



April *Speech and Language* Newsletter

Dear parents,

Welcome to another month of language and vocabulary learning!!

In addition to the initial Core 10 Vocabulary Words (*help, want, more, stop, go, look, finished, open, I/me, turn*) we have been using to teach functional language, we will continue to introduce the additional 20 Core Vocabulary words: *like, that, you, need, put, come, here, give, yes, no, in, play, eat, some, on, bathroom, drink, who, what, where*. For the children who are already putting two words together, the use of Core words can be used to help expand their utterance length to 3 or more words. Additionally, the use of Core Words can help promote using language for a variety of pragmatic functions (i.e. requesting “*I want eat more*”, commenting “*Look I play*”). Once your child is consistently using 2-3 word utterances, it is important to expand language by answering a variety of wh-questions. Wh-questions can vary in complexity (i.e. “What is that?” versus “What did the caterpillar eat?”)

For the month of April, half-day classes will be reading *The Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. The full-day classes will be reading *Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert

Half Day April Vocabulary: ***caterpillar, egg, apple, pear, plum, strawberry, orange, butterfly, eat, through*** This classic book is great because it targets so many language concepts including following directions with basic concepts (i.e. “Help the caterpillar eat through one apple”), answering wh-questions (i.e. “What did the caterpillar turn into?”, “Who ate one apple?”), and vocabulary development (i.e. name the fruits and talk about the different colors in the story).

Full Day April Vocabulary: ***rainbow plant, seeds, wagon, dirt, grow, flowers, purple, green, blue*** In this story, a mother and child plant a rainbow of flowers in the family garden. This is a great book to work on using descriptive words (i.e.

color /size/ and shapes words- “Look at the big, round, purple flowers”) to expand your child’s vocabulary. For fun have your child pick out some seeds to plant at home and see what kind of rainbow you and your child can grow.

Tips to Promote Language Development at Home: Music and Movement

Nursery rhymes are a great tool for fostering imitation of actions and following directions. Most children engage more readily when songs and movements are paired together and it is also a great tool for recalling information.

The Easton Speech-Language Pathologists
(Miss Jessie and Miss Danit)