

# Pre-School Press



**October 2006: Ramadan and Eid Mubarak! Please note the change in the Scholastic Book Order deadline!**

## **Important Bulletin**

### **Important Dates**

<b>October 9</b>	<b>Preschool field trip permission slips due</b>
<b>October 11</b>	<b>Online book order deadline – delivery before Eid</b>
<b>October 19</b>	<b>Online book order deadline – delivery after Eid</b>
<b>October 17</b>	<b>Picture Day</b>
<b>October 19</b>	<b>JNTAC PTO Jftar</b>
<b>October 20</b>	<b>No School, Teacher Professional Development Day</b>
<b>October 23-24</b>	<b>No School, Eid Break</b>

### **SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS ONLINE!**

To order books online and help Preschool earn points towards free books for our class, visit [www.scholastic.com/parentordering](http://www.scholastic.com/parentordering).

Class user name: **intacpreschool**

Password: **preschool**

(hard copies of the catalog are available at school)

**PLEASE NOTE THE DEADLINE CHANGE:**

**For parents who want their order in before Eid, I will be placing the first order on October 11, with expedited shipping, which will get us the order in 3-5 business days.**

### **Inside This Issue:**

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### **Ramadan and Eid Activities**

**1. PTO Food Drive:** You and your child can help the poor of Cincinnati by donating non-perishable food items. See the drop box inside the front window of the lunchroom.

**2. Eid for Everyone:** Many children in the Muslim community do not get new toys or gifts for Eid. You and your child can bring in a **NEW, UNWRAPPED** toy to donate to a Cincinnati child.

**3. Giving to Friends:** We are collecting small gift items to give to the entire class on the day of our Eid party. Please see page 6 for more details.

# What We're Doing



## What We're Doing

### Letter of the week:

*The letters for the month of October are E, F, G and H.*

*Each week we do the following activities with the letter of the week:*

- *Trace the letter*
- *Identify words that begin with that letter*
- *Draw pictures of objects that begin with that letter (for display in classroom)*
- *Write the letter independently*

### Writing:

*Each week the students draw a picture and write a story on a specified topic (e.g. "Draw a picture and write a story about something that starts with the letter D"). At this point, most students are dictating their stories to a teacher, who writes the words. This models the writing process.*

*Encourage your child to write for different reasons. Don't worry if there are real letters included in the "writing" at all! This is just to get your child used to the idea that he can write. Here are some ideas:*

- *Dictate a shopping list to him (have your "real" list available out of sight.*
- *Write a letter or make a card for a family member.*

### Reading:

*In reading this month, we will be reading fiction stories and working on the following:*

- *Connecting prior knowledge/experience to what is read*
- *Identifying the sequence of events in a story*
- *Identifying the characters in a story*
- *Fantasy vs. reality (what could not really happen. vs. what could really happen)*

## What You Can Do

### Letter of the week:

- *During the course of the day/evening with your child, ask your child to find and point to a given letter in his environment (e.g. "Can you find the letter "E" in the Home Depot sign?")*
- *Ask your child, and help him if necessary, to name a word that begins with a given letter.*

### Writing:

*Make sure your child is holding the writing instrument correctly. It should be gripped equally between the thumb, forefinger and side of the middle finger. This position offers the best flexibility and control over the writing instrument.*



### Reading:

*Read! Let your child tell you about his thoughts during the story. I know this can take FOREVER, but it's really good for him! Encourage him to share his experiences that are alike or different to the events in the story.*

*Also, watching a TV show or movie with your child can help him begin to identify the sequence of events and characters in any story. Just ask him what came first? Then what? What happened at the end? Who was*

# Math

## What We're Doing

### Shapes:

Identify, describe and match 2- and 3- dimensional objects: triangle, rectangle, oval, diamond, semi-circle, sphere, cube, pyramid, cylinder, cone.

### Numbers:

- One-to-one correspondence (counting one number to one object)
- Identify and name numbers 1 – 5

## What You Can Do

### Shapes:

Practice drawing shapes.

