



VPI GAZETTE

Virginia Preschool Initiative, Richmond Public Schools

Message to our VPI Kids

I hope you enjoyed the snow! Now Spring is here. It is time for Spring activities and enjoying outside play. You have done an awesome job this school year, you are halfway there!

Tiana Simmons,
Family Service Advocate

Upcoming Events

April 6-10th Spring Break

April 16th Regional Kindergarten
Registration Day

April 20-24th Parent Involvement Week

April 22nd Parent Volunteer Luncheon
(Parents will be selected)

April 25th Make and Take Workshop at
Maymont Preschool Center

April 27th-May 8th PALS Testing

Spring Book List

Mouse's First Spring by Lauren Thompson

Signs of Spring by Justine Korman Fontes

Spring Is Here by Will Hillenbrand

Raindrop, Plop by Wendy Cheyenne Lewison

Wake Up It's Spring by Lisa Campbell Ernst



Marion Watts Class, Maymont Preschool Center

VPI Parents!

We have passed the halfway point of our preschool year, and students are continuing to explore. Students are now preparing for the spring pre-K PALS test in April. We are ready to begin transitioning into kindergarten. We will be sending out helpful resources.

The themes for the past few months were: Theme 5 - Animals Everywhere, Theme 6 - Construction Zone, and Theme 7- In the City in the Country.

Thank you for your continued support in the classroom! Continue to be active! Follow us on Facebook (Virginia Preschool Initiative) and twitter (@RPS_VPI) to see activities that you can do at home and what's happening in the classroom.



Spring Home Learning Recipe

HRA Skill: Gross Motor

Title: Tooty-Ta

Why: To help students build listening and gross motor skills through a song with motions.

How: Prepare a space in your house for movement. Invite a few family members or friends to join the fun. Place the cd in a cd player or a computer and get moving to the Tooty-Ta written by Dr. Jean Feldman. A sample of the song along with the lyrics can be found at www.songsforteaching.com.

What Else: Build on children's sense of phonemic awareness and letter sounds by chanting this song with different initial sounds, "A booty ba, a booty ba." Create your own version of the song by adding different motions to the sequence. Finally, review body parts with your child by playing the game "Simon Says."

DTB #9: Praise the child when he or she does well or takes small steps on the right direction.

2015-2016 School Year

Parents, if your child isn't currently in their school zone make sure that you register for kindergarten on April 16th for their zone school.

You can find out what your zone school is on the Richmond Public Schools website, web.richmond.k12.va.us.



Fingerplay: Five Fat Peas

A counting fingerplay especially useful in the spring and summer.

Five fat peas in a pea pod pressed

(children hold hand in a fist)

One grew, two grew, so did all the rest.

(put thumb and fingers up one by one)

They grew and grew

(raise hand in the air very slowly)

And did not stop,

Until one day

The pod went POP!

(children clap hands together)



Dorothy Smith's Class, Redd Elementary School

Dr. Seuss' Birthday!

March 2nd was Dr. Seuss' birthday. He's inspired so many children with his books and his words. Two of his most famous books are Green Eggs and Ham and The Cat in the Hat.