



Learning Through Play, Every Student, Every Day

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF 4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN!

Dr. Seuss said, "You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book." In our Literacy Corner this month we explore things parents can do when reading aloud that children enjoy and engage with as they begin their journey to becoming a reader. It must seem like magic as they come to realize that those letters, and gradually words, tell a story and that they will eventually learn how to read that story.

The developmental range for pre-reading behaviors is incredibly wide in 4-year-old lives. Some of our 4K students are learning to identify letters and some have started to identify their names. Some are writing sight words they see in their environment, like STOP from the stop signs they see on their way to school. Have you ever noticed a stop sign uses all capital letters? At the beginning, your child's writing may too.

This developmental range of skills is very typical at this age level and the best way to support your child's growth, no matter what level they are, is to read to them. I encourage you to sit back and relax, and enjoy some time reading together with silly voices, wide eyes, hushed voices, sleepy eyes, and whatever else makes the books come alive.



2025-2026 4K ENROLLMENT

Do you know a child who will be 4 years old on or before September 1st?!

Appleton Community 4K enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year began on Monday, February 10th, 2025!

Find more information on our 4K website:
4k.aasd.k12.wi.us/our-school/enrollment



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE?

- Literacy Corner
- 4K Office Contact Information
- Tucker's Corner
- Health Services Note
- Kindergarten Here I Come- AASD Summer School
- AASD Birth-Five Events
- Community Opportunities
- March Activity Calendar

Upcoming Events

- Learning Through Play Playgroups sponsored by Birth to Five Outreach:
Thursdays each month from 9:30-10:30 AM. Registration is required, see below for more information.
- Play with Purpose:
Tuesdays each month from 9:00-10:00 AM or 10:30-11:30 AM. Registration is required, see below for more information.

For more information OR to register for any of these events, please contact:

(920)832-6470



THE LITERACY CORNER

Reading Aloud

Reading aloud to children is the best way we know to teach them to love books. (Don Holdaway)

There is no exact right way to read aloud to children, however, the more expressive we read, the more fantastic the experience will be. As you read aloud, be aware of your body position, your eyes and their expression, your eye contact with your child, and the animation of your voice. Choose simple stories and try to read aloud to your child at least three times a day if possible. Although a read-aloud can happen anytime, it is important also to have a ritual about reading aloud every night, in the same place, at the same time. Having regular routines helps children feel safe and secure in life.

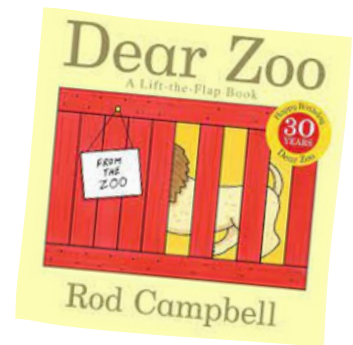
Reading Aloud...

- Cultivates a passion for and love of reading
- Develops a background knowledge that will help students achieve a higher level of understanding
- Provides a risk-free learning environment
- Fills the air with rich language
- Develops a rich vocabulary
- Allows children to grow their understanding of the world beyond the classroom walls
- Allows for oral language development as children begin to have conversations about the story, the characters, and why the author made the decisions she/he made
- Instills comprehension skills and strategies that children will use with their independent reading
- Leads to active thinking in children easier than any other single activity
- Leads to greater self-esteem and success, even in the most reluctant readers

- Lester Laminack

This month's book recommendations focus on books that children love:

I Went Walking by Sue Machin
Each Peach Pear Plum by Janet and Allan Ahlberg
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? By Bill Martin, Jr.
Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss
Owl Babies by Martin Waddell
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell
Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins



4K OFFICE
CONTACT
INFORMATION



Suzette Preston, Director of 4-Year-Old Kindergarten
Kabao Mouda, Dean of Students

Karissa Covington & Joan Kretz
Appleton Community 4K Administrative Assistants

Appleton Community 4K
2701 N Oneida Street, Suite C2
Appleton, WI 54911

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E-mail: community-4k@ascd.k12.wi.us

TUCKER'S CORNER



In 4K we use many strategies to help our young students find success during their class time. One strategy we are teaching that will stay with them throughout their lives is following a daily routine. Our classrooms use visual schedules for our young learners. An example of the schedule to start the school day might look like this:



Hang Up
Outdoor Clothes



Table Top Activities



Class Meeting

An important routine at home is bedtime, yet we frequently hear from parents that they struggle with this routine. When young children don't have the 10-12 hours of sleep they need, their learning can be affected.

