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## Math

We have been exploring ABC patterns.

Working with patterns:

- \* Helps develop mathematical power
- \* Improves powers of observation and intuition
- \* Instills an appreciation for the aesthetics of mathematics
- \* Promotes persistent and flexible problem solving
- \* Gives the learner a sense of pride and accomplishment
- \* Develops global learning- the ability to see the "whole" picture
- \* Develops ability to think logically and form generalizations
- \* Carries child through to an understanding of place value, the pattern of our number system.

Since pattern is the underlying theme of mathematics, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) recognizes the importance of pattern study and has made pattern study an important component of the NCTM Professional Standards for School Mathematics.

In Kindergarten, we expect that children will be able to:

- Recognize patterns "Teacher, you are wearing stripes today."
- Name patterns: "That shirt has an AB pattern." (red stripe, yellow stripe, red stripe, yellow stripe, etc.)
- Reproduce patterns: "I can copy the ABC unifix pattern my teacher showed me." Red, white, blue, red, white, blue, etc.)
- Extend patterns: "I know what comes next in this pattern!"
- Create simple patterns: "I made an ABC noodle necklace."
- Find the missing element in a pattern

## Dates to Remember

November 2 - Grandparent Day

November 3 - Picture retakes

November 11 - Veterans Day  
flag ceremony

November 12 - Asian/Pacific Islander  
Parent Night

November 18 - Report Cards

November 23- field trip to the Jurica  
Nature Museum at Benedictine University  
(permission slip coming home soon)

November 26- Staff Development

No school

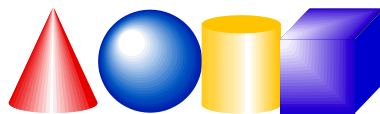
November 27-28 Thanksgiving

No school

December 1-Heritage Project due (coming  
home on November 13<sup>th</sup>)

You can help your child develop this critical skill of pattern recognition on a daily basis, as you encourage your child to find patterns in your home and neighborhood. Pointing out the patterns in the clothes your child wears, on the wallpaper in your home, or in a shell collection, and showing genuine interest in the patterns your child discovers or created, will help your child tremendously. (Pattern information from District #203).

We will also be concentrating on solid shapes during the upcoming month. These include: cylinders, rectangular prisms, cubes, spheres, and cones.



## Social Science

Looking back and ahead the guiding questions for Social Science are:

How are people connected to each other and the world around them? Who am I and how do I connect to others? How do I connect with my environment?

The students have learned a lot about themselves and how they connect with others. Now it is time to connect with their family's past. Please take some time over Thanksgiving break to complete the family heritage project that will come home November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Our social science lessons will explore the difference between a "want" and a "need". We will move into rural and urban communities and how life on a farm is different than life in Naperville/Lisle.

## Literacy and Writing

Writing Workshop provides an authentic use for the letters and sounds the children are working so hard to master. It also allows the children to make connections to other areas of the curriculum. When writing their books, each student is able to grow at their own developmental level. Some students may be working on beginning, middle, and ending sounds. Each child's individual growth is encouraged and celebrated in the kindergarten classroom.

Handwriting: You can look at your child's letter production to determine if your child would benefit from working on certain letters at home. Have your child try each of the letters to find out which letters s/he needs to practice more. We have also sent home their name practice sheets. We thought you could keep one plain and copy it when needed. Some of the students need practice on using lower case letters after the upper case.

A/////a/////B/////b/////C/////c//  
///D////////d/////E/////e/////F//  
///f/////G/////g/////////H/////h//  
///I////////i/////J////////j/////K////////  
k/////L////////l/////M/////m////////N//  
///n////////O/////o/////P/////p//////  
/Q////////q////////R////////r////////S/////

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

## Science and Health

Trimester one: Growing and Changing; Personal Feelings

Trimester two: Collections from Nature;

How I am a scientist and what did I observe and record of the changes that occurred to our class tree? We will do leaf drawings with all the leaves your students have brought in as we look through magnifying glasses as real scientists do. We will be doing leaf rubbings and sorting and classifying leaves by color and shape with the varieties as well.

In Health we are continuing our study of how our personal feelings help us understand others and ourselves.



### Poetry/Song Binder:

It is very apparent that children have been trying to track these poems/songs at home. They are getting better and better! If your child has difficulty tracking, have him/her track the simpler ones with your hand over his/her hand, pointing and moving together. On the longer poems/songs, the parent can track for the first few times and then gradually turn the job over to your child. For those that are fluently reading the poems/songs, try to print out the song on a separate paper, cut the words apart and then have your child put the poem/song together again. Remember that a few minutes a day on the weekends really is beneficial, but a long time doing an activity at home tends to burn out most children.

**We will put both October and November poems into their binders before Thanksgiving break. Please keep binders at home since there is no room in their book bags and send them back to school by the November 24<sup>th</sup>.**