

PRIMARY WEEKLY PLAN

Week Nine: May 26 - May 29, 2020

Dear Primary Parents,

The unofficial start of summer is this Memorial Day weekend. Are you thinking of watermelon and corn on the cob like we are? You'll find two Practical Life activities to teach your child how to help. Have you ever collected dandelions and blown off their seeds? We have an exercise for you to enjoy with your child. What does your child like more than animals, especially kitties! Look in this week's DLP to find more fun around these interests.

As time wears on, and on us, please remember that if you are looking for guidance on how to talk to your children about what's happening around them and ways to ease their anxieties, Ms. Francine Ronis, LPC, francine.ronis@gmail.com is available to work with you. She was hired by Aidan to consult with families with children under the age of 6.

As always, we are available to help you navigate this new reality, guiding you to create a usable space within your four walls, and helping you establish a daily schedule that matches your family's individual needs. Please don't hesitate to email us.

The Primary Team,

Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Rey, Ms. Eckel, Ms. Sue, Ms. Caihuara, Ms. Lanka, Ms. Aker, Ms. Khraishah

PRACTICAL LIFE

- **Nuts & Bolts:** Look through your toolbox and gather different sizes of nuts and bolts. Put them in a small basket. Start with them screwed together and let your child take them apart. Then match which nuts fit with which bolts and screw them back. Unscrew, mix up, and repeat the exercise. This is helpful for developing fine motor and eye-hand coordination. Leave this on your home Montessori shelf for future work.
- **Get a taste of summer with this melon balling activity.** You will need: a slice of melon; a melon baller or small cookie scoop; toothpicks for serving; a cutting board or mat for the melon slice; and a small plate for transferring scoops. First, demonstrate how to scoop a ball of melon, transfer it to the plate, and then stick with a toothpick for serving. From there, your child can finish making this snack to offer to the whole family - practical life and grace and courtesy all in one. This exercise is great for fine motor skills, independence, and self-confidence while rewarding the palette. Remember that just like at school, your child takes care of the clean up.



- Want some corn with that watermelon? You'll need ears of corn, a basin for the husks and a bowl for the readied ears.
 - Demonstrate how to peel by holding the ear with one hand and peeling downwards with the other hand.
 - Show where to place the peel (in basin).
 - Once it is peeled, place the corn in a bowl or on a plate.
 - Optional: child may help with washing the corn at a sink or basin.



- You'll need some carrots for that salad. Children love to learn from other children. Allow your child to learn how to peel a carrot safely by [watching this child's lesson](#).

SENSORIAL

- Let's sensitize those fingertips by touching different grades of sandpaper.
 - If possible, have two matching pieces and pair them.
 - Feel each piece of sandpaper.
 - Arrange them according to the degree of roughness saying: "Rough, rougher, roughest."
 - Mix them up and do it again.
 - Try to grade or pair them with eyes closed or blindfolded.
- Children can make predictions and experiment with everyday items using magnets. Gather a variety of magnetic and non-magnetic objects and a wand or bar magnet in a basket or tray. Make "Magnetic" and "Non-Magnetic" title cards and place them at the top of the mat (or use this free printable [sorting mat](#)). Children can test the objects placed in the basket with the magnet and place under the correct title card. For variation, children can take magnets around the room and test objects to see if they are magnetic, or they can experiment to see if the magnet is strong enough to work through a liquid or solid.



- Here's a homemade variation on "Twister". You'll need 2 large white pieces of paper, 6 pieces of colored paper, scissors, tape or glue, and a pencil.
 - On the large white paper trace both of your hands and invite your partner to do the same.
 - Cut your 6 colored papers so as to create a small square or rectangle.
 - Distribute your colored papers making sure you both have one of each.
 - Tape or glue your colored papers around your printed hands.
 - Begin the game by placing both hands on your traced handprints.
 - One person says, "Touch the color green." The other person touches that color and then returns to their hand "base."
 - Take turns asking each other to touch a color.
 - Speed it up and dissolve into laughter.



LANGUAGE

- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* is a wonderful read-aloud because of the repetitive text and the vibrant illustrations by the beloved Eric Carle. It's also the inspiration for a fun language activity using these printable [illustration cards](#). Cut the images apart and have a roll of tape handy. Tape an image to each child's back. They will have to ask the other players yes/no questions to determine what color or animal is on their back, such as "Does my animal have a tail?" or "Can I ride my animal?" When the correct animal or color is guessed, tape a new image to the child's back, or play can continue with a sibling.
- Find an open space and learn the function of verbs.
 - Begin by saying, "A verb is an action word that tells you what to do."
 - Also share that "Sometimes a verb tells you to do something that we normally don't do inside the house, but if you play this game it means you can."
 - Let your child know that they don't have to do action if they don't want to; they could also pretend to do it. For example, they don't have to physically sweep something.
 - Ideas of verbs: jump, run, walk, skip, dance, yawn, hug, sweep, roll, smile, dust.
 - Advanced: If your child is a writer, invite them to make a list of verbs or to read labels and act them out.
- Here are a few variations on the theme for learning those ever-so-tricky puzzle (sight) words. Repetition is key to being able to read them with ease and they are crucial. Create a simple chart of words in columns that they don't know and roll a die. Have them read the corresponding column of words.
 - [Watch this video to learn how](#)
 - [Find the right list of puzzle words here](#)
 - [Adjust this game to learn vocabulary words or how to spell](#)

