



 PreschoolPalace.org 

Preschool Curriculum

10 Month Program

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Introduction

Welcome to the Preschool Palace Curriculum Program!

This program is design for children ages 3-5 for use in a family childcare home, preschool, or homeschool environment. The curriculum is divided into 10 months, each with 20 days. You may start any month at any time. However, it is recommended that Month 1 starts in September, Month 2 in October, etc. Seasonal and holiday lesson plans are separate and can be found at the end of this book.

Daily lesson plans are easy to follow and implement. Materials needed are simple and low-cost. Most daily lesson plans include 1-2 songs, circle time activities/themes, a movement activity, sensory activity, craft ideas, and a printable worksheet.

During circle time, you may choose to incorporate attendance, weather, and calendar activities in addition to the suggested circle time activity and lesson of the day. It is also suggested that a story be read during circle time as well. Most preschoolers are only able to handle a short period of time during circle time and that is why the rest of the curriculum revolves around other activities that can be included during other times of the day, depending upon your schedule. Overall, each day strives to promote each child's cognitive, social, gross motor, fine motor, and other kindergarten readiness skills. Just one sample of a full-day childcare program with integrated preschool is below:

- 7:00** *Welcome*, breakfast, free play.
- 9:00** *Circle Time* (welcome song, calendar, counting, letters, shapes, colors, story, sharing, learn new song/rhyme, etc...)
- 9:30** *Music & Movement*. Interactive songs like Ants go Marching or Hokey Pokey, free-style dance to Music CD, dance/hop like animals. Stretching and tumbling on nap mats.
- 9:45** *Snack/potty/clean-up*.
- 10:00** *Table time*. Age appropriate paperwork (learn to write their names, patterns, scissor skills, math, journal, etc.).
- 10:15** *Craft*.
- 10:30** *Outdoor play*/neighborhood walk/park day. Trikes, slides, bubbles, playhouse, sidewalk chalk, etc. Create natural play-scapes which allow children to interact with bugs, plants, water, trees and nature.
- 11:30** *Centers*: blocks, puzzles, dramatic play, kitchen area, tool bench, sensory table.
- 12:00** *Clean up & wash up, Lunch*. Children participate in food prep, hand washing, setting table, serving and cleaning. Family style meals are a great way to expose children to social skills, math, and language skills.
- 12:30** *Story & nap time*.
- 3:00** *Snack/potty/clean-up*.
- 3:15** *Outdoor play*. Group play like gymnastics/parachutes/races/tag/jumprope/hopscotch, hide & seek.
- 4:00** *Inside wind-down*. Children play with materials in activity areas while teacher uses time to focus on one-to-one activities with each child or pairs in organized games like Candy Land/Hi-Ho Cheerio. Floor puzzles, free-style art with provided materials. Free-play.

Most daily lesson plans will reference a printable with a page number. Those printables are part of the Printable Package that is included in this program and is a separate document. The circle time posters are also included in that printable package. Consider printing and laminating all the circle time posters for use and display throughout the school year. You may print as many copies as you need of the worksheets for your class. This program is provided in digital format so you can print one or as many as you need.

You can print one complete set of this document and 3 hole punch it so that you will have the entire year's worth of curriculum and lesson plans in one binder.

Have a happy school year!

~ Tamara, Creator, PreschoolPalace.org

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10 Month Curriculum Program at a Glance

MONTH	LETTER	NUMBER	SHAPE	COLOR	THEMES
1	A, B, C	1	Circle	Red Green	New school year, friends, apples, all about me, community helper police officer
2	D, E, F	2	Square	Black Orange	Bats/nocturnal animals, shadows, dinosaur land, creepy crawlers, footprints, community helper firefighter, fire safety
3	G, H, I	3	Oval	Brown	Giving thanks, fantastic families, healthy veggies, brown bears, restaurant/grocery store manners, feelings, community helper restaurant worker
4	J, K, L	4, 5	Star	Yellow	5 senses, cooking safety, community helper baker, fairy tales, book exchange
5	M, N, O	6	Rectangle	White	Snow/ice/clouds, imagination, polar animals, community helper doctor, my body, super smiles, opposites
6	P, Q, R, S	7	Heart	Pink	Pancake breakfast, healthy hearts, community helper postal worker, post office/mail/stamps/addresses, transportation, cookie shop
7	T, U	8	Triangle	Blue	Community helper librarian, Silly Seuss, rhyme time, insects/bugs, pizza place, under the sea
8	V, W, X	9	Diamond	Purple	Community helper farmer, rainbows, gardening, ladybug and butterfly lifecycle, nature, recycling/conservation
9	Y, Z	10, 1-20	Moon	Color Mix	Gardening, community helper veterinarian, jungle theme animals, zoo themes, alphabet animals, art show, outer space
10	Review	1-100	Review	Review	Uppercase/lowercase letter intensive, berries/watermelon/healthy fruits, sand/seashells, teddy bears

General Material List

This program is designed to use low-cost and commonly used materials traditionally found in homes and classrooms. Unique materials that may be used will be listed for each day. Items such as: crayons, markers, paint, paper, playdough, glue, etc. will not be mentioned as they are commonly used items.