When children sleep, their body is busy developing new brain cells that they need for physical, mental, and emotional development. Young children thrive on predictability and learn from repetition. It is important to establish a bedtime routine that you and your child both understand and helps everyone to feel calm and relaxed.

Here are some tips to try at home to build a consistent bedtime routine:

- Be creative, engage your child in setting this routine.
- Give 10, 5, and 2-minute warnings before starting your bedtime routine.
- Help your child choose a quiet activity before bedtime like reading books, listening to music, or holding a stuffed animal.
- Watch for signs of sleepiness and teach your child the words to use to communicate when they are tired.
- Talk about what will happen the next day to reassure your child that they will not miss out on something and to encourage sleep to make sure tomorrow will be fun.
- Use a visual schedule with pictures to show the steps leading up to bedtime. To the right is one example of a bedtime routine. Other examples can be found at the website listed below if you type "visual schedule" into the search box.
- Give your child undivided and unrushed attention during this bedtime routine to make it positive and something to look forward to each night.

	Get ready for bed	
	Brush teeth	
	Use the bathroom	
	Story time	
	Go to sleep	

As taken and modified from

https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/backpack/BackpackConnection_routines_bedtime.pdf

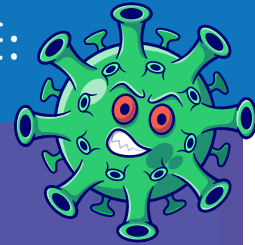


APPLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Health Services * P.O. Box 2019, Appleton, WI 54911 * 920-852-5344

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE:

NOROVIRUS



Norovirus is a virus that causes vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal cramping. Norovirus is often incorrectly referred to as "the stomach flu"; however, norovirus illness is not related to the flu (influenza), which causes respiratory symptoms. Norovirus causes approximately 20 million illnesses each year in the United States. Anyone can get norovirus infection and become sick. There are many different types of noroviruses; having a norovirus infection once does not mean you will not get it again during your lifetime.

How is it spread?



- ▶ The virus is found in the stool or vomit of someone infected with norovirus from the time symptoms start until at least 48 hours after symptoms end, and probably longer.
- ▶ The virus can be on a person's hands and spread to others, which is why handwashing is important.
- ▶ It can be spread by eating food or drink that has been contaminated with norovirus as well as touching objects with norovirus on them (e.g., shaking hands with an infected person, touching a doorknob that has norovirus on it) and then touching your mouth.
- ▶ Norovirus can survive on surfaces for 14 days or longer.

What are the signs and symptoms?

Symptoms usually begin 12-48 hours after becoming infected with the virus and can include:



Common symptoms:

- ▶ Vomiting (more common in children)
- ▶ Watery, non-bloody diarrhea
- ▶ Stomach cramps

Occasional symptoms:

- ▶ Low-grade fever
- ▶ Headache
- ▶ Chills
- ▶ Muscle aches
- ▶ Fatigue

What are the treatment options?



- ▶ There is no treatment for norovirus; people usually recover on their own 2-3 days after symptoms start.
- ▶ Drinking plenty of liquids is important to replace fluid loss and to make sure the body does not become dehydrated.

How can it be prevented?



- ▶ Handwashing is the most important step to prevent the spread of norovirus. It is essential to wash hands after using the restroom and before touching food.
- ▶ Anyone with diarrhea or vomiting should stay home from work or school until symptoms are gone in order to prevent spreading norovirus to others.
- ▶ People with diarrhea or who are vomiting should not handle food, work in or attend day care centers or schools, or take care of patients in a health care facility until 48 hours after their symptoms are gone.
- ▶ No vaccine is available to prevent norovirus infections.

BUREAU OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/bcd.htm> | DHSDPHBCD@dhs.wi.gov

Wisconsin Department of Health Services | Division of Public Health





AASD Summer School 2025

Kindergarten Here I Come!

