



## Learning Through Play, Every Student, Every Day

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

Hello 4K Families! Spring Break is just days away and we have wrapped up Spring Conferences. If you haven't had a chance to meet with your child's teacher and would like to do so, please contact your child's teacher to schedule a conference. As I visit classrooms across our community, I have been so pleased to see the growth our students are making in social and emotional, early literacy, and math. I hope that you are also seeing this growth with your young learner at home.

This last quarter of the school year provides an opportunity for us to start thinking about Kindergarten. There are two opportunities I would like to strongly encourage our families to consider having their children participate this spring and summer. First, while it may seem early, it is almost time to register for *Kindergarten Here I Come!* our summer program for students to have the opportunity to experience the kindergarten classrooms in their new school, play with friends from 4K over the summer, and meet new friends they will be going to school with in the fall. Students will also continue to practice and reinforce the learning they had in 4K so they are prepared to pick up when they walk into Kindergarten. The registration flyer for this important opportunity is included in this newsletter on page 6. Next month we will talk about the second opportunity, Kindergarten Welcome Events that happen in each elementary school in either spring or summer. Enjoy your spring break!

### SPRING BREAK DATES:

Please note that we will not have school starting March 21st through March 28th. Students return to school on March 31st.



### WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE?

- Importance of Rhyme
- 4K Information Open House
- Tucker's Corner
- Literacy Corner
- 4K Office Contact Information
- Health Services Note
- Kindergarten Here I Come- AASD Summer School
- April Activity Calendar
- AASD Birth-Five Events

#### 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



## DID YOU KNOW? THE IMPORTANCE OF RHYME

Rhyme is important in early literacy as it teaches children about language and separate sounds within words. Rhymes are words that sound alike at the end, like bat & hat, map & tap, and dog & log. Playing with rhymes allows children to hear the differences and similarities in how words sound. Research shows that familiarity with rhyme allows for another pathway to reading and future reading success. Playful experiences in rhyme help children grow in reading, cognitive, and language development. Exposure to play with words gives children another pathway to reading. You can support this growth at home in your everyday routines.

Here are some examples of ways to practice rhyme with your child:

- Read books with rhyme
- Point out rhyming words in your home environment (floor/door)
- Play rhyming games
- Sing rhyming songs
- Read [Nursery Rhymes](#) an online book you can read again and again



## 4K PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE

ARE YOU THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF A CHILD WHO WILL  
TURN **4 YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2025?**  
IF SO, WE INVITE YOU TO AN **INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE**  
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT APPLETON COMMUNITY 4K!



**Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025**  
**5:00 - 7:00 PM**

**Appleton Public Library**  
**200 N. Appleton Street, Appleton, WI 54911**  
**Mary Beth Nienhaus Community Meeting Room C**

**\*CHILD CARE WILL NOT BE OFFERED AT THIS PARENT MEETING.**

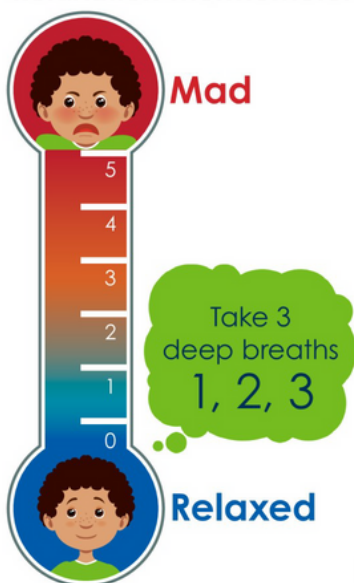
**Ready to enroll in 4K?**  
**25-26 Enrollment is OPEN!**

# TUCKER'S CORNER



## How to Help Children Regulate Strong Emotions

### Relaxation Thermometer



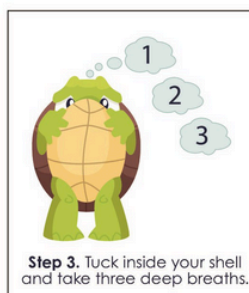
Regulating strong emotions can be a difficult task for young children. This is a skill that can be taught and practiced with children. It is important that children learn that it is normal to get angry. The goal is to teach children useful and acceptable ways to manage their feelings, especially strong emotions. A child who has been taught how to recognize and understand anger in themselves and others will be less likely to express their anger in aggressive and destructive ways. Managing feelings is a life-long skill necessary for children to be happy and healthy.