MATH

- We do love our colorful Multiplication with Bead Bars. This exercise requires lots of prep. Make nine (9) copies of the Multiplication with Bead Bars (see attached pdf) and then cut each set of bead bars out. They can be rectangular unless your child is a cutting fanatic. Organize them like the picture below. Also cut lots of small squares and leave them blank on which to write the answers. Have a pencil handy.
 - Select your working space, table or rug.
 - Let's make the multiples of 4 by placing one yellow bead bar horizontally. "4 taken 1 time is 4." Write 4 on a small piece of paper and place it underneath the bar.
 - Leave some space. Proceed to place two yellow (4) bead bars next to each other. "4 taken 2 times is 8." Write the answer and place it underneath those two bars.
 - Continue through 4s and then choose another number and repeat the procedure.

- Many older children can do this all by themselves.



- Counting backwards can be fun and is a precursor to subtraction.
 - Start small from 20. [Use this video as a guide.](#)
 - With older children, start from 50, or 100, depending on how well they count up to 100. There is the familiar song of “99 bottles of POP” on the wall. You may stop at a particular number when they get tired, pick it up from where they left off.
 - Sing “[Five Green Bottles Standing in a Row](#)” increasing start at 10 and count back to 0.
- Add a level of difficulty to help your child develop their math facts by playing “I Spy” with a deck of cards (no face cards). Spread them out on a table and say, “I spy two cards that equal the sum of 9.” Watch [this video](#) to learn how to do it.

CULTURAL

- Kids love animals. Mix up 2 or more sets of animal language cards. Sort them according to these categories: mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects or birds. Check out [this video](#) for some animal inspiration.
- Learn about the flags of various countries with this [free printable](#). The cards can be used for a flag matching memory game (just print two sets). This activity also contains cards for the continents, so the flags can also be thus sorted. If your child is a reader (and geography expert), country name cards are also included to match with the appropriate flag. Extend that interest by [watching Logan show your child](#) how to paint a flag for each letter of the alphabet.

MOVEMENT

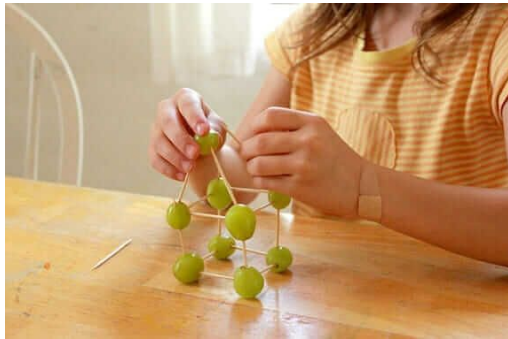
- Head out into the garden or take a walk around your neighborhood or a local park and go on a dandelion hunt. See if you can find some with bright yellow flowers and some that have gone to seed. Try to find some that are budding or closed tight. Try to find the biggest, tallest, shortest, smallest, brightest color, etc. If your child finds many dandelion puffs, a nice addition to this activity is making a simple dandelion wishes jar. Place white dandelion puffs in a jar, and then take turns blowing dandelion wishes into the wind.



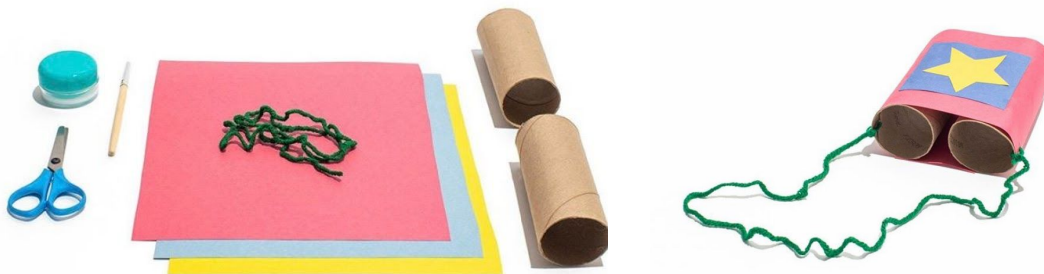
- Let's move like a cat! [Watch this video about a kitten.](#) Observe how the kitten moves around. Have the child pretend to be a kitten. How does it move around?
- The purpose of the game is to pretend to be a player in one of these sports. What movements would they do? Find an open space and "air play" basketball, football, skiing, rope climbing, tennis, baseball, swimming, hockey.
- Grab a couple scarfs and get moving with your child while listening to [Music with Mike.](#)

SELF EXPRESSION

- Make edible art using only toothpicks, grapes, apple pieces, and imagination. Begin sticking toothpicks through grapes and build up from the base. This is hungry work; after admiring their creation, children can take it apart to enjoy a healthy snack.



- Here's looking at ya! Make your own binoculars with two recycled toilet paper rolls, a variety of colored paper, tape or glue stick, a piece of string and hole punch.
 - Glue two recycled toilet paper rolls together.
 - Wrap a piece of colored paper around the rolls and glue to attach.
 - Optional: you may decorate the paper beforehand to personalize your binoculars.
 - Attach a piece of string to allow your child to hang them around their neck.



- Learn how to tap into your feelings and express them through art. [Check out this art therapy activity here.](#)
- Meow! Check out this youtube video on [how to make an easy origami cat.](#)