create cards for people or events. She can copy names or you can help her sound out some letters!	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Flip Flop Over the Top!</b> Place coat face up on the floor in front of your child. The neck should be closest to her body. Have her kneel down, put her arms in sleeves and raise them up. This will flip the coat onto her back.	<b>30</b> 



**Did you know?**

Starting your child's educational experiences early not only encourages academic success, but also social outcomes and personal confidence.



**Give it a Try!**  
 Scan this QR code to see Flip Flop Over the Top.





I am learning about numbers.

### Why?

Counting helps me  
create a foundation for  
future math skills.



### Five Little Ducks

5 Little ducks went out  
one day, over the hill  
and far away, when the  
mama duck said quack  
quack quack, only 4 little  
ducks came back.

4 Little ducks went out  
one day, over the hill  
and far away, when the  
mama duck said quack  
quack quack, only 3 little  
ducks came back.

3 Little ducks went out  
one day, over the hill  
and far away, when the  
mama duck said quack  
quack quack, only 2 little  
ducks came back.

2 Little ducks went out  
one day, over the hill  
and far away, when the  
mama duck said quack  
quack quack, only 1 little  
ducks came back.








1 Little ducks went out  
one day, over the hill  
and far away, when the  
mama duck said quack  
quack quack, no little  
ducks came waddling  
back.

But when the daddy  
duck said "quack, quack,  
quack, 5 Little ducks  
came waddling back.



# DECEMBER





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 	4	5	6 <b>Tradition</b> Build a weekly tradition into your schedule. Example: Monday is Library day, and Friday is Park day. 	7 
8 <b>Family messages</b> Create a family message board with chalk or dry erase markers. Take turns letting all your family members write or draw a daily message. Don't worry about spelling!	9	10 <b>Library night</b> Go to the library and have your child pick out number books that interest him.	11	12	13	14 <b>Break and draw</b> Break a crayon in half and have your child draw a picture with it. Breaking it will help her hold it correctly.
15	16 <b>Bathroom routine</b> Talk about how your child is improving with the bathroom routine so he can do it all by himself in kindergarten (including wiping). Let your child know how proud you are!	17	18 <b>I Spy</b> Play an "I Spy" game including rhyming words or things that start with a particular letter sound. (Example: I spy something that rhymes with more. It's a door!)	19	20 	21 <b>Grocery trip</b> Go to the grocery store and have your child help you get the items on your grocery list. (Example: first the carrots, then bananas and then celery.)
22 <b>Play time</b> Play with your child and follow your child's play idea. When he builds a train tunnel, you build a bridge next to it!	23 	24	25	26 <b>Same and different</b> Point out similarities and differences between family members (Example: We all have brown hair).	27	28 
29	30	31 <b>"Winter is Here"</b> 				



**Did you know?**

Children can learn math through play.  
Math can be fun!

 **Give it a Try!**   
Make helping with laundry fun  
by counting and matching colors.





I am learning to answer questions and ask for help using a complete sentence.

### Why?

The more I hear words and practice using them, the more my brain grows.

## Learn to help at the store!

Make a grocery list before you go. Help your child think of a few items you need. Let them scribble or draw a picture together. Bring the list to the store and have your child search for these items. Point out signs and aisle numbers. For example: "That sign says crackers, do we need to get crackers? Can you find them? Crackers starts with letter C, it is on your list."

Talk about the items you see at the store. Start by describing items and use new words! Then ask questions like "What color is that apple? How does it feel? Tell me about it."



# JANUARY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1 Family fun</b> Think of an annual family tradition. Mark it on the calendar and talk about what you will do this year.	<b>2 Stuck on numbers</b> Write numbers on sticky notes and hide them around the house. Then go on a number hunt.	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 	<b>7 Repeat while you read</b> Read a book that has a repeating pattern such as "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?"	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10 Make it with macaroni</b> Make a necklace out of macaroni and yarn.	<b>11</b>
<b>12 Name hunt</b> At breakfast ask your child to find letters in his name on the cereal box or in the newspaper.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15 Practice makes perfect</b> Let your child put her own coat on. 	<b>16 Learn about a meal</b> Have your child help you make an easy meal.	<b>17</b>	<b>18 Library learning</b> Go to a family time or preschool time at your local library. Encourage your child to interact with other children.
<b>19</b>	<b>20 Fingerplay</b> "Where is Thumbkin?" 	<b>21 Have a Screen-free day!</b>	<b>22</b> 	<b>23 Cookie sheet creations!</b> Pour cornmeal, flour, salt, or shaving cream on a cookie sheet. Draw shapes, letters, numbers with your fingers.	<b>24</b>	<b>25 Fingerplay</b> "5 Little Snowmen!" 
<b>26</b> 	<b>27 Family dinner night</b> Eat at the table and have conversations. "What was your favorite part of the day?"	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 	



