Families and Communities
Activity Pages

PRESCHOOL

Core Knowledge Language Arts®,
New York Edition
Credits

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Dear Family Member,

Your child probably already likes to talk about his/her family. At school, we will be learning all about families and how they love us and help us grow and change! We will learn all kinds of words to describe families. We will also be talking about what words are, practicing rhyming, drawing and painting, and playing musical instruments.

Your child is doing lots of activities to develop fine motor skills. Have your child practice at home by drawing with crayons and thick markers. Encourage your child to draw pictures of his or her family or have your child illustrate his or her own daily schedule.

Below are some suggestions for activities you might do at home to help your child remember what they are learning about at school:

1. Read Aloud Each Day
   - Remember what they are learning about at school.
   - Below are some suggestions for activities you might do at home to help your child learn new words, practicing rhyming, drawing and painting, and playing musical instruments.

2. Sing Nursery Rhymes
   - Sing nursery rhymes—the words in the song that rhyme (away, day, play).
   - You could also share your own favorite nursery rhymes with your child.
   - Label the various family members who are characters in the story.

3. Talk About Chores and Daily Routines
   - Your child may come home singing and doing the motions for "Rain, Rain Go Away," and "Five Little Monkeys." The words to "Rain, Rain Go Away" are on this language.
   - Your child may come home singing and doing the motions for "Rain, Rain Go Away" and "Five Little Monkeys." The words to "Rain, Rain Go Away" are on this sheet.

4. Practice Drawing
   - Practice drawing teeth, or putting away toys.
   - Make these simple and attainable tasks, such as pushing in chairs, brushing teeth, or putting away toys.

As you and your child do chores and routines each day, talk about what they are, why they are important, and how you help your child do things that are difficult to do on their own. In class, your child will be introduced to jobs in the classroom. You might make a daily schedule that shows your child the daily routines and chores expected of him or her. Make sure your child is clear about the words in the song that rhyme (away, day, play). You could also share your own favorite nursery rhymes with your child.

Your child is doing lots of activities to develop fine motor skills. Have your child practice at home by drawing with crayons and thick markers. Encourage your child to draw pictures of his or her family or have your child illustrate his or her own daily schedule.

Family Letter
Show and Tell: Family Celebrations and Traditions

Later in this domain, our class will be exploring different family traditions and celebrations. Talk with your child about his or her favorite family tradition, celebration, or holiday. Discuss why it is important to your family and what you do to celebrate or honor a tradition. Please send in an object or photograph that is representative of your family’s favorite celebration for your child to share with the class. For example, if your child likes to celebrate his/her birthday with a birthday cake, you might send in a birthday candle for your child to show.

Rain, Rain Go Away

Rain, rain, go away,
Come again another day,
Little [child’s name] wants to play.
Rain, rain, go away.
My horse’s legs are tall and fine.
Top to bottom, make a line.
Make it straight and make it tall.
Top to bottom, one and all.
The fence is long and painted white. Make a line from left to right—left to right, make it flat—no bumps or wiggles, now look at that!
Dear Family Member,

During our Families and Communities domain, your child will have a chance to share a favorite family tradition with the whole class. First, help your child pick out an object, picture or photograph that is important to a tradition or holiday your family celebrates. Then, fill out this form and send it with your child to school for Show and Tell.

1. What is a tradition or holiday that your family loves to celebrate?
   When do you celebrate it?

2. How does your family celebrate this special occasion?

3. What object or picture is your child bringing to Show and Tell?
   Why is it special?

4. Is there anything else you would like your child’s teacher to know in preparation for the Show and Tell activity?

Please return this form and the object to school with your child.

Share a Family Tradition

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Preschool

Member
My horse's legs are tall and fine.
Top to bottom, make a line.
Make it straight and make it tall.
Top to bottom, one and all.

My Horse
The Fence

The fence is long and painted white.

Make a line from left to right.

Left to right, make it flat—

No bumps or wiggles, now look at that!
Dear Family Member,

Today your child listened to a read-aloud about families. Read the poem to your child and talk about how your own family works and plays together. Please send in your Family Celebrations and Traditions questionnaire along with an object or picture for Show and Tell today.

Families Work and Play Together

Families do activities, like singing and working together. Please remember to send in your Family Celebrations and Traditions questionnaire along with an object or picture for Show and Tell today. Your child listened to a read-aloud about families. Read the poem to your child and talk about how your own family works and plays together.

Families do activities, like singing and working together.

Nevaeh really likes to play and so does her brother, Ted. They jump and wrestle on the floor while Daddy makes the bed.

Carla’s family likes riding bikes and playing hide-and-seek in the dark. Some families go to the movies, some play with their dogs in the park.

Some moms say, “Do your chores in the morning and at night.” Tova and Ben’s mom always says, “Please wash the dishes.” Other moms say, “Please wipe the countertops.”

