

King Street Co-op January 2014 Curriculum:

A Few of Our Favorite Things

We thought it would be fun to start the New Year with a unit that incorporates our favorite things. We are excited to share some of our favorite activities, songs, books, games, and projects, and hope that your children will participate by bringing in a favorite book that we can keep in the snack room for a few weeks for all to enjoy. Please be sure to label the book with your family's name so we can reference it while reading (and make sure it gets back to you).

How You Can Help:

- Bring in plastic caps and lids for our nesting circle art project. Colored caps would be most interesting, but we will need white as well. Any and all that you can find from plastic bottles and jugs, milk cartons, and other containers would be appreciated. Every little bit counts!
- Bring in one of your child's favorite books to fill the library shelf in the snack room so that we can share our favorite stories together all month.
- As always, we welcome your ideas and contributions. If there is something you would like to bring in or an activity you would like to try, just let us know.

Science/Art:

- Crayon shavings – children will use graters and small hammers to grate and pound our old crayon stubs into bitty pieces that they will then reshape into new crayons and/or create melted wax designs (iron melting done by an adult).
- Sugar cube dissolving – children use eye droppers to drip warm, colored water onto sugar cubes and watch as they dissolve.
- Rainbow stew – children choose lumps of colored dough that is sealed into a bag and then smoosh, pound, and squeeze to create a mixed-up rainbow swirl.
- Nesting lids – inspired by Russian painter and art theorist, Wassily Kandinsky's, colorful circles and squares, children nest colored caps and lids together to create concentric circular designs. Please bring in any colored lids and caps you have to add to our collection and make the project more interesting.



- Flubber – a borax and glue solution that stretches and shatters, can be cut with scissors and drawn on with markers
- Moon Sand – a specially coated soft sand that clumps together in a most satisfying way

Books: Tough Boris, The Day the Babies Got Away, If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, The Paper Bag Princess, The Cat in the Hat, Mouse Paint, Blue Rabbit and the Runaway Wheel, Going on a Bear Hunt, Moonbear's Skyfire, The Caretakers of Wonder, It's Not a Box

Songs and Circle Games: I Have a Box, Zoom Down the Freeway, Icky Sticky Bubblegum, Pirate Ship Song, A Ram Sam Sam, Going to the Market, Doggy Doggy Where's Your Bone?, What's missing?, and Dance Parties!

Outdoor Activities:

- Plaster excavating
- Outdoor scavenger hunt (using a picture map to find items)
- Water flow experiments with short lengths of plastic gutter (also fun with balls and cars), turkey basters for harvesting water from puddles and buckets

Other fun:

- Marble maze building structure
- Indoor scavenger hunt match-up – pairs of objects or pictures are hidden around the classroom for children to find and match-up (color match-ups, rhyming pairs, animal puzzle piece match-ups)
- Obstacle Courses
- Treasure Hunts (using number mats for counting and one to one correspondence)