**Did you know?**

Shopping can wear anyone out! Before you leave for the store, try to grab a healthy snack. Children are likely to be a little less irritable and may not grab for items at the store if they have a snack before. You might benefit from a snack as well!



**Give it a Try!**

If there is snow outside, try building a snowman.





I am learning to use writing to express myself. Don't worry if I only make partial letters or draw.

### Why?

I use writing every day as a way to express my ideas, share information, relate to others and learn.



### Bingo Name Song!

Sing, spell, and clap the song BINGO, but use your child's name instead! It's okay if the tune is off because her name is short or long. Before you start, let your child pick an action (i.e. dance, swim, jump) to use in the song!




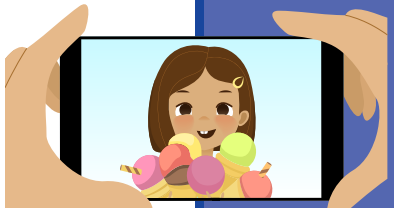
*There is a girl who likes to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is her name-o!*





# FEBRUARY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1 Draw together</b> Draw a picture with your child. Take turns adding parts to the picture.	
<b>2 Sound-hunt</b> Go on a sound-hunt together and find as many things as you can that start with a particular letter sound.	<b>3</b>	<b>4 Tissue time</b> Show your child where tissues are kept and how to use them.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 	<b>8 Memory</b> Play a memory match game with your child. You can make your own game with pictures of items or people your child is interested in!
<b>9</b>	<b>10 Snack time fun</b> Create a trail mix with different items (raisins, chocolate, pretzels). Count how many you have of each item!	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13 Sing together.</b> Sing “Down By the Bay” and come up with your own rhyming words. 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 	<b>17 Think positive</b> Tell your child five positive behaviors she did today (when she does them!)	<b>18</b>	<b>19 Photo journal</b> Take pictures of your child doing favorite activities or with family and friends. Glue the pictures to paper. Let your child write about the memory or you write while they tell.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22 Role play</b> Use puppets or stuffed animals to help your child practice problem solving. Do this when there is not an immediate problem and help your child think about solutions.
<b>23 Cooking class</b> Have your child help you cook!	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 	



## Did you know?

Children respond to specific praise about effort! Rather than rave about a beautiful picture, tell him something specific. "I like how you drew lots of different flowers." or "You really worked hard drawing this picture."



## Give it a Try!

Take photos of your child and let them write or tell you about it.



I am learning the names and sounds of letters, especially those in my name!

### Why?

When we sing together, read together and practice letters that are important to me, it helps me get ready for reading.

## ★ ★ Learn by using magnetic letters

1. Use magnetic letters on the refrigerator or a cookie sheet or any metal surface.
2. Sort curvy letters (s, c, etc.) and stick (l, t, z) letters.
3. Try sorting by letters in your child's name and those that are not in his name.
4. Tie a magnet on a string and "fish" for special letters.
5. Spell your child's name and other favorite words.