They sometimes pretend they can’t hear their mom always says, “Do your chores in the morning and at night.”

Some families take a shower and change your smelly socks!

But all moms say, “Please take a shower.”

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Some Dads make you breakfast. Others put you to bed. Parents help you stay organized and make sure that you’re well-fed.

Tito brushes his teeth after breakfast and at bedtime, too. Mona’s job is to walk her dog, Maggie, and give her toys to chew.

“No TV until after dinnertime!” says Grandpa while he cooks. “Your dad will help with homework and then we’ll read a book.”

“Do you know how much I love you?” Moms repeat these words each day. So despite all the chores and homework, home’s where kids are happy to stay.
My Horse

My horse’s legs are tall and fine.
Top to bottom, make a line.
Make it straight and make it tall.
Top to bottom, one and all.
The Fence

The fence is long and painted white.
Make a line from left to right.
Left to right, make it flat—
No bumps or wiggles, now look at that!
Have your child find things in the room where you are working that are the same colors as the color blocks.
Dear Family Member,

There are many exciting things about being a human being. We are learning all about family traditions and celebrations, communities, and community helpers. We will also be talking about what words and letters are, practicing rhyming, drawing and painting, and learning to blend compound words. 

At school your child is practicing writing strokes by drawing horizontal, vertical and diagonal lines, circles, crosses, and x’s. As your child draws with crayons, encourage him/her to show you the writing strokes he/she is learning in school.

Below are some suggestions for activities you might do at home to help your child remember what they are learning about at school:

1. Read Aloud Each Day
   - Children love hearing stories, especially before bedtime. As you read each book, remember to talk about the words on the page and the direction you read (left to right, top to bottom). You could also count words on a page with your child as you read. Children love hearing stories, especially before bedtime. As you read each book.
   - Read aloud to your child and discuss the words on the page. Ask questions about the story and encourage your child to participate in the reading.

2. Sing Nursery Rhymes
   - Nursery rhymes are a fun way for children to learn the rhythm and sounds of language. Your child may come home singing and doing the motions for “Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear.” You could also share your own favorite nursery rhymes with your child.
   - You could also sing nursery rhymes with your child as you read to them. nursery rhymes with your child.

3. Practice Drawing
   - At school your child is practicing writing strokes by drawing horizontal, vertical and diagonal lines, circles, crosses, and x’s. As your child draws with crayons, encourage him/her to show you the writing strokes he/she is learning in school.
   - Practice at home by identifying rhyming words in nursery rhymes and in every day practice.

4. Practice Rhyming
   - You could also share your own favorite nursery rhymes with your child.
   - You could also share your own favorite nursery rhymes with your child.

Your child is doing lots of activities to practice rhyming at school. Have your child choose one of the nursery rhymes that go with this rhyme: “Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear.” The words to “Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear” are on every day. Your child may come home singing and doing the motions for “Teddy Bear.” You could also share your own favorite nursery rhymes with your child.

There are many exciting things about being a human being. We are learning all about family traditions and celebrations, communities, and community helpers. We will also be talking about what words and letters are, practicing rhyming, drawing and painting, and learning to blend compound words.

Dear Family Member,

[Signature]
Teddy Bear

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, climb the stairs.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, comb your hair.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn off the light.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, say goodnight.
PRE-WRITING STROKES: DIAGONAL LINE

Baby Goat

The newborn goat runs to and fro.
Start up top and down you go.
Slide down the line and keep it straight—
Now let's slide the other way—
Top to bottom, hey, hey.
The piglet sniffs with a big round nose—
Down and around the circle goes.

Draw the faces one by one.
Don’t stop now, we’ve just begun!
PRE-WRITING STROKES: DIAGONAL LINE

Baby Goat

The newborn goat runs to and fro.

Start up top and down you go.

Slide down the line and keep it straight—

Top to bottom, you’re doing great.

Now let’s slide the other way—

Top to bottom, hey, hey, hey.
The Piglets

The piglet sniffs with a big round nose—
Down and around the circle goes.
Draw the faces one by one.
Don’t stop now, we’ve just begun!

PRE-WRITING STROKES: CIRCLE
Baby Goat

The newborn goat runs to and fro.

Start up top and down you go.

Slide down the line and keep it straight—

Top to bottom, you’re doing great.

Now let’s slide the other way—

Top to bottom, hey, hey.

PRE-WRITING STROKES: DIAGONAL LINE
The Piglets

The piglet sniffs with a big round nose—
Down and around the circle goes.
Draw the faces one by one.
Don’t stop now, we’ve just begun!
**Tropical Fish**

**Directions:** Show your child the fish and their diagonal stripes. Ask him to make more stripes by drawing the same kind of lines on the fish. Hold his hand gently to show him how to always start from the top.
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