Other items that will be used on numerous occasions will be the following materials (many of these items can be found at a discounter such as Target or a Dollar Store.

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| ◇ pipe cleaners | ◇ poster board | ◇ old cookbooks |
| ◇ music CD's | ◇ paper plates | ◇ paint sample chips |
| ◇ googly eyes | ◇ foam letters/numbers/shapes | ◇ sponges |
| ◇ masking tape | ◇ magnetic letters & numbers | ◇ ribbon |
| ◇ sidewalk chalk | ◇ poster board | ◇ yarn |
| ◇ hula hoops | ◇ 12 inch inflated balls | ◇ chenille stems (pipe cleaners) |
| ◇ parachute | ◇ Newspapers/magazines coupon | ◇ medicine droppers (free at pharmacy) |
| ◇ index cards | ◇ inserts from newspapers/mailings | ◇ muffin tins |
| ◇ construction paper | ◇ tissue paper | ◇ cookie sheet |
| ◇ pom-poms | ◇ clothespins | ◇ butcher paper roll |
| ◇ craft sticks | ◇ stickers | ◇ empty coffee cans |
| ◇ tacky glue | | |

It is suggested that you have a sensory bin or table as it is used often for various activities. You can also simply use a large shallow plastic bin placed on a table.



There are many snack and cooking suggestions to complement the curriculum. Required ingredients will be listed on the corresponding day's lesson plan.

Suggested books can be found in most libraries. Review each month's themes and look for relevant books for that month. Below is a list of highly suggested books for each month:

Month 1 ~ 10 Apples up on Top (Dr. Seuss), Dr. Seuss ABC Book, Chicka Chicka Boom Boom (Bill Martin Jr.)

Month 2 ~ The Very Busy Spider (Carle, Eric)

Month 3 ~ Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? (Carle, Eric), Froggy Eats Out book or Little Red Hen book

Month 4 ~ Draw Me a Star (Carle, Eric), Llama Llama books (Dewdney, Anna), Fairy Tales: Princess and the Pea, 3 Little Pigs, Jack and the Beanstalk, Goldilocks and the 3 Bears, Cinderella

Month 5 ~ If You Give a Moose a Muffin (Numeroff, Laura), It Looked Like Spilt Milk (Shaw, Charles) Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear? (Carle, Eric), Not a Box (Portis, Antoinette), The Foot Book (Dr. Seuss)

Month 6 ~ If You Give a Pig a Pancake (Numeroff, Laura)

Month 7 ~ The Rainbow Fish (Pfister, Marcus)

Month 8 ~ Harold and the Purple Crayon book (by Crockett Johnson)

Month 9 ~ Papa Please Get the Moon for Me (Eric Carle), Mouse Paint (Ellen Stoll Walsh), Put Me in the Zoo (Lopshire, Robert)

Month 10 ~ Blueberries for Sal (McCloskey, Robert), Alphabet Adventure (Wood, Audrey)

Song 1

Good Morning to You (tune Happy Birthday to You)

Good Morning to You,
 Good Morning to You,
 Good Morning dear friends,
 It's nice to see YOU!
 Good Morning to (child's name)
 Good Morning to (child's name)
 Good Morning to (child's name)
 It's nice to see YOU!

Song 2

Alice the Camel

Alice the camel has five humps.
 Alice the camel has five humps.
 Alice the camel has five humps.
 So go, Alice, go.
 Alice the camel has four humps.
 Alice the camel has four humps.
 Alice the camel has four humps.
 So go, Alice, go. (continue with 3, then 2 humps)
 Alice the camel has one hump.
 Alice the camel has one hump.
 Alice the camel has one hump.
 So go, Alice, go.
 Alice the camel has no humps.
 Alice the camel has no humps.
 Alice the camel has no humps.
 Now Alice is a horse !

Circle Time Activities

Introduce Letter A: Show the children the Letter A poster. Trace over the letter with your fingers. Ask the children to do the same. Trace the letter A in the air or use personal wipe-off boards. Make a letter A basket that includes several items that start with the letter A. Enunciate the A sound when identifying the items. Ask children to repeat or name the items in the basket. Ask the children what other items could be put in the basket.

The Name Game. Teacher starts and says, "My name is _____." Then hands the ball to the child next to her and prompts them to say their name. This continues around the circle. When the ball gets back to the teacher she says, "My name is _____ and I am rolling the ball to _____." This continues around the circle with teacher assisting as needed. When the ball gets back to the teacher she bounces the ball to a child and says, "My name is _____ and I am bouncing the ball to _____." Continue until everyone has had a turn and the children are getting restless.

Movement

A is for Arm Dancing. Body part that starts with A is arm! Which is your left arm/right arm. Make arm circles, big and small, stand with your arms out without touching another student and spin around with arms out. Then play music and children can only dance with their arms!

Sensory

Letter A search. Add foam letters to the sensory bin with some cups and encourage children to locate all the letter A's.

