



February 2012 NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

We love our families at Little Wellspring! We are so excited that we are growing and now are able to have a Lion (4 and 5 years old) and Lamb (3 years old) class on Tuesday-Thursday mornings. It will not be long before we have it all five mornings!

We will begin a series of articles on "*What Children Learn*" in the different Centers in our classrooms beginning with this newsletter. It may seem like we are just playing but learning is happening. Thanks you so much for allowing us to care and love your kids.

Director Kathy

What Children Learn in the Art Center

Language Development: Talking and listening are vital skills. In the Art Center children talk and listen spontaneously when sharing thoughts, ideas and problem solving. Think of all the things there are to talk about when children work with playdough, for example: how it feels, smells, goes together, falls apart; big pieces, little pieces, how flat, or how soft it is. When children are painting at the easel, words such as runny, sparkle, slick, smooth, ooze and many others are used and explored. New vocabulary is developing. Words about gluing-sticky, stuck, gooey and tacky-evolve when children have dozens of opportunities to manipulate a glue bottle and work sticking things together. Children want to talk to their friends and to share their discoveries.

Physical Development: When children cut with scissors, paint with brushes, pound playdough, open glue bottles and scribble with crayons, they are developing hand-eye coordination, hand manipulation and pincher control. When children work at the easel and move through the Art Center, they are learning about their bodies in space; and about using both sides of their bodies to accomplish a task.

Math: Math occurs naturally when children use, repeat and extend patterns, as with a stringing activity, for example: one piece of straw, one paper circle, one piece of straw, one paper circle and so on. Patterns are basic to math. Gluing precut, geometrical, paper shapes, painting on them and stringing them together teach children basic geometry. When they work with playdough or clay, children are exposed to part/whole relationships, with more/less and with thick/thin. There is no need to have a math lesson. The activities themselves become the math teacher.

Social Development: Children learn to share materials, work together on projects and to take turns doing activities. The Center offers children the chance to make choices and decisions for themselves. They develop a sense of self-confidence, as well, by doing things for themselves.



STAFF BIO

My name is Ginger Sprinkle and I am so excited to be the Head Teacher of the Lambs at Little Wellspring. I have been in the education field for 11 years. I love what I do and enjoy my days with the “itty-bitties”. I received my B.S. in Elementary Education from Newman University in Wichita, Kansas. I have been a Preschool Teacher for 4 years.

I have two children, my daughter Nikki is 20. She is in college studying Graphic Web Design. Nikki is engaged to be married later this year and enjoys playing soccer. My son Brett is 15 and is a freshman at Roseburg High School. He loves playing golf, baseball, basketball and bowling. He is involved heavily with Special Olympics.

I enjoy reading, watching movies, baseball and football. My heart is with little ones with special needs. As a mother of a son with special needs, I understand and feel the joys and sorrows parents of children with special needs feel.



We will be having a Valentine Party on Tuesday, February 14th. A list of our Friends is attached. We will be doing some activities together so please send enough Valentines for everyone. We will be providing pizza so you do not need to send a lunch.

CLASSROOM NEEDS

- **Matchbox cars**
- **Empty food containers for our Homeliving Centers**
- **Stickers**
- **Kleenexes**
- **Paper Towels**
- **Crib Mattresses-2**
- **Ride On Toys**
- **Jump Ropes**
- **Frisbees**

REMINDER

Please make sure your child has a complete set of clothes at school in case we need it.



Lion News

LESSON UNITS

WEEK OF:

February 6th and 13th-My Family and Me

Purpose: To help children realize that God planned for families; to help learn each family is special and unique, there are many different kinds of families and houses, and families help at home and share responsibilities.

Bible Stories: Timothy Learned from His Mother; Miriam Helped Her Brother
Bible Verses:

- “Love your father and mother” (Exodus 20:12)
- “Be kind to one another” (Ephesians 4:32)
- “Children, obey your parents” (Colossians 3:20)
- “Help one another” (Galatians 5:13)
- “We work together” (1 Corinthians 3:9)

February 20th-All About Others

Purpose: To help each child become familiar with other people in his world and to understand that although other people may look and act differently, God made them all; to help the children see the importance of friendships in their everyday world.

Bible Story: Philip Met a Stranger

Bible Verses:

- “God made people” (Genesis 1:27)
- “The people thanked God” (2 Chronicles 5:13)
- “God loves us” (1 John 4:10)
- “A friend loves at all times” (Proverbs 17:17)
- “Show love to one another” (Romans 12:10)
- “We love others because God loves us” (1 John 4:11)

February 27th-From Here to There

Purpose: To help children become more aware of the ways people travel and the means by which things are transported.

Bible Stories: Jesus Talked with the Woman at the Well; Jesus Taught from a Boat

Bible Verses:

- “Jesus said, ‘Go and help others’” (Luke 10:37)
- “God made the water” (Psalm 104:10)
- “I am with you everywhere you go” (Genesis 28:15)
- “In the beginning God created the world” (Genesis 1:1)
- “Be ready to share” (1 Timothy 6:18)
- “Help one another” (Galatians 5:13)

UNIT WORDS

- Dad
- Mom
- family
- love
- friend
- others
- go
- car
- truck
- fly



Lamb News

LESSON UNITS

WEEK OF:

February 6th and 13th-My Family is Special

Purpose: To help children realize that God planned for families, to help them grow in appreciation of their families, and to guide them in learning to accept responsibilities within their family group.

Bible Story: The First Family

Bible Verses:

- “Be kind to one another” (Ephesians 4:32)
- “God made us” (Psalm 100:3)
- “Help one another” (Galatians 5:13)
- “Love one another” (1 John 4:7)
- “Say thank-you to God” (Psalm 136:1)

February 20th and 27th-Pets Need Care

Purpose: To help children become aware of various kinds of pets; to learn that pets need food, water, exercise, and a place to live; and to realize that God planned for animals.

Bible Story: Adam Names the Animals

Bible Verses:

- “God gives food to animals” (Psalm 147:9)
- “God made the animals” (Genesis 1:25)
- “God made the birds” (Genesis 1:21)
- “God made the fish” (Genesis 1:21)
- “Look at the wonderful things God made” (Job 37:14)
- “Say thank-you to God” (Psalm 136:1)