For students entering 5 year old Kindergarten in the Fall

Class Dates: June 10 – July 3, 2025 (No School 6/19)

Class time: 8:30-11:30am

\$15 fee due at registration. Checks can be payable to: AASD

Appleton Area School District is offering a summer school class for students entering 5 year old Kindergarten in the fall of 2025. This course is designed to introduce and/or reinforce basic skills for kindergarten. Students have a lot of fun and meet new friends while becoming familiar with the school setting.

Kindergarten Here I Come classes will be offered at the following Summer School Sites:

Appleton Bilingual School	Edison	Houdini
Badger	Ferber	Huntley
Berry	Foster	Jefferson
Classical	Franklin	Johnston
Columbus	Highlands	McKinley
Dunlap	Horizons	Richmond

Clase para la preparación de Kinder

El propósito de esta clase de Prestancia es el ayudar a preparar a su hijo(a) a tener un buen comienzo en el Jardín de Niños el próximo otoño. Su hijo conocerá otros niños, tendrá varias actividades divertidas, conocerá a su maestro y se familiarizará con la escuela. Favor de llenar la solicitud de registro que se adjunta, y llevarla a la escuela en la que se desea inscribir al niño, durante la noche de inauguración de las inscripciones. Las fechas se anotan a continuación

Hoob Kindergarten Readiness

Lub homphiaj ntawm hoob kawm ntawv rau cov menyuam npaj yuav mus kawm nyob rau qib Kindergarten ntawm nov yog pab kom koj tus menyuam paub thiab kawm ntawv tau nyob rau qib Kindergarten xyoo no thaum lub caij nplooj ntoos zeeg uas menyuam rov qab pib kawm ntawv. Koj tus menyuam yuav ntsib lwm tus menyuam, yuav muaj kev ua ntau yam kom lom zem, yuav paub nws tus xifwb qhia ntawd, thiab yuav paub txog lub tsev kawm ntawv. Thov muab daim ntawv cuv npe menyuam kawm ntawv ntawm nov teb thiab ua kom tiav thiab muab nqa mus rau lub tsev kawm ntawv uas koj xav kom koj tus menyuam tau mus kawm. Nqa tuaj mus rau thaum hmo uas lawv qhib sau npe rau menyuam kawm ntawv. Cov vasthib uas yuav qhib cuv npe rau menyuam kawm ntawv muaj raws li nram qab no.

Registration will be conducted online this year!

Please see the following website for more information. www.aasd.k12.wi.us/families/summer_school_information

Current AASD students and private school students that attended last summer: Parents/ guardians will receive an email or message on the parent portal on April 7th to view what school site that the student will have enrollment access to for summer school.

Enrollment will be open to the school the student will attend the next school year. Private school students will have access to the site that they attended last summer. If the student would like to attend a different school for summer school, please contact kadolphkarrie@asd.k12.wi.us or 852-5332 ext. 60350.

Course registration opens April 14th. Parents/guardians will register for summer school courses via the Infinite Campus Portal. Student's finalized schedules and fees will also be available for viewing in the Portal within one week after registering the student. Fees may be paid online, also through the portal. Online registration will close on June 3rd; however, registration forms may be dropped off at the school site after that time. If assistance is needed logging on to Infinite Campus, please contact the Helpdesk at helpdesk@asd.k12.wi.us or 920-852-5555 ext. 63159.

<https://appletonwi.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/appleton.jsp>

****New out of district or private school students:** Please complete and return the form for the specific school to the school your child wishes to attend for summer school.

If you do not wish to use the online registration process, please complete and return the registration form to the school your child wishes to attend for summer school.

