

Dear Families,

Our unit for the next week is "Learn Every Day about School." During this unit, we will discuss what it means to go to school and help your child become familiar with school routines. As your child participates in activities that help him/her learn about the value of having and following rules, he/she will become more comfortable with being part of a community of learners at school.

In addition, your child will learn about the daily routine at school, the teachers, and other school helpers. Making friends at school and making individual choices will also be included in our daily activities. Each child will participate in creating a jobs chart and learn about his/her role in keeping the classroom neat and following the daily routine.

Here are some activities we have planned:

**Art Center:** Create handprint art based on the children's book *The Kissing Hand*; draw pictures and create collages of teachers and classmates; make life-size drawings; and create group murals.

**Fine Motor Center:** Make a tactile name plate using glue and craft materials; and create a map of the room using small Lego bricks.

**Block Center:** Participate in shape-matching activities; and build a replica of the school using unit blocks.

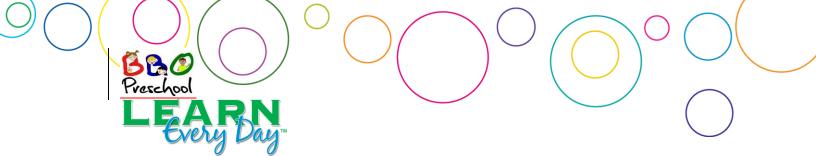
**Dramatic Play Center:** Use dress-up clothes and other props to play school; create a pretend store to play store; and learn how to make healthy food choices.

**Literacy Center:** Match photos of classmates to their names; experiment with rhyming words from the children's story *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten;* talk about and name the people who help at school; and use various art mediums to create a "Things I Find at School" collage.

**Music Center:** Sing songs about the importance of having rules; and share and talk about music from different cultures.

**Discovery Science Center:** Experiment with identifying items by touch; learn the importance of helping to keep the room tidy by putting items where they belong; and discuss how individual choices can affect health, such as why it is important to brush and floss daily.

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**Math Center:** Participate in a game in which children sequence photos of the daily routine and answer questions such as What comes first? What happens after large group? What happens before lunch?; and introduce the important math concept of repeating and making patterns.

Outdoor Activities: Engage in games that help develop cooperation and social skills, such as "Follow the Leader"; learn the importance of following playground rules; and collect interesting items from the playground during a nature walk.

## At home you can:

- Talk about the daily routine at school and ask your child to describe his/her day at school.
- Compare the routine at school with your routine at home.
- Ask your child to tell you about some of the helpers he/she has met at school.
- Talk with your child about making friends at school and relate an activity he/she has done with a friend.
- Work with your child to make a map of your home.

We are very excited about the activities we have planned. As always, thank you for sharing your child with us. Please don't hesitate to call or email with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Naylett Lopez

Director