

Unit 5: Animals Everywhere

Unit 5 introduces the children to life on a farm, the animals that live there, and the many jobs farmers do each day. They will also learn about various groups of other animals including pets and those that live in the wild, as well as animals that fly and those that live in water but are not fish. The children will discover how each of the animal groups differs. Unit 5 also explores the world of dinosaurs and how we have come to learn about these extinct creatures through the work of paleontologists and their discoveries.

In addition, the children will explore:

- Ee /e/; Mm /m/; Ff /f/; Dd /d/; Kk /k/
- Fiction/nonfiction
- Directional words
- Story elements (characters, setting/plot)
- Retelling stories
- Compare small, medium, and large
- Counting
- Compound words
- Estimation
- Syllables
- Compare/contrast habitats
- Emotions
- Objects that sink/float

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This week you will teach the children about animals that are most often kept as pets. They will consider what makes some animals good pets while others are not.

The children will also:

- Learn /e/ and identify initial /e/ words
- Distinguish between real and make-believe
- Review beginning sounds and letter identification
- Identify story characters, setting and plot
- Discuss their favorite pets and create individual pages for My Favorite Pet class book
- Help Gingerbread Boy learn to care for a pet

Essential Questions

- *What is the difference between real and make-believe?*
- *How can you keep your pets healthy?*
- *Why would some animals NOT make good pets?*
- *How does knowing beginning sounds help you read words?*
- *What do you need to know about a story to act it out?*

Standards & Benchmarks

Reading

- *Interacts appropriately with books and other materials in a print rich environment*
- *Identifies roles of author/illustrator*
- *Makes connections using illustrations/photos, prior knowledge, real-life experiences*
- *Identifies characters, settings, and major events in a story*
- *Recognizes common types of literature*
- *Identifies characters in a story*
- *Recalls important facts from informational text*
- *Differentiates between fiction and nonfiction*
- *Recalls information from stories*

Phonics & Word Recognition

- *Associates letters with their names and sounds*
- *Identifies words beginning with the same letter as their own name*

Print Concepts

- *Connects oral language and print*
- *Identifies front cover and back cover of a book*
- *Understands that letters form words*
- *Understands print conveys meaning*
- *Understands words in print are separated by spaces*
- *Recognizes spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequences of letters*
- *Shows where print begins on the page*
- *Focuses on letter names and shapes*

English Conventions

- Forms regular plural nouns

Phonological Awareness

- Counts and blends syllables into spoken words
- Identifies or discriminates rhyming words
- Recognizes and identifies beginning sounds in words
- Blends phonemes into words

Vocabulary

- Comprehends increasingly complex and varied vocabulary
- Begins to recognize opposites of familiar words
- Uses words and phrases acquired through conversations, activities and read alouds

Speaking & Listening

- Speaks in complete sentences
- Follows simple and multiple-step directions
- Participates in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about pre-k topics and texts
- Engages in agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g. listening to others and taking turns speaking about the topics and texts under discussion)

Writing

- Recognizes writing as a way of communicating for a variety of purposes, such as, giving information, sharing stories, or giving an opinion
- Uses writing tools and materials
- Explores letter sound relationships while writing
- Contributes to a shared writing experience or topic of interest
- Independently writes some letters and words

Mathematics

Number Sense

- Uses one-to-one correspondence to determine "how many"
- Counts in sequence
- Counts, compares, and orders groups of objects (more, fewer, less, and/or same)
- Recognizes and names numerals
- Understands numbers always represent the same quantity

Patterns, Operations, and Algebraic Thinking

- Uses concrete objects to solve problems
- Combines and separates sets of objects to create new sets
- Creates, identifies, duplicates, and extends simple patterns
- Understands addition as adding to and subtraction as taking away from

Geometry and Spatial Sense

- Responds to and uses positional words (e.g. in, under, between, down, behind)
- Recognizes and identifies basic two-and three-dimensional shapes
- Sorts two-and/or three-dimensional shapes
- Understands directionality, order, and position of self and objects in space

Measurement and Data

- Uses terms related to time periods such as morning, afternoon, night, today, tomorrow, and yesterday
- Uses charts and graphs to analyze data

Science

Scientific Inquiry and Reasoning

- Makes and verifies predictions

Life Science

- Describes characteristics in the appearance and behavior and habitats of animals
- Notices similarities and differences among various living things
- Recognizes living things have similar needs for water, food, and air
- Observes similarities and differences in living and nonliving things