# MARCH



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1 Complete sentences</b> Practice using complete sentences. Instead of "that one" say "Can I have the blue truck?" Tap the words out on your knees.
<b>2 Have a Screen-Free Day!</b>	<b>3 Library Time</b> Go to the library and let your child pick out alphabet books.	<b>4 Sing</b> "Apples and Bananas" 	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7 Cover up</b> Model how to cover your mouth and nose with your elbow when you cough and sneeze.	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10 Signs, Signs, Everywhere</b> Add some written signs to objects around the house that your child uses regularly (bed, sink, etc.).	<b>11</b>	<b>12 Sing!</b> "Who Let the Letters Out" by Dr. Jean. 	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15 Snip and cut</b> Let your child cut plastic drinking straws into small pieces with kid scissors.
<b>16 Go explore</b> Play at a new place! Go to a kids' gym, pool, play area or playground and meet new children.	<b>17</b>	<b>18 Numbers</b> Read a number book before bed and trace the numbers with your fingers. Invite your child to do the same.	<b>19</b>	<b>20 Be prepared</b> Create a plan with your child so she knows what to do if she gets lost in a public place.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26 Where are those letters?</b> Go on a letter hunt and look for letters in your child's name. Look on food boxes, on the mail, or on signs outside.	<b>27</b>	<b>28 Letters, letters, letters</b> Play with magnetic letters! Put the letters on a baking sheet or on the refrigerator.	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					



**Did you know?**

Starting your child's educational experiences early not only encourages academic success, but also social outcomes and personal confidence.

**Give it a Try!**  
Help your child spell their name on the refrigerator with magnetic letters.





I am learning to follow 3-4 step directions (such as get your coat, get your backpack, meet me at the door).

### Why?

This is an important skill for me. This will also help me become more independent.

### ★ ★ ★ Make ants on a log!

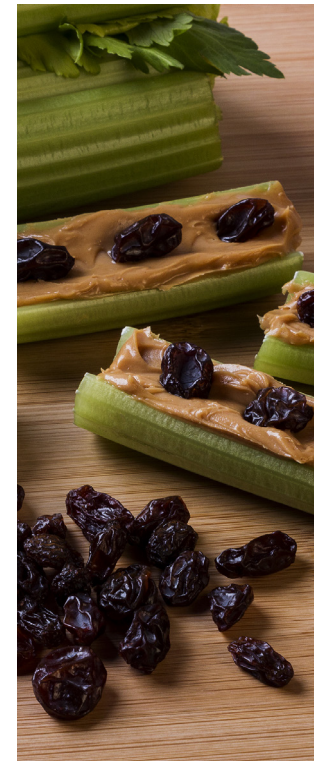
**Step 1:** Clean celery

**Step 2:** Cut celery with plastic knife

**Step 3:** Spread peanut butter on the celery stick (substitutions: cream cheese; nutella, almond butter, etc...)

**Step 4:** Top with raisins (substitutions: chocolate chips, raisins, etc...)

**Step 5:** Eat. YUM!



# APRIL



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 <b>Watch &amp; record</b> Spend a day with your child watching others in the community. Write or draw the positive and cooperative things you see.
6 <b>Family game night</b>	7 <b>Game night</b> Use real playing cards or make your own to play go fish!	8	9 <b>Fingerplay</b> "Butterfly Song" 	10	11 <b>Simon Says</b> Teach your child how to be Simon and give directions to you!	12
13 <b>Book night</b> Read a book and stop in the middle. Have your child predict what will happen next before continuing to read.	14	15 	16 <b>Practice makes perfect</b> Invite your child to practice putting on and taking off socks and shoes. VELCRO is the way to go!	17	18	19 <b>Roll out the letters</b> Use modeling clay or playdough to create letters. 
20 <b>Backwards counting</b> Countdown from 10-0 and have your child show each number on her fingers.	21	22 <b>Rules rule</b> Explain why we have rules in public. Example: We hold hands in the parking lot because it keeps you safe.	23	24 <b>Magnet time</b> Help your child to spell his name using magnetic letters. (Cookie sheets work great!)	25	26
27	28	29 <b>Sing</b> "Five Green and Speckled Frogs" 	30			



Children focus better when there are fewer distractions. Before you give a direction to your child be sure she is not playing or using electronics. After the direction give wait-time ... Pause for 2-3 seconds to let your child think, then repeat!

 **Give it a Try!**   
Play in the rain when April showers arrive.





I am making connections between new information and what I already know.

### Why?

My memories and experiences help me solve more challenging tasks.

## Learn strategies and questions to ask when reading

1. Tell me about the cover of the book. What clues does it give you about the story?
2. What is happening on this page?
3. How do you think the character is feeling? And why?
4. When have you felt like that?
5. What do you think will happen next?