Create

Name Tags. Provide index cards in different colors with 2 holes punched out at the top, lengthwise. Allow children to write their names, assist as needed. Provide small stickers (stars, flowers, hearts, cars, etc.) for children to decorate around their name. Lace yarn through holes on cards to make name necklaces for children to wear today and through out the week.

Plate Portrait. Provide white paper plates, googly eyes, yarn for hair, markers, crayons. Children can make happy faces of themselves and glue yarn hair, etc. Hang in classroom for décor. At the end of the week, add name tags to each plate portrait for décor throughout the month.

Day 2

Themes: Letter A review, friends

Materials: Apples (red and green), poster board, foam letter A's, alphabet puzzle, paper plates/yarn, peanut butter, dry beans for sensory table

Song 1

Welcome Song: Where is? (tune: Where is Thumbkin)

Where is (child's name), Where is child's name)

There he is (palm up in direction of child),

There he is (palm up in direction of child)

How are you today (thumb up, fingers closed),

How are you today (thumb up fingers closed)

Stay and play (hands inviting child to play),

Stay and play (hands inviting child to play).

Song 2

Lemon Drops & Gum Drops (emphasizing "The A says Ah")

If all the raindrops were lemon drops and gum drops

Oh what a rain that would be

Standing outside with our mouths open wide

Ah, Ah, Ah, Ah, Ah, Ah, Ah, Ah, Ah, Ah

If all the rain drops were lemon drops and gum drops

Oh what a rain that would be!

Repeat 1 more time.

Circle Time Activities

Review Letter A: Refresh concept of A is for Apple. Play I Spy something that starts with Letter A. Can the children remember some items from the A basket from yesterday? Use bulletin board, flash cards, or pocket chart to display letter A and pictures of items that start with letter A, apples, etc.

A is for apple tasting: Variety of apples, cut into slices, 1 slice per type for each child. Taste one bite of each kind of apple. Use descriptive words like: My apple tastes: sweet, sour, cold, juicy, good. **Charting:** Create chart (11X17 construction paper or poster board 2/\$1 at dollar store) with each child's name written down the left side. Call each child up and ask them to find their name. Then ask them to complete the sentence about the apple tasting. For example. Call up Abby. Abby says her apple was sweet. Fill out chart that says, "Abby said her apple is sweet." Continue with each child. Helps children with name recognition, friend recognition, being called on in front of group, etc.

Movement

Apple Relay. Need one apple per child and 4 baskets. Place two baskets on a table at one end of the room. Put half the apples in each basket. Place the other two baskets on a table on the other end of the room. Divide class into two teams. Have the teams stand in line, with the head of each line by the table with the apples and the end of each line by the other table. They will transfer all the apples from the full baskets to the empty ones. When you say "start", the first child in each team will take an apple and pass it to the next child-- down the line to the last child, who places it carefully in the empty basket. Repeat until one team empties the basket.

Sensory

Letter puzzle: Fill sensory bin with dry beans. Add pieces of alphabet puzzle (wood/plastic/foam/cardboard). Provide base of alphabet puzzle next to the sensory bin so children can hunt for all the letters to fit back into puzzle.

Create

Plate Portrait. Yesterday, children created self-portrait plates. Today, pair them with another child—a new friend. The children are going to make a plate portrait of their new friend. The children can exchange plates to bring home and tell their families all about their new friend who made them such a nice picture. Home-schoolers can pair with sibling or parent.

Cooking

Apple Sandwiches. Apples, Peanut butter. Slice apples the "round way" so that a star is formed in the center. Let children spread peanut butter on apple with child-safe knife, then top with a second apple slice to form a sandwich. (You won't need to core the apples if the slices are thin.) Add granola or choc chips!



Song 1

Welcome Song: Give Me Five. (getting student's attention, Hold up 1 finger as you say each rule. You'll soon find your students reciting these with you.)

Eyes are watching
Ears are listening
Mouth is quiet
Hands are to myself
Hearts are caring

Song 2

Friend Song (tune: *The Color Song*)

(name) (name) is the friend I see
If you are (name) please smile for me
Stand up, turn around
Wave to your friends and then sit down

Circle Time Activities

Friendship Theme: Discuss what makes a good friend, etc. What do you like to do with your friends? How can we be nice to our friends?

Circle time craft: Friendship Flower. Provide each child with a paper. When the children meet each other at morning circle, have them place their handprints (trace/stamp pad) onto a friend's paper. Have them sign their papers as they add a stem to the handprint to look like a flower. They can take home and already show how many friends they have!

Movement

Exercise box. Take a square box and cover it with paper like you would wrap a gift. Then on each side, write a direction. It could be hop, jump backwards, touch your toes, run in place, hop on one foot, jumping jacks, etc. Start the exercise, 1st call out "1", then roll the box and perform that activity. Then call out "2", roll the box again and perform that activity. Repeat until you reach number 10.

Sensory

Playdough apple cut-outs. Provide red and green playdough at the sensory table. Provide rolling pins and circular cookie cutters. Provide pre-made papers with circles traced from the cookie cutters with a number in each circle. Encourage children to cut circles and then apply to each template while counting along.