Earth and Space

- Observes and describes the weather and how it changes

Engineering

- Designs, builds, analyzes, and modifies structures

Social Studies

Self, Family and Community

- Recognizes and accepts responsibility

Government

- Recognizes patriotic symbols and activities

Geography and Cultural Differences

- Recognizes that people share the environment with other people, animals, and plants

Technology

Technology Use

- Moves cursor to a target on screen

Approaches to Learning

Engagement and Persistence

- Brings a teacher-directed or self-initiated task, activity, or project to completion
- Focuses attention on tasks and experiences, despite interruptions or distractions
- Attends to tasks for a brief period and seeks help when needed

Creativity

- Approaches tasks, activities and problems with creativity
- Uses imagination in play and interactions with others

Reflection and Problem Solving

- Uses prior knowledge to understand new experiences or problems in new contexts
- Develops increasing ability to find multiple solutions to a question, task, or problem alone or with others
- Reflects on what has been learned

Creative Arts

Art

- Describes or explains own artwork
- Shows care and persistence in a variety of art projects
- Shows appreciation for the creative work of others

Dramatic Play

- Engages in spontaneous and imaginative play using a variety of materials to dramatize stories and real life experiences
- Participates in teacher-guided dramatic play activities such as acting out a story
- Represents real-life experiences through pretend play
- Demonstrates appropriate audience skills

Health, Safety, and Nutrition

Self-Care

- Demonstrates personal hygiene and emerging self-care skills

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

- Demonstrates control, strength, and dexterity to manipulate objects
- Demonstrates hand-eye coordination
- Uses writing and drawing tools

Gross Motor Skills

- Moves with an awareness of personal space in relationship to objects and others
- Moves with balance and control
- Demonstrates strength and coordination of large muscles to engage in skills such as jumping, hopping and running
- Combines a sequence of large motor skills

Social/Emotional Development

Self-Regulation

- Recognizes and regulates emotions, attention, impulses and behavior
- Follows simple rules, routine, and directions

Social Problem Solving

- Works with others to solve problems
- Accepts guidance and direction and seeks support when needed

Unit 5 • Week 15: At the Farm

This week you will teach the children about farm animals and life on a farm. They will learn that farmers are among the hardest working community helpers, and get a glimpse of the many jobs farmers do.

The children will also:

- Learn /m/ and identify initial and final /m/ words
- Discover the importance of bees
- Imagine themselves as farmers
- Practice discriminating between true and not true
- Retell stories in their own words
- Experience what it is like to milk a cow
- Solve story problems

Essential Questions

- *Why are farmers so important?*
- *How are bees helpful?*
- *How does asking questions about a story help you?*
- *Why is estimating important?*
- *How does putting a story in sequence help you understand a story?*

Standards & Benchmarks

Reading

- *Interacts appropriately with books and other materials in a print rich environment*
- *Engages in group reading activities with purpose and understanding*
- *Identifies sequence of events*
- *Recognizes cause and effect*
- *Retells important facts from an informational text*
- *Makes connections using illustrations/photos, prior knowledge, real-life experiences*
- *Recognizes common types of literature*
- *Differentiates between fiction and nonfiction*
- *Recalls information from stories*
- *Makes inferences*

Phonics & Word Recognition

- *Associates letters with their names and sounds*
- *Identifies words beginning with the same letter as their own name*
- *Demonstrates understanding of one-to-one correspondence of letter and sounds*

Print Concepts

- *Connects oral language and print*
- *Understands directionality in print*
- *Understands that letters form words*
- *Understands print conveys meaning*
- *Understands words in print are separated by spaces*
- *Recognizes spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequences of letters*

Print Concepts (Continued)

- Focuses on letter names and shapes
- Recognizes relationship between illustrations and text

English Conventions

- Forms regular plural nouns
- Understands and uses question words
- Recognizes first letter of names is capitalized

Alphabet Knowledge

- Recites alphabet in sequence
- Recognizes and names most letters of the alphabet, especially those in their own name

Phonological Awareness

- Blends syllables into spoken words
- Identifies or discriminates rhyming words
- Recognizes and identifies beginning sounds in words
- Recognizes and identifies beginning and ending sounds
- Isolates and pronounces the initial sounds in words
- Distinguishes individual words within spoken phrases or sentences
- Blends phonemes into words