AASD
Birth-Five
OUTREACH

BIRTH-FIVE OUTREACH &
APPLETON COMMUNITY 4K INVITE YOU TO



ROAR & EXPLORE

WITH THE DINOSAURS

MARCH 13TH | 6:00 - 7:00 PM

313 S. STATE ST., APPLETON

ACTIVITIES INCLUDING:
SONGS - CRAFTS - FOSSIL DIG - SNACKS - AND MORE

**FREE & OPEN TO
CHILDREN AGES
BIRTH TO FIVE.
SIBLINGS ARE
ALWAYS
WELCOME!**

**REGISTRATION
IS REQUIRED
FOR THIS
EVENT BY
MARCH 10TH**

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO REGISTER:

**PARENT/CAREGIVER NAME - CHILD'S NAME & BIRTH DATE -
PHONE NUMBER - ADDRESS - EMAIL**

**PLEASE CONTACT DANIELLE TZAKAIS AT
(920) 832-6470 #1
OR TZAKAISDANIELL@AASD.K12.WI.US**

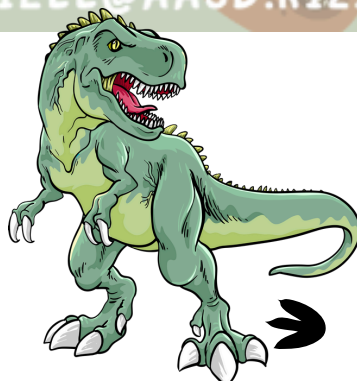


COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

Community Opportunities for Students






The AASD shares local, community opportunities for students. These community opportunities include upcoming events and activities such as art and music camps, youth athletics, cultural events, enrichment programs, and more. We encourage AASD families to regularly review these opportunities for students of all ages. Check out the AASD COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WEBPAGE for a current list of opportunities for students.

https://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/families/community_opportunities_for_students



March Play Ideas Calendar Preschoolers



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p></p> <p>Scan here for more information about Birth-Five Outreach</p> <p>2 Explore colors with this song: COLORS Song...</p>	<p>3 After reading a favorite book, help your child use stuffies to retell the story</p>	<p>4 Play With Purpose at CELC from 9-10 & 10:30-11:30 Power of Praise (Registration required)</p>	<p>5 National Pancake Day! Let your child help you mix up a yummy batch of pancakes</p>	<p>6 Learning Through Play at CELC from 9-10 & 10:30-11:30 Bees & Blooms (Registration required)</p>	<p>7 Go for a counting adventure outside. Count things like, steps, cars, construction cones, etc.</p>	<p>1 9:00am-2:00pm  Fox Cities Exhibition Center</p>
<p>9 Gather simple shapes. Set out paper and crayons. Let your child draw/trace the shape and color it</p>	<p>10 Give your child a bucket of soapy water and a few dishes. Let them pretend to wash them</p>	<p>11 Play With Purpose at CELC from 9-10 & 10:30-11:30 Toys 101 (Registration required)</p>	<p>12 Help your child practice their name by turning the letters into a rainbow*</p>	<p>13 Learning Through Play at CELC from 9-10 & 10:30-11:30 The Great Outdoors (Registration required) Roar & Explore 6-7 PM</p>	<p>14 National Math Day! Listen to this book Jack the Builder... and use your blocks to do math</p>	<p>15 Save the seeds! Take a seed from an apple or pepper. Fill an old container with dirt and plant it. Remember to put it in the sun and water it!</p>
<p>16 National Button Week! Enjoy this book to celebrate: Pete the Cat ...</p>	<p>17 Don't throw away the bottom of a green pepper! Dip it in paint to make shamrock prints* </p>	<p>18 Play With Purpose at CELC from 9-10 & 10:30-11:30 Five Senses (Registration required)</p>	<p>19 National Read to me Day! Let your child pick a few of their favorite books, find a comfy spot and read</p>	<p>20 Learning Through Play at CELC from 9-10 & 10:30-11:30 Deep Blue Sea (Registration required)</p>	<p>21 National Color Day! Play a color game. In 10 seconds, have your child collect as many items that match a color you call out</p>	<p>22 Try one of the amazing rainbow experiments on this link* </p>
<p>23 Make an indoor obstacle course</p> <p>30 Try reading a book to your child when they eat a snack</p>	<p>24 How many green foods can you find to eat?</p> <p>31 Make homemade playdough*</p>	<p>25 Make a handprint flower by tracing and cutting out your child's hand and then glue on a stem</p>	<p>26 National Manatee Day! Learn about them here: Lean To Read-Let's</p>	<p>27 Let your child help sort the laundry and practice matching socks </p>	<p>28 Target Practice! Try rolling or throwing a ball into a laundry basket</p>	<p>29 Go for a walk and gather sticks. Bring them home and use them to build your name</p>