Create

A is for apple seed letter card. Glue apple seeds along the Letter A. You may want to color/marker within the letter A first. One letter card will be made for each letter through the year. You can hang in classroom for a wall border or make an alphabet book as you go.

And more!

Mr. Applehead. Print out an apple template and have the children color and then draw or glue on a face, funny eyes, stems, feet, arms, etc.

Caption Mr. or Mrs. Applehead.

Song 1

Welcome Song: Jump up and Down

(Child's Name Twice) Jump up and down
 Turn all around
 Act like a clown (Child's Name Twice)
 Jump up and down
 Now sit Right Back Down!

Song 2

Apple Poem: Apple on a Stick

Apple on a stick, apple on a stick
 I can lick it all day and not get sick.
 Apple in a cup, apple in a cup
 I can drink it all day and not fill up.
 Apple in a crunch, apple in a crunch
 I can eat it all day, it is so good to munch
 Apple in a cake, apple in a cake
 I can eat it all day with no tummy ache
 Apple in a pie, apple in a pie
 I can eat it all day and never cry.
 Apple in a dish, apple in a dish
 I can eat it all day, it's so delish!

Circle Time Activities

Introduce Color Red: Show the children the Color Red poster. Make a color red basket that includes several items that are red. Try to add a red apple to keep with theme. Ask children to repeat or name the items in the basket. Ask the children what other items could be put in the basket. Play "I Spy Something Red" in the classroom. Whose favorite color is red?

Recommended Book: 10 Apples Up on Top by Dr. Seuss.

Movement

Name pantomimes. Act out movement based upon first letter of each child's name. Stella sings, Justin jumps, Hayden hops, Sara skips, Wyatt wiggles, Jonah jiggles, Darla dances, Tessie tickles, Sierra swims, etc.

Sensory

Apple Rolling. Put some paper on the bottom of a box. Dip the apples into different color paint(s) and then drop the apples into the box. Rock and roll the box every which direction you can and the paper will record the designs from the rolling apple.

Create

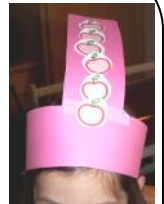
Apple mosaic. Print out apple template. Cut. Children can tear small pieces of red construction paper and paste to apple. Tear green pieces of green construction paper and paste to apple leaf. Cut apple shapes, paste onto another color piece of construction paper for practice and interest.



Suggested Book Craft

Ten Apples Up On Top headbands/crowns.

Cut construction paper longwise and tape around child's head. Tape another piece of paper on top of headband/crown using apple stickers or cut and paste apples.



Each child can chose how many apples they want on top. Each headband says "_____ has _____ apples up on top."

Song 1

Good Morning to You (tune: Happy Birthday to You)

Good Morning to You,
Good Morning to You,
Good Morning dear friends,
It's nice to see YOU!
Good Morning to (child's name)
Good Morning to (child's name)
Good Morning to (child's name)
It's nice to see YOU!

Song 2

If your Clothes Have Any Green (tune: If you're happy and you know it)

If your clothes have any green on clap your hands...
continue with other colors

Circle Time Activities

Introduce Color Green: Show the children the Color Green poster. Make a color green basket that includes several items that are green. Try to add a green apple to keep with theme. Ask children to repeat or name the items in the basket. Ask the children what other items could be put in the basket. Play "I Spy Something Green" in the classroom.

Whose favorite color is green?

Movement

Hopping Frogs. Place green lily pads (circular green paper/felt/foam paper) on ground and hop to each one like little frogs.

Playing music and adding directions, go, hop, etc. adds to fun.

Table Time Activity

Color collages. Provide 1 piece of red construction paper and 1 piece of green construction paper. Provide magazines, Sunday newspaper ads, old calendar pages, etc. Encourage children to cut items that are red and paste onto red construction paper and cut items that are green and paste onto green construction paper. Help child label items.

Create

Class Book. Make a class book using apple stickers on top of a circle. Just provide a blank sheet of paper with a circle towards the bottom of the page. The circle is decorated by each child as his/her head.

Write "____ has ___ apples up on top.," below the circle. Let children pick number from box (1-10) that tells them how many apples they can paste (or draw) on top. Home-schoolers - draw siblings, parents, relative, pets, friends, animals, etc. 10 pages, 1 apple on page 1, 2 apples on page 2, etc. Use apple stickers, or cut out apples from template. Class book can be sent home with each child for school-home connection.



Song 1

A Circle of Friends

We've joined together as classmates
as the new year begins...
A year full of learning
while we become friends.
We'll share and be kind
as we work and play.
And our friendship will grow
with each passing day.

Song 2

Color Review Song: Do You See? (tune: Do You Know the Muffin Man?) Insert colors red and green in the blanks.

Teacher:

Do you see the color ___?
The color ___, the color ___?
Do you see the color ___
Somewhere in the room?

Children:

Yes, I see the color ___, (Child responds/points to object of that color)
The color ___, the color ___.
Yes, I see the color ___.
It is in our room.

Circle Time Activities

Getting to know our friends game. Play "Guess Who". Pick a child out of the class without saying who you chose. Tell three clues about the child and have the other children guess who the child is.