Vocabulary

- Connects words and their meanings
- Discusses words and their meanings
- With guidance and support, explores word relationships and nuances in word meanings
- Identifies new meanings for familiar words and applies them accurately
- Identifies real-life connections between words and their use
- Begins to recognize opposites of familiar words

Speaking & Listening

- Speaks in complete sentences
- Follows simple and multiple-step directions
- Engages in conversations with peers and adults
- Engages in agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g. listening to others and taking turns speaking about the topics and texts under discussion)

- Asks and answers questions in order to seek help, get information or clarify something that is not understood

Writing

- Writes own name
- Recognizes writing as a way of communicating for a variety of purposes, such as, giving information, sharing stories, or giving an opinion
- Uses writing tools and materials
- Explores letter sound relationships while writing
- Contributes to a shared writing experience or topic of interest

Language Development

- Demonstrates the ability to listen, understand, and respond in increasingly complex ways

Mathematics

Number Sense

- Uses ordinal numbers
- Uses numbers to predict, estimate and make realistic guesses
- Counts in sequence
- Counts, compares, and orders groups of objects (more, fewer, less, and/or same)
- Recognizes and names numerals

Patterns, Operations, and Algebraic Thinking

- Uses concrete objects to solve problems
- Combines and separates sets of objects to create new sets
- Understands addition as adding to and understands subtraction as taking away from

Geometry and Spatial Sense

- Describes, compares, creates, and composes shapes
- Understands directionality, order, and position of self and objects in space
- Responds to and uses positional words such as in, under, between, down, behind

Measurement and Data

- Uses measurable attributes to compare objects
- Becomes familiar with standard measuring tools and their uses
- Orders objects by measurable attributes
- Uses terms related to time periods such as morning, afternoon, night, today, tomorrow, and yesterday
- Uses charts and graphs to analyze data

Science

Scientific Inquiry and Reasoning

- Shows curiosity by asking questions and seeking information
- Makes and verifies predictions

Life Science

- Describes characteristics in the appearance, behavior and habitats of animals
- Notices similarities and differences among various living things
- Recognizes living things have similar needs for water, food, and air

Physical Science

- Investigates states of matter

Earth and Space

- Investigates properties of earth materials including water, soil, rocks, and sand
- Observes and describes the weather and how it changes

Engineering

- Designs, builds, analyzes, and modifies structures

Social Studies

Self, Family and Community

- Recognizes the roles and responsibilities of various workers in their community

Government

- Recognizes patriotic symbols and activities

Geography and Cultural Differences

- Recognizes aspects of the environment, such as roads, buildings, trees, gardens, bodies of water, or land formations

Economics

- Understands that money is needed to exchange for goods and services
- Understands that an individual earns money through work

Technology

Technology Use

- Becomes familiar with interactive applications, games or activities
- Uses technology independently to explore concepts and gain information
- Navigates simple on screen menus
- Uses a device to take pictures
- Understands common technology terms, such as computer, internet, mouse, keyboard, device, table, and printer
- Uses technology for research with teacher's support

Approaches to Learning

Creativity

- Uses imagination in play and interactions with others

Reflection and Problem Solving

- Uses self-talk as a strategy
- Uses prior knowledge to understand new experiences or problems in new contexts

Creative Arts

Art

- Describes or explains own artwork
- Shows care and persistence in a variety of art projects
- Creates original artwork that reflects knowledge

Music

- Enjoys participating in a variety of music activities
- Creates sound using traditional or handmade instruments

Creative Movement and Dance

- Expresses concepts, ideas or feelings through movement
- Participates in fingerplays, songs, and rhymes

Dramatic Play

- Engages in spontaneous and imaginative play using a variety of materials to dramatize stories and real life experiences
- Demonstrates appropriate audience skills
- Engages in cooperative pretend play with other children
- Represents fantasy and real-life experiences through pretend play
- Reinforces concepts through dramatic play

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

- *Uses writing and drawing tools*
- *Demonstrates control, strength, and dexterity to manipulate objects*
- *Demonstrates hand-eye coordination*

Gross Motor Skills

- *Moves with an awareness of personal space in relationship to objects and others*
- *Combines a sequence of large motor skills*
- *Moves with balance and control*
- *Demonstrates strength and coordination of large muscles to engage in skills such as jumping, hopping, and running*