# MAY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 <b>Dance time</b> Dance to the Hokey Pokey using different body movements.
4	5 <b>Letter connections</b> Read an ABC book and point out letters from your child's name.	6	7 <b>Fingerplay</b> "10 in the Bed!" 	8	9 <b>Story telling</b> Look at photos together. Tell your child about another time or place. Encourage him to tell a story with a beginning, middle, and end.	10
11 <b>Library Time</b> Go to the library and have your child pick books by the same author.	12	13 <b>Water painting</b> Give your child a paintbrush and bucket of water to "paint" the sidewalk or walls outside.	14	15 <b>Safety first</b> Look at safety signs in the community and explain why we have them. (Example: "Do Not Enter")	16	17 <b>Fingerplay</b> Practice the fingerplay "1,2,3,4,5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive." 
18	19 <b>Walk down memory lane</b> Talk about your child's favorite playground. Ask him why he likes it. Mark on this calendar when you will visit!	20	21 <b>Shopping time</b> Create a list together to go to the grocery store or shopping. You can read it together next time you go to that store.	22	23 <b>Explore new places</b> Go to a new place to play! Try a playground, play area, or library and meet new children.	24
25 <b>Have a screen-free day!</b>	26	27 <b>Snack plan</b> Create a spot in the kitchen where your child can get her own snack and drink independently.	28	29	30	31



"Play is the highest form of research."  
- Albert Einstein



**Give it a Try!**

Explore a bike trail as a family by walking or riding bikes.





I am learning to focus and engage with activities that are appropriate for me.

### Why?

Being able to attend to tasks and ignore distractions are skills that will be helpful throughout my life.



## Learn how to make a summer journal

Make a simple book by stapling papers together.

Have your child draw or write about adventures she has every day this month! It could be anything from big trips to a favorite snack.





# JUNE



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1 Journal and tell</b> Look and talk about your journal that you and your child made this month.
<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b>	<b>4 Sensory fun</b> Have your child use his fingers to make numbers in the sand, dirt, paint, or in shaving cream!	<b>5</b>	<b>6 Look for signs</b> Take a walk and talk about what signs you see! Try to point out new words. (Example: "Caution" – that means be careful)	<b>7</b> 	<b>8 Library time!</b> Visit the library and check out an informational book with your child!
<b>9</b>	<b>10 Our community</b> Talk about community helpers and what they do. (Example: "That's a dentist, she helps us keep our teeth healthy and clean")	<b>11</b>	<b>12 Fingerplay</b> "10 Horses" 	<b>13</b>	<b>14 Growing up</b> Praise your child for independently doing something. (Example: "You put your coat on by yourself!" or "You wiped by yourself!")	<b>15</b>
<b>16 Story time</b> Ask your child questions while reading a story, such as, "What do you think will happen?" or "What would you do?"	<b>17 I Went Walking</b> Take a walk together and try to spy all the animals in your neighborhood.	<b>18</b> 	<b>19 What's different?</b> Find two items that are similar, but different as well. Talk with your child about how they are similar and different.	<b>20</b> 	<b>21 Emotions charades</b> Show your child pictures of different feeling faces (you can draw simple ones!). Take turns choosing one to act out for the other to guess.	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>  <b>30</b>	<b>24 Fingerplay</b> "Open, Shut Them" 	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>



**Did you know?**

Children first learn to check other people's behavior before their own. That's why they often "tattle," as they are trying to understand the rules and how it looks to follow (or not follow) them!


**Give it a Try!**
  
 Your summer journal is a fun way to keep track of your child's adventures.



## ★ Learn to play "Pat-a-Cake"

Play this fun hand clapping game with your child!

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker's man,

Bake me a cake as fast as you can,

Prick it and pat it and mark it with a "B,"

And put it in the oven for "Billy" and me.



I am learning to play and interact appropriately with children and adults for longer amounts of time.

### Why?

Learning to play and be a cooperative member of a group helps me get ready for later school success.



# JULY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2

3

4



5

**Game time**  
Play a game with your child in which you take turns thinking of things that start with a particular letter.

6

**Who is this?**  
Look at and talk about old family photos!

7

8

**Number hunt**  
Walk and look for numbers. Point out numbers on street signs, houses, and grocery labels!

9

10

11

**Library Time**  
Go to the library and check out books about animals. Talk about animals you have seen in your neighborhood.