Movement

More Hopping Frogs. This version of leapfrog can help children who are practicing counting. Line children in a row, and have them crouch down as if they are playing leapfrog. Then sing the following song to the tune of "London Bridge is Falling Down." The child in the song should be the last child in the row.

We are hopping, hopping frogs,
Hopping frogs, hopping frogs.
We are hopping, hopping frogs,
Here hops [name of child]!
One! Two! Three! (Etc.)

When the child hears his name, he holds onto the shoulders of the child in front of him and leaps. After each leap, the children call out a number. When he reaches the front of the line, the game begins again.

Activity/Craft/Snack

Activity/Craft/Snack: Apple Jacks pattern necklace.

Provide Apple Jacks in a bowl for each child and yarn or wrapping ribbon with a knot at one end. Allow children to string the cereal to make an edible necklace.

Demonstrate how to make the red-green-red-green (ABAB) pattern. Are there other patterns they can make? Do the Apple Jacks taste like apples? How do you think they are made? What shape are they?

Create

Apple hand prints. Trace a large apple shape onto white cardstock paper for child to cut out. Color/paint/marker red or green. For stems, trace child's hands and cut out.

Paste the hand stem to the apple cutout. Paste the following poem on it:

*This little apple that you see here,
Was made just for you in my Preschool year.
You'll never find the same apple in all this great land,
Because for a stem I used my own little hand.*

Song 1

Friendship Circle. This song helps children learn to identify their names and their classmates names. Put every child's name in a box. Sing: "Here we go round the friendship circle, the friendship circle, the friendship circle. Here we go round the friendship circle with my friend_____." Then pull out a name from the box. Don't say anything and let the child who's name it is say it's me. The other's will learn to identify the other children's names too. Repeat until every name is called.

Song 2

Apple Song (Tune: *I'm a Little Teapot*)
I'm a little apple, short and round,
I make a munchy, crunchy sound,
If you bite into me you will see -
I'm delicious as can be!

Circle Time Activities

Activity: Find the Worm Game.

Need: 6 apple shapes cut from construction paper (2 red, 2 yellow and 2 green) and worm shape cut from brown construction paper. Laminate these so they can be used again.

How to play: Children close their eyes and you hide the worm under one of apples. Call on one of the children to find the worm. Continue until everyone has had a turn. You can also have the children take turns hiding the worm. Use spatial words: over, under, on top, etc.

Activity: Apple tree. During the month, use the apple theme to help learn numbers and decorate the classroom! Incorporate this morning activity each day. Make a large tree on inside of classroom door. Place a picnic basket near the door. In the basket are all the apples. Beside the tree, there is a sentence strip that says:

"I looked up in my apple tree and saw _____ apples looking at me."

The first day do 0, of course there are 0 apples in the tree. So, write 0 on an index card and tape it onto the proper spot. From there we know that 0 is the number of the day. The next day I put 1 apple on the tree from the picnic basket. Same thing-- count the apples in the tree and put that number on the apple tree. Repeat until you hit 10.

Sensory

Making green. Mix blue and yellow finger paint to make green paint. Use sensory bin or table lined with plastic.

Table Time Activity

Apple puzzles. Provide pre-cut apple templates on green and red paper cut into halves using straight lines, curves, and zig zags. Children put the pieces together.

Create

Craft: Red and green handprint and apple print bulletin board or poster.

Option #1: Bulletin board mural for classroom. Use large rolled bulletin board or butcher paper and paint simple brown tree with branches. Children can use green paint to make hand print leaves on the branches. Add apple prints (from real apples or apple mosaic pictures made last week).

Option #2: Poster for child. Same concept, smaller scale. Use poster board, and child can make own poster of tree with handprint leaves and apple fingerprints. Encourage child to paint the tree trunk and branches him/herself. It can't be wrong, it's kind of abstract!

Song 1

Rhyme/Fingerplay: Magic finger in the air

Magic finger in the air
(Spin finger above head)
Magic finger in my hair
(Twirl finger in hair)
Magic finger on my hips
(Place finger on hip)
Magic finger on my lips
(Place finger on lips and become quiet)

Song 2

10 Little Apples swinging in a tree (tune: 5 little monkeys swinging in a tree). Use 10 apples or use 10 cut outs.

10 little apples swinging in a tree
I sure wish one would fall to me
One fell down
And hit the ground
Now how many apples do you see?
(*Keep singing until all apples have fallen)

Circle Time Activities

Introduce Circle Shape: Show the children the circle shape poster. Trace over the circle with your fingers. Ask the children to do the same. Trace a circle in the air or use personal wipe-off boards. Make a Circle Shape basket that includes several items that are in the shape of a circle. Ask children to repeat or name the items in the basket. Ask the children what other items could be put in the basket. Play "I Spy Something in the Shape of a Circle" in the classroom. Can you make a circle with just the fingers on one hand (thumb and 1st finger), two hands, 2 arms, whole body?! Marvelous me! Now make a circle with all friends and sing "Hokey Pokey."

