



# “Going to School”

## What’s new in our class this week

We are learning songs, rhymes,  
and new activities related to  
**“School”!**

It’s time to play, it’s time to learn!  
Children learn through play and that  
brings us to our newest theme “Going  
to School”.

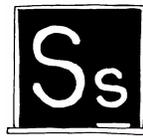
### New Concept



#### Same and Different

We will be talking about before, after,  
first and last. We will learn about  
differences and similarities!

### New Letter



#### Big “S” and little “s”

Some “s” words we will talk about are  
Sandwiches, Sink, and Sun!

### Letter Talk

“Letter Talk” is what we  
use to help children learn  
how to form letters!

#### Letter Talk for capital “S”

Curve left and down to  
the dotted line; then  
curve right.

#### Letter Talk for small “s”

Start at the dotted line  
and curve left and  
down to the middle of  
the space; then curve  
right.

Big ‘S’ and little ‘s’ are  
the same shape...  
but have different sizes!

### Songs we are singing



“Willoughby, Wallaby, Woo”

“The Hokey Pokey”

### New Book

#### “The Months of School” by Margie Sigman

This is one of the books we will be reading. It talks about different things friends at school share throughout the seasons. When your child is getting dressed, talk about what season it is and what clothes they are wearing. Ask your child if they would wear in coat in the summer or a swim suit in the winter. Also, talk about the order of getting dressed. For example, ask if your child would put on socks “before” or “after” they put on their shoes.

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## Visit a School

Find a school in your area that is different from your child's school. You can visit a one room school house from the 1800's or a college campus with modern equipment! Choose a place that will let you explore the exterior of the building and/or interior classrooms with your child so you both can talk about going to school.

Talk with your child about how their school is similar or different that this school. Tell you child what your school was like and compare your school with the school you are visiting. Compare your school with your child's school, too!



## Try These Tips at Home

### How to teach your child about: *Same and Different*

- At dinner talk about what everyone is drinking and if they are the same drinks or different drinks.
- When your child brings home an art project, ask if he or she used the same colors or different colors. Talk about the different or same colors or materials in the art work.
- Make a list of what your child does in the morning and talk about what comes "first", "next" and is done "last". Ask what they do "before" a certain activity on the list.

### Help your child learn the new letters: *S and s*

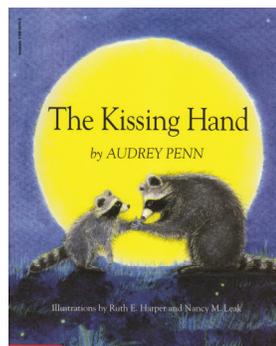
- When driving, point out the letter S in signs you see.
- Find the letter S in labels while grocery shopping.
- Play "I Spy" finding different things that begin with S.
- Label things at home that begin with S, like the sink.
- Practice writing the letter in different materials like bath bubbles, sugar, or sand.

### Teach your child about: *Going to School*

- Ask your child about things they are learning at school. You can give your child choices, such as "do you read books in the reading area" or "do you play in the block area".
- Talk to your child about what they bring home from school, like drawings and writing (even scribbles).
- Read books to your child about going to school. See section below for our book list. Also, look for these books at the DELL-D Family Center or your public library!

### Books related to theme

- "I Am Not Going to School Today" by Robie H. Harris
- "I Am Absolutely Too Small for School" by Lauren Child
- "First Day Jitters" by Julie Danneberg
- "Little School" by Beth Norling
- "Sam and Gram and the First Day of School" by George Ulrich



### Book Pick: "The Kissing Hand"

by Audrey Penn

Illustrated by Ruth E. Harper and Nancy Leak

This is a sweet story of a raccoon named Chester, who is afraid of going to school, and how his mother finds a special way to help him. The book's gentle text, vibrant illustrations and unforgettable way of communicating a message that all of us need to hear- "You are Loved"- has made this a children's classic.