

King Street Co-op Preschool

September 2013 Curriculum: Getting Acquainted

One of the exciting things about parent cooperatives, like King Street, is that each year is unique. Although the core of who we are and the experience we hope to offer children is constant, each year has its own feel and flavor based on what the children and families bring to the classroom. However, that means that, even for returning children and parents (and teachers!), there is an element of the unfamiliar. So, let's take some time this month to get acquainted - with each other (children and adults), our space, our routines, and our classroom roles.

Goals:

- Build a classroom community
 - Learn names, learn about each other
- Establish routines
- Empower children to make choices, follow their lead
- Learn the classroom environment
 - Where are things kept
 - What is each area for and what are the routines and expectations for that area
 - How can your body move in each area (fast/slow, sitting (snack)/running, etc.)

Routines to start the day:

- Children sign-in at the magnet board by answering the question of the day
- Where do you put your things?
 - Find your coat hook, find a spot on the boot bench
- How do you say goodbye to your Family?
 - These are rituals we learn together
 - If saying goodbye is new or challenging to you, please let the teacher know

Home Center:

- Areas: Dress up, Story area, Music, Large and Small Dramatic Play, Blocks, Whole group gatherings
- This is place for walking feet and quiet(er) voices. If your body wants to run, the gym is a good place for your game.
- Learning names (name games and songs like Who's Hiding?, Willaby-Wallaby-Woo, and Polly Put the Kettle On)
- Songs about our likes and dislikes: I have a box, All Day Long, We've Been Waiting for You
- Songs about Friends: Make New Friends, Little Bird Song, The More We Get Together, Down in the Valley
- Sharing and posting family pictures (Who's in my family? Who's in your family?)

Gym

- This is the entry point of the classroom where you will find your coat hook and the boot bench.

- This is a place for running, climbing, and other gross-motor (big body movements) play; puzzles; writing and drawing shelf, access to the bathroom
- How can you move fast and stay safe?
- What are the rules of your game? How do you know if someone wants to play this game? What if someone doesn't want to play?

Kitchen/Snack Room

- What do you do when you are hungry? How do you get ready for snack?
 - Washing your hands, choosing dishes, choosing a seat
- What do you choose to eat? What do you like/not care for? Do people have different ideas?
- How do we serve our food?
- How can we help others (passing dishes, pouring water, making room, helping with spills, etc.)
- How do we clear our plates?
 - Save leftovers with your name clip, put food scraps into the compost bin and dirty dishes into the dish tub, wipe your place with a crumb catcher

Art/Science Room:

- What can you do with these materials?
- How can you use them safely and take care of our school property?
 - Tape, paper, markers, crayons, journals; playdough and tools, paint and brushes
- Sensory Table: WATER - What does this feel like? What can you do with it? How can we use this space and material safely with others?

Outside:

- Painting Easel, Tire Swing, Weaving, Shovels, trucks, garden space, worms and bugs, bubbles, and more

How you can help:

- Come prepared for your Parent-Teacher working shift by reading the portion of the handbook that deals with your role and area.
- Bring in a copy of a family picture that your child can share and we can post at school. Have a great picture, but only one copy? We have a color copier at school you are welcome to use! Don't have any recent family photos? Our parent photographer may be able to take some family pictures at the Welcome Potluck.

Thank you!