Circle Time Activity, Math Apple Graph. Make a chart and write something like: Do you like red or green apples best. Then put a picture of red and apples at the top (cut out apples on template). Also write each child's name on the left hand margin. Pass out a slice of each type of apple and then have each child tell you which was his favorite (red or green). Allow the child to come up one at a time and tape his/her favorite apple color to the chart. Tally up the results and make a total at the bottom of each column. You can also use plain red or green circle stickers from a craft or office supply store.



Movement

Dance Partners. Play music. Pair children together to dance. When the bell rings, switch and find a new friend to dance with. Ring the bell again, switch again. Let the children have turns using the bell and you can dance along with the children too.

Sensory

Fine motor. Coins are circles. Coin rubbings and tracings. Trace around coins to make circles. Place coins under paper and rub crayons over coins to see impressions and more circles.

Create



Apple prints. Emphasize A is for Apple, colors of the month red & green.

Cut apple in half. Insert fork or popsicle stick to function as a handle. Dip in paint (red) on plate, then stamp onto paper. Repeat collage style. Also use green and yellow paint to add pizzazz.

Option: Use markers to add stems and glue seeds onto apple shape.

Option: Cut out apple prints, hang on bulletin board. Option: Cut out apple prints, punch hole in top and add string to hang in classroom.

Table Time Activity

Apple seed counting activity.

Provide several apples, Cut each apple in half for the children. Allow them to find and count the seeds from each apple. Do they all have the same amount? Why or why not? Why are there seeds?

Save the apples and slice for snack.

Themes: Circle shape

Materials: Apple, circle stickers, yarn, canned food for circle template, cooking ingredients

Song 1

Apple Poem - Use hand movements

Apples, apples, one, two, three,
Apples for you,
Apples for me.
Apples for big,
Apples small,
Apple trees tiny,
Apple trees tall.
Apples sour,
Apples sweet,
Apples, apples, are nice to eat.

Song 2

I'm a Little Apple (tune: I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little apple, short and round,
I make a munchy, crunchy sound.
If you take a bite into me you will see
I'm delicious as can be!

Circle Time Activities

Review Circle Shape: Show the children the circle shape poster. Trace over the circle with your fingers. Ask the children to do the same. Trace a circle in the air or use personal wipe-off boards. Make a Circle Shape basket that includes several items that are in the shape of a circle. Ask children to repeat or name the items in the basket. Ask the children what other items could be put in the basket. Play "I Spy Something in the Shape of a Circle" in the classroom.

Circle Time Activity: Pass the Apple. Played just like Hot Potato. The children pass an apple until the music stops. Who ever is holding it when the music stops is sent to the apple patch (the center of the circle).

Movement

In and Out. This outdoor ball game works best with a large group of children. Have children stand in a circle, holding hands. Place one child in the middle of the circle along with a ball. The child in the middle should try to kick the ball out of the circle, using only her feet. The goal of the rest of the children is to keep the ball in the circle. When the child in the middle succeeds, she can pick the next child to go into the middle of the circle. (Make sure each child gets a chance before the others can go back for seconds.)

Sensory

Lacing cards. Cut out circle template. Hole punch around edges.

Print on cardstock, or paste onto construction paper and laminate for durability. Each month a new lacing card can be made for each new shape. The old shapes will be reviewed with the new shapes.



Create

Circle craft. Cut out another circle template. Provide stickers (round happy face stickers would be ideal, or other circle stickers from \$1 or craft store), have child apply stickers on the circle dots around the circle. Hand-eye coordination skills used, and the focusing on a circle that goes "around" helps solidify concept of circle.

Circle collage. Demonstrate how to trace around cans of canned food or other items with a circle base. Create circle collage with many circles of many colors on the paper.

Cooking

Apple recipes. Make caramel apples, applesauce, baked cinnamon apples, mini apple turnovers, etc.

Song 1

Welcome Song: Buzzy, Buzzy Baby Bee

Buzzy, buzzy baby bee,
 Won't you say your name for me? (point to child)
 (Child's Name).
 Good morning, (Child's name)!
 I'm so glad you're here today!

Song 2

Bubble Song (tune: Ten Little Indians)

One little, two little, three little bubbles
 Four little, Five little, Six little bubbles
 Seven little, Eight little, Nine little bubbles
 Ten little bubbles go pop, pop, pop, pop, pop
 Pop those, pop those, pop those bubbles
 Pop those, pop those, pop those bubbles
 Pop those, pop those, pop those bubbles
 Ten little bubbles go pop, pop, pop, pop, pop

Circle Time Activities

Introduce Letter B: Show the children the Letter B poster. Trace over the letter with your fingers. Ask the children to do the same. Trace the letter B in the air or use personal wipe-off boards. Make a letter B basket that includes several items that start with the letter B. Enunciate the B sound when identifying the items. Ask children to repeat or name the items in the basket. Ask the children what other items could be put in the basket.

Circle time activity: B is for ball. While in circle, toss a beach ball to a child. When the child catches the ball, he says a word that starts with B. Child tosses/rolls ball to another child who says a word that starts with B. You can encourage them to say, "B is for beach ball and...." each time it is their turn.