Social/Emotional Development

Self-Regulation

- *Recognizes and regulates emotions, attention, impulses and behavior*

Relationships

- *Expresses common courtesy and respects the rights of others (compromises, cooperates, takes turns)*

Social Problem Solving

- *Works with others to solve problems*
- *Accepts guidance and direction and seeks support when needed*

Emotional Development

- *Demonstrates confidence in own abilities and expresses positive feelings about self*

Unit 5 • Week 16: In the Wild

This week you will teach the children about animals that live in the wild, focusing on how they differ from domesticated pets and farm animals, whose needs are provided for by humans.

The children will also:

- Learn /f/ and identify initial and final /f/ words
- Sequence *The Gingerbread Boy*
- Take apart compound words
- Develop their estimation skills
- Compare and contrast animal habitats
- Create a classroom wild animal habitat
- Create hand print trees
- Use animal cards to form sets

Essential Questions

- *Why would a tiger not be a good farm animal?*
- *Why is important to know how to count?*
- *What habitat is the best for a wild animal? Pet?*
- *How does knowing how to blend sounds together help you read?*

Standards & Benchmarks

Reading

- *Retells a story in sequence*
- *Recognizes frequently used words in text*
- *Identifies sequence of events*
- *Describes the relationship between illustrations and text*
- *Identifies roles of author/illustrator*
- *Makes connections using illustrations/photos, prior knowledge, real-life experiences*
- *Makes connections between pieces of essential information in a text*
- *Identifies basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic*
- *Recalls information from stories*
- *Makes inferences*

Phonics & Word Recognition

- *Recognizes own name, familiar words, and environmental print*
- *Identifies words beginning with the same letter as their own name*
- *Demonstrates understanding of one-to-one correspondence of letter and sounds*

Print Concepts

- *Connects oral language and print*
- *Recognizes spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequences of letters*
- *Recognizes relationship between illustrations and text*

Phonological Awareness

- Blends syllables into spoken words
- Recognizes and identifies beginning sounds in words
- Separates compound words
- Recognizes and identifies beginning and ending sounds
- Isolates and pronounces the initial sounds in words
- Distinguishes individual words within spoken phrases or sentences
- Blends phonemes into words

Vocabulary

- Comprehends increasingly complex and varied vocabulary
- Begins to recognize opposites of familiar words
- Discusses words and their meanings
- Uses illustrations and context to determine meanings of unknown words
- Uses words and phrases acquired through conversations, activities and read alouds
- Understands and uses describing words

Speaking & Listening

- Follows simple and multiple-step directions
- Participates in group discussions
- Listens to and discusses literary texts

Writing

- Independently writes some letters and words
- Writes own name
- Explores letter sound relationships while writing
- Contributes to a shared writing experience or topic of interest

Language Development

- Demonstrates the ability to listen, understand, and respond in increasingly complex ways

Mathematics

Number Sense

- Uses ordinal numbers
- Uses numbers to predict, estimate and make realistic guesses
- Uses one-to-one correspondence to determine "how many"
- Recognizes numbers in the environment
- Counts in sequence
- Recognizes and names numerals

Patterns, Operations, and Algebraic Thinking

- Sorts objects by physical attributes
- Uses concrete objects to solve problems
- Combines and separates sets of objects to create new sets
- Understands addition as adding to

Geometry and Spatial Sense

- Responds to and uses positional words (e.g. in, under, between, down, behind)
- Sorts two-and/or three-dimensional shapes

Measurement and Data

- Uses charts and graphs to collect and analyze data
- Uses terms related to time periods such as morning, afternoon, night, today, tomorrow, and yesterday

Science

Scientific Inquiry and Reasoning

- Makes and verifies predictions

Life Science

- Describes characteristics in the appearance and behavior and habitats of animals
- Notices similarities and differences among various living things
- Recognizes living things have similar needs for water, food, and air

Earth and Space

- Investigates properties of earth materials including water, soil, rocks, and sand
- Observes and describes the weather and how it changes

Engineering

- Designs, builds, analyzes, and modifies structures

Social Studies

Government

- Recognizes patriotic symbols and activities

Geography and Cultural Differences

- Recognizes that people share the environment with other people, animals, and plants