Here are a few tools and strategies that can help children learn about emotions and how to handle them:

- Read books about being angry. Talk about what the character does and how they handle their emotions.
- Read the story about Tucker Turtle. He teaches children steps about how to calm their bodies when they are upset.
- Explore choices that may calm your child when they are feeling mad.
- Puppets and toys can be great tools to role play situations about expressing anger in an acceptable way.
- Notice and label when you, your child or others are angry. Talk about choices that are appropriate and safe.

### NCPMI The Turtle Technique



ChallengingBehavior.org  
This is a product of the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations and was made possible by Cooperative Agreement #H32800003 which is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.  
Pinto 06/14/19

# THE LITERACY CORNER

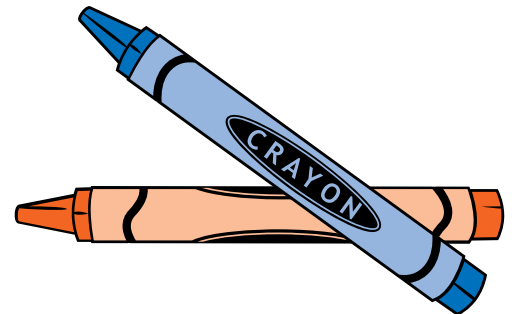
## Learning to Write

Children are born into a world full of print (Fountas and Pinnell). Your child observes you making grocery lists, writing notes, making signs, filling out forms, and using email and text messaging. Your child's early attempts at writing are important experiences for them. They play at writing just like they play at cooking, building, and reading. The more opportunities you can create for your child to play with writing the more they will learn about both writing and reading.

In the 4K classroom your child is participating in many different kinds of writing including bookmaking. Bookmaking is something your child can also do at home. Books may include pictures only, scribble writing, pictures and attempts at letters or pictures along with letters and words. The goal of bookmaking is to help children see themselves as writers.

This month's recommendations focus on Authors we LOVE:

Lois Ehlert  
Rosemary Wells  
Donald Crews  
Tana Hoban  
Denise Fleming  
Amy Krause Rosenthal  
Eric Carle  
Jerry Pinkney  
Leo Lionni  
Mo Willems



It's almost time to register for the Kindergarten Here / Come! summer school program. See page 6 of this newsletter for more information! Registration starts April 14th!

4K OFFICE  
CONTACT  
INFORMATION



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

## FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE:

### March 20 - World Oral Health Day

Good oral health means more than just a nice smile. Oral health has a direct effect on the body, mind, emotional, and social wellness. It also means lower rates of health diseases, better school/work performance, and a longer life.

The CDC notes that cavities are the most common chronic disease of childhood in the United States. Untreated cavities can cause pain and infections that may lead to problems with eating, speaking, playing, and learning.

#### What does good oral care look like?

- Brush your teeth twice a day with fluoride toothpaste (younger children may need help with this until they have good brushing skills)
- Clean between the teeth at least once per day
- Visit the dentist for routine check-ups and cleaning
- Eating a well-balanced diet. Limit sweets and sugary drinks, such as soda.
- Don't smoke. Smoking increases your chance of gum disease. If you smoke and want to quit, there are many resources to help you: [smokefree.gov](http://smokefree.gov) and the [CDC's Quit Smoking website](http://CDC's Quit Smoking website).

#### How can I find dental care near me?

If you have insurance, please call the number on the back of your insurance card to find out who is covered under your plan.

If you have Medicaid (also known as BadgerCare+ or Forward Health), or need help finding free or low cost dental care, please visit the [Department of Health Services website](http://Department of Health Services website) for lots of great resources.

If you have additional questions or need help, please reach out to your school nurse.

AASD School Nurses



## **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](http://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 7<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:kadolphkarrie@asd.k12.wi.us) or 852-5332 ext. 60350.

Course registration opens April 14<sup>th</sup>. 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 3<sup>rd</sup>; 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](mailto:helpdesk@asd.k12.wi.us) or 920-852-5555 ext. 63159.