Movement

Ball bounce dance #1. Provide each child with a ball. Dance to music on CD while holding onto the ball and not letting go. Encourage interesting dance movements like holding ball up in the air while spinning, etc. When the music stops, each child has to "bounce the ball" and let go of the ball and catch another ball. When each child has found another ball, resume ball dance, and ball drop.

Bounce dance #2. Play music and children each bounce a ball while music plays. When music stops, stop bouncing. Start music again, start bouncing balls again.

Sensory

Hole punch circles. Provide pre-punched hole punches in the sensory table. Then provide single hole punchers and scrap paper and allow children to punch their own holes. Very good for hand-eye coordination and to increase hand strength which is so important for fine motor skills.

Bulletin Board Craft

Hands of Friendship Wreath. Trace around children's hands on white paper with a black marker and cut out. Provide a variety of crayons or markers to children and let them color/decorate their hand shapes. Write or let children write their names on their hands. Join hands together to create a large friendship wreath and display on the wall or on your bulletin board. Caption bulletin board: "Circle of Friends".

Option 2: Helping hands bulletin board display. Same as above. Repeat with heart shapes. Write in the middle of the display: "With love and helping hands, a child can accomplish anything."

Create

Bubble art. Add 1 drop or 2 of food coloring or paint to small container of bubbles. Have child blow bubbles up to a partner who is holding a sheet of paper. The child will try to "catch" the bubbles with the paper! See the "bubble art" that is created on the paper! Switch places so each child has a turn. Try using 2 different colors.

Song 1

What's the Weather? (tune: Clementine)
 What's the weather? What's the weather?
 What's the weather like today?
 Tell me children what's the weather?
 What's the weather like today?
 Is it sunny, is it rainy, is it windy out today?
 Tell me children what's the weather, what's
 the weather like today?

Song 2

Baby Bumblebee Song

I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee (cup hands together and swing like holding the bee)

Won't my mommy be so proud of me
 I'm bringing home a baby bumble
 OUCH, it stung me!

I'm squishing up a baby bumblebee (put hands together and rub like squishing the bee)

Won't my mommy be so proud of me
 I'm squishing up a baby bumblebee
 EW! It's yucky!

I'm wiping off a baby bumblebee (swipe hand across arm, cleaning off bee)

Won't my mommy be so proud of me
 I'm wiping off a baby bumblebee
 Now my mommy won't be mad at me!

Circle Time Activities

Review Letter B: Show the children the Letter B poster. Trace over the letter with your fingers. Ask the children to do the same. Trace the letter B in the air or use personal wipe-off boards. Can children remember some words that start with letter B from yesterday? Ask them to raise their hand and wait to be called. Write B words down as suggested by children on poster board. Children are *hearing* the B words and then *seeing* the B words.

Movement

B is for Balloon Bump Dance. Provide each child with balloon filled with air. Play music on CD. Children have to try to bump their own balloon in the air and keep it from falling while dancing along to the music. After interest wanes, pair children and encourage children to bump (toss) balloons to each other without the balloons hitting the ground.

Sensory

Activity/Movement: B is for box buildings. Provide lots of empty boxes and let children stack/build buildings. Encourages community building/sharing, spatial skills, balance, dramatic play skills. Use vocabulary like big,

Create

Bumblebees. Provide yellow and black paint. Encourage up and down strokes in pattern like bumblebee.

And more!

Balloon painting. Provide small inflated balloons and plates with paint spread around the surface. Allow children to dip the balloons into the paint and then onto a large piece of paper for some very unique art!

Song 1

Getting to know our friends. B is for beach ball.

Chant:

Beach ball, beach ball goes to you.
 This is what you need to do...
 Everybody give a cheer!
 Hooray!!
 Now your turn is at an end.
 Say your name and,
 Pass the beach ball to a friend.

Song 2

Old MacDonald Had a Farm. Sing the song. Call out for animal suggestions. This song is preparation for next activity, animal sound guessing game.

Circle Time Activities

Animal sounds guessing game. Make sounds of an animal, see if children can guess the animal. Children can also volunteer to make an animal sound and the other children have to guess the animal sound. To transition, teacher can make the bumblebee "buzz" sound...

Movement

Bumble bee buzz dance. Play music and buzz like bees until music stops then children stop. Start again when music starts again.

Sensory

Sensory balloons. Requires supervision! Fill balloons with items such as sand, water, rice, beans, cotton balls. Squeeze out any extra air and tie knots in each balloon. Can children guess what is in each balloon? At the end of the day during closing circle time, cut open each balloon and see if they guessed right!

Create

Option #1. B is for bumblebee. Print out B letter card for each child. Paint yellow, add black strips, or cut yellow foam paper B. Provide white circle shapes for wings, googly eyes, pipe cleaners for antennae.



Option #2: B is for band-aid. Print out B letter card for each child. Provide band-aids. Apply band-aids to letter B while staying in the lines. Child may choose to color letter B before applying band-aids. Hang in classroom as wall border with previous week's letter A, or add to letter book.