Point out examples of shapes in your environment. Play "I Spy" ("I spy, with my little eye, a green rectangle" – for a street or highway sign)

### Numbers:

Practice counting one number to one object at home. Identify the numbers on your house (this is also good for memorizing street address)

# Social Studies

## What we're doing

### Social Skills:

1. Saying Assalamu alaikum when entering and leaving a room, and responding to others with wa alaikum assalam.
2. Interacting with adults and peers in an appropriate manner.
3. Cooperative behavior such as taking turns, reminding others of appropriate behavior

## What you can do

### Social Skills:

1. Practice saying assalamu alaikum and wa alaikum assalam. at appropriate times.
2. Practice good manners at home: use "may I" questions, use 'please', 'thank you' and 'your welcome.'
3. Encourage your child to use cooperative behavior with family members. Role play with dolls or toys



# Islamic Studies

## What we're doing

### Qur'an:

Surah Al-Fatihah, ayahs 4-7. We practice one ayah per week.

### Ramadan:

We are talking about Ramadan as a Muslim month that we do special things in:

1. Fast
2. Share with the poor

## What you can do

### Qur'an:

Recite Surah Al-Fatihah for your child every day, perhaps as part of a bedtime routine. If she already knows it, or can say part of it with you or alone, have her do so.

### Ramadan:

Include your child in any part of Ramadan activity that you can. Let her help prepare Iftar and pray with you. She can also go shopping



## Science

### **What we're doing**

#### **Health and Safety:**

**1. Fire Prevention and Safety:** The West Chester Fire Department visited JNTAC on Monday, October 2. The firefighters talked to us about fire prevention and safety in case of a fire. We are continuing to learn about how to prevent fires and how to stay safe in case of a fire.

**2. Car Safety:** We will be learning about how to travel safely in cars and be safe around cars. This includes first and foremost, appropriate safety restraints for children. Be on the lookout for more information on this. You can also check the following web site:

<http://www.aap.org/family/carseatguide.htm>

**3. Stranger Danger:** Strangers are people we don't know. Since we don't know them, we don't know if they are good or bad. Bad strangers don't usually look bad – usually they look good. For this reason, it is important for children to know that a stranger is someone they do not know.

Also, we often teach children that they should ignore their natural inhibition of strangers, and that they should hug and kiss any person that we want them to, or that wants a hug or kiss.

In preschool, we teach our students to be appropriately social and polite without ignoring their natural inhibitions. We also teach them how to stay safe from bad strangers when out and about and when at home.

**4. Safety at home and school:** We will be covering a few aspects of home and school safety, including avoiding electrical outlets, kitchen safety, poisons, choking hazards, and more.

### **What you can do**

#### **Health and Safety:**

##### **1. Fire Prevention and Safety:**

- Involve your child in checking smoke detectors
- Make and practice a family escape plan.
- Visit the fire department in your area.

##### **2. Car Safety:**

- Make a short list of rules for safety in the car.
- Buckle up yourself, and buckle up your child in an appropriate child safety restraint!!

##### **3. Stranger Danger:**

For more information on how to protect your child from abduction, I would suggest a Google search on "stranger danger." I found many web sites on the topic.

##### **4. Safety at home and school:**

- Child proof your home! Involve your child in the process. As you plug outlets and move cords out of reach, talk to your child about why you are doing it.
- Remind your child that if they see something dangerous, they should tell an adult or parent, not try to fix it or remove the danger themselves.

One of many available sites with home safety information:

<http://familydoctor.org/027.xml>

# Preschool Chants and Songs

(Ask your child for a demo!)

## The Bird Song

Way UP in the sky (put hands over head)  
the little birds fly (flap hands on sides as wings)  
Way down in the nest (move hands in horizontal circle)  
the little birds rest (sleeping with two hands under cheek)  
With a wing on the left (wing motion on left)  
and a wing on the right (wing motion on right)  
The little birds sleep all through the night. (sleeping)  
SHHHHH! (shhhh with finger on lips)  
Their sleeeeeeping!  
The BRIGH T SUN comes up! (hands over head)

## WISH LIST



### Wish List:

- Disinfectant wipes (for tables)
- watercolor paint trays (the kind with just 3 or 4 colors is best)
- new pillows or beanbags for the reading center
- new cotton balls
- books for the preschool library!