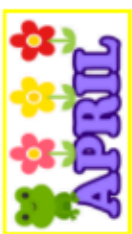

<https://appletonwi.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/appleton.jsp>

**\*\*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.

# April Play Ideas Calendar Preschoolers



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Scan here for more information about Birth-Five Outreach	 Use your toilet paper roll binoculars to go bird watching - count how many you see	<b>1</b> <b>Play With Purpose at CELC from 9-10 &amp; 10:30-11:30</b> <b>My Emotions</b> (Registration required)	<b>2</b> <b>National Children's Book Day!</b> Let your child pick their favorite book to read	<b>3</b> <b>Learning Through Play at CELC from 9-10 &amp; 10:30-11:30</b> <b>The Sour Grape</b> (Registration required)	<b>4</b> <b>National Carrot Day!</b> Enjoy a carrot snack while watching...  <b>Too Many Carrot...</b>	<b>5</b> Make binoculars out of toilet paper rolls
<b>6</b> Help your child put dirt into a pot. Next, sprinkle some grass seeds on top. Watch it grow	<b>7</b> Use your toilet paper roll binoculars to go bird watching - count how many you see	<b>8</b> <b>Play With Purpose at CELC from 9-10 &amp; 10:30-11:30</b> <b>Safe &amp; Secure</b> (Registration required)	<b>9</b> Let your child use chalk on the sidewalk to draw a picture	<b>10</b> <b>Learning Through Play at CELC from 9-10 &amp; 10:30-11:30</b> <b>Our Green World</b> (Registration required) <b>Carnival 5:30-7 pm</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Music Therapy Day!</b> Sing along to your child's favorite songs	<b>12</b> <b>Music Therapy Day!</b> Dance like no one is watching to your child's favorite music
<b>13</b> <b>Music Therapy Day!</b> Make a homemade instrument* Tape one end of a toilet paper roll closed. Fill it with cereal and seal the end with tape. Shake, shake shake!	<b>14</b> <b>Music Therapy Day!</b> Try listening to different kinds of music and clap to the beat	<b>15</b> <b>Play With Purpose at CELC from 9-10 &amp; 10:30-11:30</b> <b>Quality Time</b> (Registration required)	<b>16</b> Practice your rolling skills and roll out some play-doh	<b>17</b> <b>Learning Through Play at CELC from 9-10 &amp; 10:30-11:30</b> <b>What's the weather?</b> (Registration required)	<b>18</b> Using a sharpie, write one letter on the top half of a plastic egg and the same letter on the bottom half of the egg. Help your child match the eggs*	<b>19</b> Save the seeds! Take a seed from an apple or tomato and plant it in a pot
<b>20</b> Make a spring sensory bin* using noodles, flowers, sticks, bark and toy animals or bugs	<b>21</b> <b>Plastic Eggs*</b> Using tongs, let your child pick up the plastic eggs and place them into an egg carton	<b>22</b> <b>Paper bunnies*</b> Cut 2 stripes of paper. Glue/tape them into circles and glue them together. Add eyes, ears and feet.	<b>23</b> Using chalk, draw an obstacle course on the sidewalk for your child to do	<b>24</b> Go outside and blow bubbles with your child	<b>25</b> Fold a piece of paper in half. Cut out half of a butterfly* shape. Let your child put paint on one side. Fold in half to spread the paint and open!	<b>26</b> See how many plastic eggs your child can throw into a laundry basket
<b>27</b> Make Egg Shell People* using egg shells. Place a little dirt inside the shell with a few grass seeds. Watch their 'hair' grow	<b>28</b> Snuggle up with your child and enjoy this book...  <b>From the Gard...</b>	<b>29</b> Using brown rice and pretend food, make a gardening sensory bin*	<b>30</b> Does your potted grass need a haircut? Let your child use a scissors to cut the grass			



## 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](http://4k.aasd.k12.wi.us/our-school/enrollment)



A colorful poster for a 'Family Fun Carnival' during the 'Week of the Young Child'. The poster features a large white circle in the center with the title 'FAMILY FUN CARNIVAL' in bold red letters. Below the title, it says 'Join us for games, refreshments, prizes and more for children ages birth to five and their families'. The event is scheduled for 'THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH' from '5:30PM - 7:00PM' at the 'COMMUNITY EARLY LEARNING CENTER, 313 S. STATE ST., APPLETON'. A large red and white striped tent is on the right, and a family of four is walking on a green hill in the foreground. A circular badge on the left says 'FREE ADMISSION FOR FAMILIES!'. At the bottom, there are logos for 'UW Oshkosh HEAD START', 'Community Early Learning Center Fox Valley', 'AASD Birth-Five OUTREACH', 'Appleton COMMUNITY 4K', 'Appleton Area School Family Library', and 'bridges Child Enrichment Center'. The background is light green with colorful bunting and confetti.

## 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.