



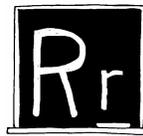
“Neighborhood”

What’s new in our class this week

We are learning songs, rhymes, and doing activities related to our theme **“Neighborhood”**!

This week, your child will begin to learn about neighborhoods. We will also talk about streets, traffic and safety signals.

New Letter



Big “R” and little “r”

Some “R” words we will talk about are Red light, Rabbit, Right, Ready and Really!

Letter Talk

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

Letter Talk for big ‘R’

Straight line down. Go to the top of this line. Curved line out and around; slanted line down.

Letter Talk for little ‘r’

Straight line down. Curved line up and over.

Draw letters in sand, sugar, cornmeal or in the air!

New Concept: Opposite



We will learn about the concept of opposite. We will talk about how lights can be “on” or “off”. Empty and full, narrow and wide, day and night are a few of the opposites we will learn about in our new book.

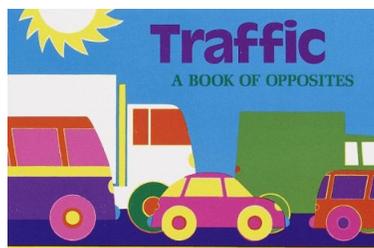
Song we are singing



“To Market”

“Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star”

New Book: “Traffic” by Betsy and Giulio Maestro



by Betsy and Giulio Maestro

We will be reading *Traffic*, a book of opposites. *Traffic* is a story about a little pink car that travels around a neighborhood. The car passes empty trucks and full trucks, drives on narrow roads and wide roads through the day and night, until it is finally home. As we read the book, your child will learn “opposite” words like dark and light, close and open, big and little.

Recognizing opposites is an important skill for children to learn to read and write. Not only do they add new words to their vocabulary, but also it helps them understand reading and writing concepts, like what big letters look like and what small letters look like.

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The Farmer's Market

Before you go somewhere, talk with your child about what you will see and do. A place in your neighborhood to visit is the Farmer's Market.

- Ask your child to name their favorite fruit or vegetable and then name one of yours.
- Discuss the items that you see at the market: its size, shape, color, and texture.
- Ask your child what sound different fruits or vegetable start with such as "What sound do you hear when I say apple"?

Vendors offer fresh lettuce, tomatoes, onions, gooseberries, baked goods, strawberries and much more, so you may find new foods for your child to try.

Trying new foods are a great way to review the four of the five senses (taste, touch, look, and smell)!

Books related to theme

- "Jobs Around My Neighborhood" by Gladys Rosa-Mendoza
- "Arthur's Neighborhood" by Mark Brown
- "The Berenstain Bears' New Neighbors" by Stan Berenstain
- "Keats' Neighborhood" by Ezra Jack Keats
- "Molly Goes Shopping" by Eva Erickson
- "One Sunday Morning" by Yumi Heo

Try These Tips at Home

Teach your child about: **Opposites**

- Teach your child the concept of "on" and "off", during bedtime by talking about when you turn "on" the light, the room is *bright* and when you turn "off" the light, the room is *dark*. You can also teach "on" and "off" using the radio.
- When at the grocery store, talk about fruit that is big (watermelon) and fruit that is little (grape).
- You can also talk to your child about his or her cup and plate being full or empty.

Help your child learn the letters: **R and r**

- Remind your child that the letter R has a 'leg' kicking out and have them stand up and kick out a leg and say "R".
- Help your child be a detective — search for and talk about things that start with the letter R.

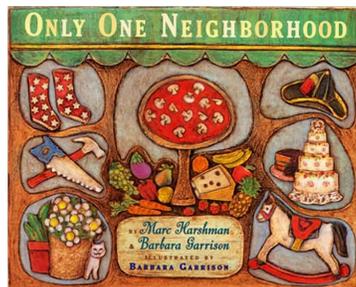
Talk to your child about: **Neighborhood and Traffic Signals**

- Point out store names and street signs.
- Point out important traffic signals, such as "WALK" and "DON'T WALK".
- Ask your child to name big and little things in the neighborhood, or the short or tall people in your neighborhood.
- When at the grocery store, talk about different jobs people have (checkout clerk, produce manager, etc.)

Book Pick: "Only One Neighborhood"

Author: Mark Harshman

Illustrator: Barbara Garrison



This book with extraordinary woodblock illustrations takes children on a tour of shops and the firehouse. One bakery has many different types of bread; in one school there are many children. At the end of the story, readers see how many neighborhoods can come together to make one city, show how each of us is part of something bigger.

Published by Dutton Children's Books