## 10 Little Bubbles

(put fingers up for each number)  
One little, two little three little bubbles  
four little, five little six little bubbles  
seven little, eight little, nine little bubbles  
ten little bubbles go pop, pop, pop! (clap hands on each pop)  
(clap hands quickly)  
Pop them , pop them, pop them bubbles  
Pop them , pop them, pop them bubbles  
Pop them , pop them, pop them bubbles

## Where Is (your child's name)? (tune of Frere Jacques)

(person 1)	Where is (name)?
	Where is (name)?
(person 2)	Here I am!
	Here I am!
(person 1)	How are you today, (name)?
(person 2)	Very well, I thank you!
(person 1)	Glad you're here!
	Glad you're here!

## The Shark Song

Baby shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo  
Baby shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo (make biting mouth with thumb, forefinger and middle finger)  
Child shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo,  
Child shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo (biting mouth with two hands, keeping wrists together)  
Mama shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo  
Mama shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo (biting mouth with two hands, clapping up and down a little)  
Papa shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo  
Papa shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo (bigger biting mouth with clapping hands)  
Grandma shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo  
Grandma shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo (like child shark, but with closed fists – no teeth!)  
Grandpa shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo  
Grandpa shark, doot doo, doot doot doo doo (closed fists, laying one forearm across the other and making a biting motion)  
Lady swimming, doot doo, doot doot doo doo  
Lady swimming, doot doo, doot doot doo doo (swimming motion)  
Shark attack! (scream and throw hands up into the air)  
Shark attack! (scream and throw hands up into the air)

## ***And finally, some important notes:***

### **Homework**

*Occasionally we have work that we don't get to in class, and so we send home these extra pages as "homework." This is not required work. It is to be done ONLY if your child is interested and wants to. Please do not force your child to do this work.*

*Eventually, we will, inshaAllah, have a "Parent Box" with extra work, extra copies of handouts, interesting parenting or education articles, and book order catalogs available on the preschool table. At that point, it will be the parent's choice to pick up extra worksheets for their child if they so wish.*

### **Picture Day**

*Picture Day is October 17! This is a NO UNIFORM day. Please send your child in the clothes you would like her to wear for her picture. Please send her in gym shoes, though, as we will still be playing that day (the shoes do not show in the picture!).*

*Those students who attend only on Tuesday and Thursday may join us for the picture taking part of the day. They should remain with their parents while waiting. I will try to let you know the exact timing of our photo session.*

### **Gym shoes and paint smocks:**

*Please make sure your child is wearing GYM SHOES every day, including Wednesdays (no uniform day). Sandals of any kind or party shoes are not the safest gear for running and playing.*

*We still have some students who do not have paint smocks to wear when we paint. We do have some extras in our art center, but your child should have his own smock. We are sure you are interested in protecting your child's uniform when he paints.*

### **Field Trip**

*We will be going to the Heritage Village Museum on November 11, inshaAllah!*

*Please note:*

- All preschool students may attend this field trip: morning and afternoon, 2, 3 and 5 day students included.*
- All students must wear gym shoes and a yellow JNTAC t-shirt.*
- All students attending must be present at school at 8:45 a.m. on November 11, and must be picked up at 12:30 p.m. at school. There will be no afternoon preschool session in school on that day.*
- Field trip permission slips are due back no later than Tuesday October 10<sup>th</sup>!*
- WE NEED CHAPERONES! We need one adult for every 5 students. With a total of almost 50 students, this means we need at least 10 adults. If you cannot come as a chaperone, but would like to sponsor another adult as a chaperone, please do so.*



## **Eid Party and Ramadan gift bags**

### ***Eid Party:***

- *Our Eid party will be held during the normal class time on Friday, October 27.*
- *All morning, students (no matter what day they attend) may attend from (9:00 – 11:00 a.m) and all afternoon students may attend from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.).*
- *We will be sending home a note asking you to bring in some specific party food to share with the class.*

### ***Ramadan Gift Bags:***

*You may send in a small (really small, like stickers, a pencil , candy or a small coloring book) gift with your child for each student to include in our Ramadan gift bags.*

*Total morning students: 29*

*Total afternoon students: 19*

*(you may send in a couple of extras if possible in case we get new enrollees before then!)*

## ***Photo Gallery***



***Claire shows her elephant mask***



***Abdalmajeed says "E is for Elmo!"***



***Mariam shows her egg....yummy!***



***Looking at Ali's show and share animal puzzle***



*Leopard, the leopard gecko*



*Salahudeen and Zahraa help Ms. Ali set up the frog habitat*