May’s Theme – Animals

Preschool

During the month of May, our children will learn all about animals. Our dramatic play center will be transformed into a veterinarian office and pet groomer station (known as the beauty shop for pets).

We’ll display our pets on our “Pet Hall Of Fame” bulletin board, mark a feeding chart for pets, and compare domestic cats with wild cats. We’ll talk about pets as helpers, like a Seeing Eye dog, pet responsibilities, and discover which animals lay eggs.

Young children learn many things through their senses. This month we’ll add bird seed, dry pet food, corn kernels, nesting materials, and packing materials to our sensory tables. We’ll change our tables to sand and add our zoo animals.

Our block area will be busy as we build dog houses, barns, silos, a dairy, a zoo, pet shops, veterinarian hospital and bird houses. We’ll add farm animals, tractors, dump trucks, and farm fences to our blocks. We’ll also set out shoe boxes filled with hay to feed or farm animals.

Mark Your Calendars

1  Pet Food Drive begins/all month
7  Teacher Appreciation Week begins
11 Muffins for Mom in the lobby
12 Museum visit/Fantastic Frogs
24 Bookmobile visit
28 CLOSED for Memorial Day

Fun Fridays

4  Cinco de Mayo Celebration
11 Bring in your Pet Pictures.
18 May Pole Dance
25 Veterinarian visit

...Look for our annual Art Show next month!

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<tr>
<td>Tumblin’ Tots</td>
<td>Music Class</td>
<td>Spanish Class</td>
<td>Computer Class</td>
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SPANISH

This month, we talk about animals in Espanol:

“On the farm” - En la granja
Pig – Cerdo Cow-Vaca
Chicken-Pollitos Horse-Caballo

We will also practice numbers, colors and the alphabet!

Weekly Reader Topics

- Insects
- The Sun
- Dolphins
- Summer Safety
Infants & Toddlers
Young children live with pets in their homes and neighborhoods. This month, our infants and toddlers will explore some common pets like cats, dogs, fish, and rabbits. We’ll learn their names, the sounds they make, what they look like, and how they move.

Our children play with curiosity. Our teacher’s use planned experiences to guide play. What is a planned experience? It’s an activity a teacher sets up to support children’s learning through repeated exploration of the environment, materials, or equipment. Watch out for floor pictures, scarf boxes, wind chimes and windsocks, bubbles, clear tubes, experience bottles, and finger painting. We’ll enjoy water play, bug study, cardboard tube constructions and colored glue. We’re going to be busy!

Book Of The Month
Focus On Literacy
This month our preschoolers will enjoy reading Who Has These Feet? By Laura Hulbert. Written as a guessing game, we will discover why the feet of tree frogs and eight other animals are perfect for where they live. Our children will look at feet in a whole new way!

NC Museum of Natural Science
This month we are excited to present, Fantastic Frogs. What’s the difference between frogs and toads? Our children will learn some of these differences and hear sounds frogs and toads make. We will also meet some tree frogs and a toad.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Jack K.            Emmeline W.            Bo R.
Rosario M          Lourdes M.             Hayden Z.
Lily L.            Anna Claire O.          Elle R.
Elias P.           Calla H.               Ryan B.
Elijah S.          Sandra M.               

Our Music Program
Music and movement go together naturally for young children. This month our children will participate in a marching band parade. They will learn to identify rhythm instruments and to move to the rhythm of music. We will also learn a May Day fingerplay using sign language as well as new spring songs.

*Durham’s Partnership for Young Children selected 7 of our Four’s and Fives as finalist in their Poster Contest. Log on to Hope Valley’s Facebook page for more information.