12

13

**14 Make new friends**  
Go to a playground with new children! Stay near your child and help him play appropriately if needed.

15

16



17

**Go outside**  
Write in the sand, dirt, or snow. Use sidewalk chalk, a small stick, or even just your fingers!

18

**19 Do you see an animal?**  
Go for a walk with your child and look for animals. Talk about which animals are the same as those you saw last month.

20

**Have a screen-free day!**

21

22

23

**Safety**  
Teach your child to cross the street safely and why it is important.

24

25

**Fingerplay**  
"The Wheels on the Bus"



26

27

28

29



30

**Play ball**  
Go outside and play ball. Practice throwing, catching, and kicking the ball. Add a target to make it more challenging!

31

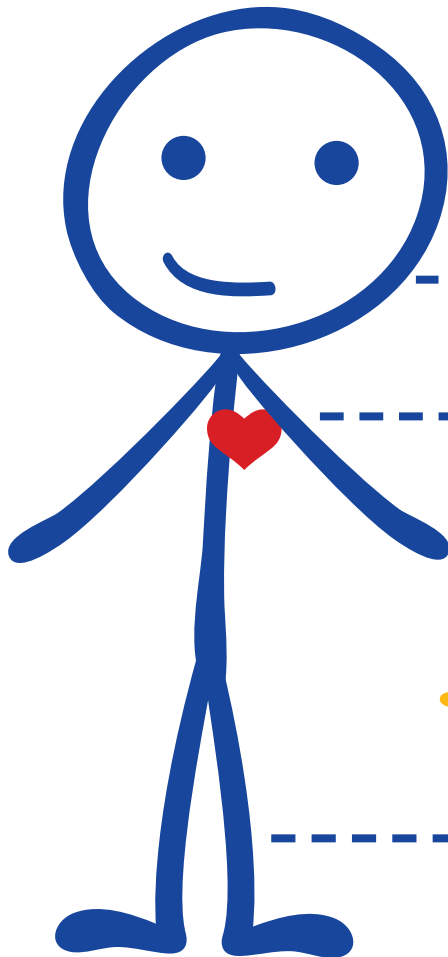


"Children learn as they play. Most importantly, in play children learn how to learn." – O. Fred Donaldson


**Give it a Try!**
  
 Sing "The Wheels on the Bus" as you get ready for your first day of school.



## DEVELOPMENT STARTS **HERE**



Cognitive development includes brain development which occurs at a rapid rate between birth and 5. Did you know that approximately 90% of brain development occurs between 0-5 years old?

Language development is how children learn vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar. It occurs with multiple opportunities to engage in and listen to talking.

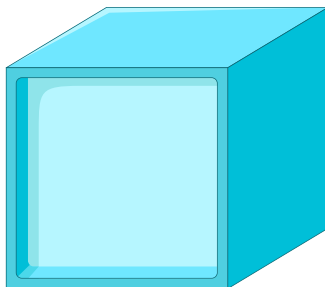
Social emotional development includes understanding and handling feelings, relationships, and problem solving. Children thrive with strong consistent relationships, and opportunities to interact with peers.

Fine motor is the way children are able to use their hands. Not only is this essential for writing, but also tasks like eating and getting dressed.

Gross motor is the way that children use their big muscles. This helps them move easily from place to place, and also helps build stability which is essential for small muscle tasks.



## Philosophy Statement



### **"Spark a Lifetime of Achievement"**

Boulder Valley Early Childhood Education is a high-quality, inclusive continuum from preschool through second grade that grows young learners in an environment that's language-rich and encourages exploration and problem solving while also developing key relationship skills so that young learners are propelled on the journey to achieve their full potential.

### Calendar brought to you by:

The Early Childhood Education department would like to thank the following preschool teachers who helped create the school readiness calendar. They are Garrette Ericson, Heather Hoover, Andrea Laser, Destiny Stillwell, Isabelle Smith, and Nichole Villa. In addition, many preschool teachers, kindergarten teachers, and literacy and math specialists, and other district leaders supported the early childhood team to create the top readiness skills needed for preschool children transitioning to kindergarten. This calendar was a collaborative effort by many stakeholders.

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**Early Childhood Education**

**Spark a lifetime of achievement.**

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