Table Time Activity

Color match cups. Provide 6 plastic cups. Wrap a strip of different colored paper around each cup. Write the color of the strip onto the strip. Provide several craft/popsicle sticks (bought colored, or pre-paint to match the plastic cups). Encourage children to add the correct colored stick to the matching colored cup.

Song 1

Apples and Bananas

I like to eat, eat, eat apples and bananas

I like to eat, eat, eat apples and bananas

A

I like to ate, ate, ate ay-ples and ba-nay-nays

I like to ate, ate, ate ay-ples and ba-nay-nays

E

I like to eat, eat, eat ee-ples and bee-nee-nees

I like to eat, eat, eat ee-ples and bee-nee-nees

I

I like to ite, ite, ite i-ples and by-ny-nys

I like to ite, ite, ite i-ples and by-ny-nys

O

I like to ote, ote, ote oh-ples and bo-no-nos

I like to ote, ote, ote oh-ples and bo-no-nos

U

I like to oot, oot, oot oo-ples and boo-noo-noos

I like to oot, oot, oot oo-ples and boo-noo-noos

Circle Time Activities

Ball roll science. What shape are balls? Can they roll? What other things can roll? Try other items and ask if each item can roll, then try it, did it roll or not, why not? Do things that are in the shape of a circle roll the best? Items to try: circular lids (oatmeal/tupperware), blocks, ball, marble, dice, football, box, etc.)

Table Time Activity

Muffin cup counting. B is for buttons. Add liners to the muffin tray. Write the numbers 1-12 in each liner. Provide a separate bowl of buttons. Show children how to count and place the correct number of buttons to each muffin cup.

Sensory

Searching for letter B's. Fill sensory table with bucket of foam letters from craft store. Provide styrofoam bowl. Ask children to find all the letter B's and put them in the bowl.

Create

Letter B collage. Provide magazines, Sunday newspaper advertisements, printouts from internet, etc. Help find items that start with letter B. Help make large letter B on paper and then cut and paste pictures of items that start with letter B to the paper to make a collage. Help label items for child.

Cooking

Banana bread with butter. Use favorite recipe.

Themes: Letter B

Materials: 6 empty water or soda bottles, fruit (orange/apple/lemon), empty paper rolls, red and/or green cellophane

Song 1

I am Waiting (tune: Are You Sleeping?)

I am waiting,
 I am waiting,
 Just for you,
 Just for you,
 Show me that you're ready,
 Show me that you're ready,
 1, 2, 3 - eyes on me!
 1, 2, 3 - looking at me!
 1, 2, 3 - smiling at me!

Song 2

Old MacDonald Had a Letter (tune: Old MacDonald had a Farm) Replace animals with letters
 Old MacDonald had an alphabet,
 He loved letters so.
 And in his alphabet there was an A.
 And it would always go.
 /a/ /a/ here,
 And a /a/ /a/ there.
 Here a /a/, there a /a/.
 Everywhere a /a/ /a/.
 Old MacDonald had an A.
 He loved letters so.

Circle Time Activities

Alphabet Shopping. Using the first letter, match the child's name with something to buy that begins with that letter. For example, "My name is Abby and I will buy an apple." This activity reinforces phonics by using alphabet animals, foods and places. Use poster or board to help with visualization.

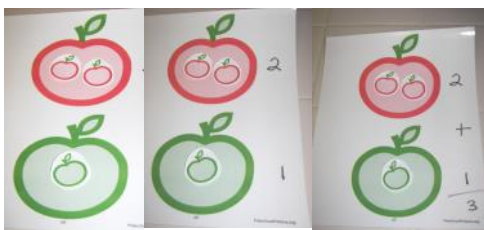
Movement

B is for bowling. Fruit bowling! Line up paper/plastic cups or empty water/soda bottles as you would bowling pins: 3 cups in the back row, 2 cups in the middle row and 1 cup in the front row. The cups should form a triangle. Choose a round fruit to use as a bowling ball, such as an orange, apple, or lemon. Play as few or as many rounds as children like.

Preschool Math option: If you play more than one round, keep score as you would in a traditional bowling game. If your preschooler knocks 2 cups down the first time and 1 cup the second time, how many total cups were knocked down? How many cups are left standing (6 cups - 3 cups = 3 cups)? Built in preschool math lesson! Option: Use more than one fruit type, which one works best?

Table Time Activity

Apple counting/Color Sorting. Laminate for durability. Glue template to file folder for future use as file folder game. Ask children to place 1 small apple into larger apple. Ask children to sort the red and green apples into the correct larger red and green apples. Count together. How many can child count in each. If you laminate the template then you can use Vis a Vis markers and write the number of apples in each apple. Child can write numbers also and help identify the numbers you write down. For higher level of learning, discuss "If I have 2 apples and I add 1 more, how many apples will I have". Introduce plus



Create

Color scopes. Make color telescopes using paper towel or toilet paper rolls painted red or green. Then take colored red and green cellophane and use rubber band to wrap onto one end of roll. Look through the cellophane to see everything in red or green. You can also substitute colored cellophane with saran wrap that is colored with a red or green marker.