

2017-2018 Activity Schedule

Month	Themes	Letters/ Numbers	Colors	Shapes
Sept. '17	Fabulous Friends Forest Fun	A, B, C 1, 2, 3	Red	Circle
Oct. '17	People Who Help Night Creatures	D, E, F 4, 5, 6	Orange/ Black	Triangle
Nov. '17	Sing and Dance I'm Thankful	G, H, I 7, 8	Brown	Rectangle
Dec. '17	All Aboard! Jolly Holidays	J, K, L 9, 10	Green	Star
Jan. '18	Exploring My World Polar Pals	M, N, O 11, 12	White	Octagon
Feb. '18	Hearts and Hugs Opposites Attract	P, Q, R 13, 14	Pink	Heart
Mar. '18	Sunny Savannah Springtime Sparkles	S, T, U 15, 16	Blue	Rhombus
Apr. '18	Eating the Rainbow Sand and Sea	V, W, X 17, 18	Yellow	Oval
May '18	Pet Friends Gardening and Growing	Y, Z 19, 20	Purple	Square
June '18	Dairy Days Pond Life	Review	Review	Review
July '18	Vacation Bound Colors and Shapes	Review	Review	Review
Aug. '18	Beautiful Bugs Lazy Summer Days	Review	Review	Review

An Overview of the 2017-2018 Curriculum Year



Family Guide



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Welcome to FunShine Express®!

Your child's teacher/child care provider will be offering a wide range of preschool activities this year through our curriculum program, Fireflies®.

The Fireflies® program consists of monthly kits centered around two themes. Daily activities are offered for your child's teacher to select from as they work to enhance growth and school readiness for early learners. Fireflies® activities are built around eight developmental domains: Social/Emotional, Language/Literacy, Creative Arts, Social Studies, Physical Development/Health, Science, Math, and Approaches to Learning.

Fireflies® is designed to meet early learning standards designated by most states in the United States.



Fireflies® is a professionally designed preschool curriculum program for children ages 3 to 5 years old.

FunShine Express® Program Goals:

- The curriculum will be based on current research and sound educational theories of early childhood learning and development.
- We will provide a wide range of hands-on, interactive materials allowing children to experiment and explore their surroundings.
- The activity and project suggestions provided in our kits are aligned with specific Learning Goals and Indicators.
- The program will encourage involvement of family members in each child's learning.

What Is Developmentally Appropriate Practice?

In simple terms, Developmentally Appropriate Practice means that activities and programs take into account what each child is ready for. Developmentally appropriate for ages 3 - 5 means that children should be offered a range of opportunities to interact with their environment.

What Are the Benefits of Being Developmentally Appropriate?

Practices that take into account the developmental readiness of each child can boost self confidence and independent thinking. Children are also provided opportunities for individual expression, and are able to practice decision-making. This type of environment promotes skills and discipline, inspires creativity, encourages flexibility, and provides for emotional release.

Is Fireflies® Developmentally Appropriate?

The Fireflies® curriculum is designed to be open-ended and flexible. We provide ideas that caregivers can implement to ensure appropriateness. To a great extent, each teacher determines how the program is used in their particular setting.

As family members, you can support developmental appropriateness by following the lead of your child's teacher. Be supportive and involved in their efforts! Also, remember that children can accomplish many things without you seeing a specific project each day.



You will receive a monthly Family Newsletter. This includes ideas to build upon the themes and concepts introduced, songs from our *2017-2018 Music and Movement CD* (available from FunShine Express®), a recipe, Spanish words, and a few book suggestions. Consider gathering some of the suggested book titles to supplement the program.

Don't forget to shop for educational resources at funshineexpress.com.



For up-to-date information, join our FunShine Community.

