



Themes

Dino Time
Let's Pretend

Shapes and Colors



Numbers

4, 5, 6

Letters

Dd, Ee, Ff

Alphabet Words

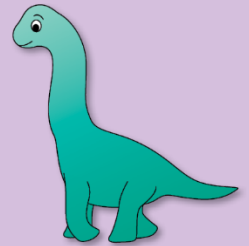
daffodil, desk,
dirt, dog,
edamame, elephant,
engine, escalator,
farm, feather,
feet, fog

Sign Language



Theme Descriptions

Dino Time: It's no secret that young children are fascinated with dinosaurs. In this theme, children will discover dinosaurs by exploring fossils, volcanoes, footprints, and more! Children will compare, contrast, make predictions, and use other mathematical and scientific concepts to understand these prehistoric creatures.



Let's Pretend: Pretend play is the heart of early learning! Whether they're playing superheroes, transforming objects with magic wands, or acting out everyday scenarios, children love to play make-believe. This theme demonstrates how much learning happens when children use their imaginations and creativity!

Activities for Home

- Fire Prevention Week occurs this month. Take a tour of your home with your child to look for fire safety devices such as smoke alarms and fire extinguishers. Ask your child how each item is used and why. Which doors and windows could be used as fire exits? Choose one day each month to practice a family fire drill. Designate an area outdoors as a meeting place.
- Spread a little sunshine in autumn! Consider visiting a local nursing home or an elderly neighbor with your child. Make a small treat bag or share a homemade good with them. Call ahead so they know to expect you. If you live in a region that receives cold winter weather, invite your child to help you put together a winter survival kit for your vehicle. Include items such as a flashlight, nonperishable foods, a blanket, etc.
- Carve a jack-o-lantern with your child. Invite her to draw shapes in the form of a face on the pumpkin. Can she name the shapes? Stress October's shape—the triangle. Cut out the shapes (*adult only*). Encourage your child to clean out the pumpkin, describing what she feels, smells, and sees.

Look for Books

The best way to learn which books your child enjoys is to read children's books—lots of them! Check out **funshineextras.com** for Book Lists corresponding to each month's themes. Get to know your local librarians and ask for their recommendations as well.

Dinosaur Rescue!

by Penny Dale

I'm Brave!

by Kate and
Jim McMullan

The Dinosaur Alphabet Book

by Jerry Pallotta

Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug

by Jonathan Stutzman

Stumpkin

by Lucy Ruth Cummins

I Wonder

by Kari Anne Holt

Sam & Eva

by Debbie Redpath Ohi

Creepy Carrots!

by Aaron Reynolds

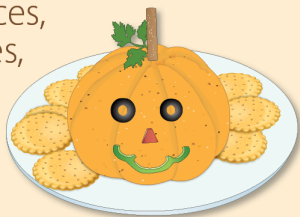
Cooking Together

When cooking with young children, allow them to help in a safe way with mixing, pouring, rolling, mashing, shaking, etc. Use words to describe what you are doing and what you plan to do next. Talk about what you see, smell, feel, hear, and taste.

Pumpkin Cheese Ball

8 oz. shredded cheddar cheese
¼ cup canned pumpkin
¼ tsp. allspice
¼ tsp. nutmeg
4 oz. cream cheese, softened

Mix the above ingredients until smooth. Cover and refrigerate until firm, about 2 hours. Shape the mixture into a pumpkin. Use your finger to add lines down the sides. Add a pretzel rod to the top for a stem and decorate the pumpkin with some of the following items: red or green pepper slices, black olive slices, carrot sticks or circles, lettuce or spinach leaves, parsley sprigs. Serve with assorted crackers.



Sing Along with Me

Find these songs at www.funshineexpress.com

T. Rex Romp

Sung to "This Old Man"

This T. Rex, this T. Rex, he goes tromping all around,
With a stomp and a tromp and a (clap, clap, clap),
This T. Rex is tromping on!

This T. Rex, this T. Rex, he goes roaring all around,
With a snarl and a growl and a great big (ROAR),
This T. Rex is roaring now!

Perform the actions in parenthesis.

Capes and Wings

Sung to "Mary Had a Little Lamb"

It's so fun to make-believe, make-believe, make-believe.
It's so fun to make-believe, all around the yard!

Fairies are glowing and twirling around, twirling around, twirling around.
Fairies are glowing and twirling around, all around the yard.
Fairies are sparkling and skipping around, skipping around, skipping around.
Fairies are sparkling and skipping around, all around the yard.
Fairies are twinkling and hopping around, hopping around, hopping around.
Fairies are twinkling and hopping around, all around the yard.

Superheroes are flying around, flying around, flying around.
Superheroes are flying around, all around the yard.
Superheroes are leaping around, leaping around, leaping around.
Superheroes are leaping around, all around the yard.
Superheroes are showing their muscles, showing their muscles, showing their muscles.
Superheroes are showing their muscles, all around the yard.

It's so fun to make-believe, make-believe, make-believe,
It's so fun to make-believe, all around the yard!

