



NOVEMBER

HEAD START NEWS

Osteen Head Start Newsletter



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FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: *Jeamary Garcia*

Language and literacy begin in infancy as babies are programmed from birth to communicate. While the development of language is instinctive, it does require attention, repetition and approval from loved ones to flourish. We surround the children in our classrooms with books, words, music, and the opportunity to hear people engage in conversation. The children are invited to think out loud during large and small group times, and of course, talk to other children and adults throughout the day. Learning to use and love the power of words at this age is the key to reading later in school, so we immerse our children in a language and print-rich environment to help them get started. What can parents do? Read to your child at home, sing, chant, listen to music, play word games! Describe what you are doing in detail using rich descriptive vocabulary to expose you children to a varied of words, such as, "I am folding the blue cotton shirt for your sister. It is soft and feels smooth." Delight in what your child has to say! For more ideas, talk to your child's teacher.



CONTACT US!

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Family Advocate:

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

No Early Release Days

November 3rd (Tuesday) – In Service day / Student Holiday

November 11th (Wednesday) – Holiday – Veterans Day -

Parent Meeting

November 23rd – 25th (Monday – Wednesday) – Teacher /

Student Holiday

November 26th – 27th (Thursday and Friday) – Thanksgiving

Holiday

November 30th – Classes Resume



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Annette Gregory

Hello Parents / Guardians:

Please remember to call your child's teacher if your child is going to be absent for the day.

Some ideas for the month of November you can do as a family:

1. Walk around your neighborhood and write positive messages on the sidewalk with sidewalk chalk.
2. Write thank you notes to teachers, pastors, postal carrier etc. anyone you are thankful for.
3. Watch A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving.
4. Make and decorate turkey shaped cookies.
5. Bake pumpkin bread and share one with a friend.
6. Cover a pine cone in peanut butter and roll in bird seed and hang from a tree branch.
7. Check out some children's books from the library related to Thanksgiving.
8. Leave post-it notes for your family members telling they why you are thankful for them.

Enjoy the month of November!

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 2

Classroom #2 Mrs. Lorraine and Mrs. Olga

Hello Parents / Guardians:

We are learning and doing study about Clothes this month. We will be investigating what kinds of clothes we wear and when do we wear them? What are seasons? What do we wear for the season?

We will look at different cultures and what they wear also. Please take the time to enjoy your time with your child. Talk about the change in weather and what we wear with the changes in seasons.

Thank you for all that you do with your children.

CLASSROOM 3

The Adventurers - Ms. Ada Iris and Mrs. Maria Eva

Hello Parents / Guardians:

During the month of November, we will have fun activities for the children to learn while playing. The trees study will be bringing the opportunity of learning textures, why leaves change their color, make comparisons, learn, or review colors, shapes, numbers, and more. We encourage families to take their children for a walk around their neighborhood to examine the trees they see. Bring a small bag and help the children gather interesting parts that have fallen, such as leaves, twigs, acorns, nuts, and bark. Please take some time to talk with your children about your own childhood experiences with a tree, climbed a tree, enjoyed a picnic in the shade of a tree, or watched animals in trees. Also, this is the perfect month to focus on giving thanks and sharing. We could be the role model to this emotion by expressing how thankful we are for things every day. We will continue using Second Step Curriculum that teaches self-regulation skills that help children to learn to manage their feelings, make friends and solve problems. Some phrases we use at school that you can use at home are: play together, take turns, trade, please, thank you. Every Friday we send a copy of the lesson that we are studying during the week, please do not miss the opportunity to share that lesson with your child.

Thank you for all that you do with your children.



HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Home Learning Activity

Showing what I know: Name or describe a picture you see in a magazine or book and invite your child to point to it on the page. Your child will have an opportunity to practice hearing and understanding many words.

Why this is important: Naming or describing the pictures you see and then inviting your child to point to them on the page allows him to practice hearing and understanding words. Reading books with him helps him practice using his ability to understand words. This game can help you and your child become aware of the different kinds of things he knows.

What you do:

- Invite your child to sit with you and look at a book. Choose a children's book or a family magazine and pause on pages that interest both of you.
- Ask questions that will let your child demonstrate his knowledge, especially knowledge that goes beyond his spoken vocabulary. A few examples of questions are: Can you find something that goes fast?
Which plate has two cookies on it?
Can you point to the spaghetti?
Which picture has an open window in it?
- Observe your child thinking about the question and pointing to the answer.
- Follow your child's lead and adjust the difficulty of the game by choosing a book with many pictures on the page or continue to use a book with only a few pictures.

Family Engagement Activity

A Shared Family Activity: Give your child the opportunity to feel like an important member of the family by involving him in shared activities. Your child will learn group values and cooperation when participating in a shared activity.

Why this is important: You can help your child feel included in activities or hobbies that have value in your family's culture. He will value activities that make him feel good and that are important to your family. Having a specific job in a shared, family-valued task, such as filling the scoop with birdseed, lets your child feel needed, and he will feel satisfaction when he watches the birds eat the seeds that he helped to prepare. Participating in a shared task builds his understanding of why your family values the activity.

What you do:

- Include your child in plans and events that convey your family's values. For example, when you feed birds, let him use his hands to mix the seeds in a large container. (Of course, choose whatever family activity is important to your own family).
- Invite him to make something that is important to your family. For example, invite him to create a birdfeeder by covering a pinecone with peanut butter and then rolling it in birdseed.
- Talk with him about what he is doing. For example, describe the big and little seeds for big and little birds.
- Take time after he completes his task to sit together and share your thoughts about the event: I know the birds are going to be happy to get these seeds.



PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Mid Florida Community Services, Incorporated

Osteen Head Start

Parent Meeting Minutes

October 14th, 2020

- Meeting called to order at 3:04pm on Zoom
- Quorum was not present
- Ms. Annette did an ice breaker- "What 2 things do you consider yourself good at?"
- FA spoke about the process to transfer from virtual to brick and mortar.
- Introduction of officers.
- Ms. Olga talked about what the children are working on in the classroom.
- Parents were made aware of important dates for Oct/Nov. 10/31- No school, 11/3- No school, Nov.11- Holiday, Nov. 23-27 Thanksgiving Break-
- Family advocate, Annette let parents know she has started contacting parents to discuss their goals.
- Ms. Annette asked for input from parents regarding guest speakers they would like to have at future meetings.
- Meeting adjourned: 3:35pm



POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

The start of a new Policy Council has begun on October 22, 2020. Policy Council met via Zoom to allow ease for communication and voting while practicing COVID 19 safety practices. All Board leadership positions were voted upon and filled. The September minutes were approved by the new Policy Council. Eight prospective hires were approved. OHS IM (ACF-IM-HS-20-05) was reviewed regarding the Focus Area One and Focus Area Two Audits, as well as CLASS will not be audited for the 2020-2021 year. Service area and center reports were approved.

CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

[Trees Count by Trish Holland](https://youtu.be/UAG_EbsC9Q)
https://youtu.be/UAG_EbsC9Q

[Llama Llama Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney](https://youtu.be/dNenNtflVbo)
<https://youtu.be/dNenNtflVbo>

[Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina](https://youtu.be/INptSCKqdfg)
<https://youtu.be/INptSCKqdfg>