Technology

Technology Use

- Understands how to open or close windows and use the “back” button
- Uses technology independently to explore concepts and gain information
- Uses a device to take pictures
- Enjoys electronic forms of storybooks and informational texts

Approaches to Learning

Initiative and Curiosity

- Demonstrates flexibility, imagination, and inventiveness tasks and activities

Creativity

- Uses imagination in play and interactions with others
- Approaches tasks, activities and problems with creativity

Reflection and Problem Solving

- Uses prior knowledge to understand new experiences or problems in new contexts
- Develops increasing ability to find multiple solutions to a question, task, or problem alone or with others
- Reflects on what has been learned

Creative Arts

Art

- Creates original artwork that reflects thoughts, feelings, experiences, or knowledge
- Experiments with a variety of art materials
- Describes or explains own artwork

Creative Movement and Dance

- Expresses concepts, ideas or feelings through movement
- Participates in a variety of movement activities with or without props

Dramatic Play

- Represents fantasy and real-life experiences through pretend play

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

- Demonstrates control, strength, and dexterity to manipulate objects
- Demonstrates hand-eye coordination

Gross Motor Skills

- Moves with an awareness of personal space in relationship to objects and others
- Combines a sequence of large motor skills
- Demonstrates strength and coordination of large muscles to engage in skills such as jumping, hopping and running

Social/Emotional Development

Self-Regulation

- Follows simple rules, routine, and directions
- Demonstrates self-help skills
- Recognizes and regulates emotions, attention, impulses and behavior

Social Problem Solving

- Uses basic problem solving skills to resolve conflicts peacefully
- Works with others to solve problems

Unit 5 • Week 17: Animals In the Air & Sea

This week you will teach the children about animals that can fly and those that live in water. They will learn that many of the animals that live in water are not fish. The children will also:

- Learn /d/ and short-o and identify initial /d/ and /o/ and final /d/ words
- Identify the numerals one through nine and determine which is higher and lower in a pair
- Classify animals
- Imagine themselves as birds
- Create an ocean mural
- Learn why we should take care of our oceans
- Compare and contrast dolphins and whales
- Discuss possible lessons that could be learned through a story
- Review emotions and project appropriate emotions for a variety of situations
- Predict whether objects will sink or float and verify their predictions

Essential Questions

- *If you could fly like a bird, where would you fly? Why?*
- *How does being curious help you learn?*
- *What have you done that has made you feel proud of yourself?*
- *Would you rather be an animal in the air or in the sea? Why?*
- *What objects in our classroom would float? Which objects would sink?*

Standards & Benchmarks

Reading

- *Interacts appropriately with books and other materials in a print rich environment*
- *Identifies sequence of events*
- *Retells important facts from an informational text*
- *Identifies roles of author/illustrator*
- *Makes connections using illustrations/photos, prior knowledge, real-life experiences*
- *Makes connections between pieces of essential information in a text*
- *Identifies basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic*
- *Recalls important facts from informational text*
- *Recalls information from stories*
- *Makes inferences*

Print Concepts

- *Connects oral language and print*
- *Understands words in print are separated by spaces*
- *Focuses on letter names and shapes*
- *Recognizes relationship between illustrations and text*

English Conventions

- *Uses frequently occurring verbs*
- *Forms regular plural nouns*

Alphabet Knowledge

- Recognizes and names most letters of the alphabet, especially those in their own name

Phonological Awareness

- Counts and blends syllables into spoken words
- Identifies or discriminates rhyming words
- Identifies rhyming words
- Recognizes and identifies beginning sounds in words
- Separates compound words
- Combines onset and rime to form a word
- Recognizes and identifies beginning and ending sounds
- Isolates and pronounces the initial sounds in words
- Distinguishes individual words within spoken phrases or sentences

Vocabulary

- Discusses words and their meanings
- Uses illustrations and context to determine meanings of unknown words
- Uses words and phrases acquired through conversations, activities and read alouds
- Identifies new meanings for familiar words and applies them accurately
- Identifies real-life connections between words and their use

Speaking & Listening

- Describes familiar people, places, objects, and events according to characteristics of attributes
- Follows simple and multi-step directions

Writing

- Independently writes some letters and words
- Recognizes writing as a way of communicating for a variety of purposes, such as, giving information, sharing stories, or giving an opinion

Language Development

- Understands people use different languages (including sign language) to communicate

Mathematics

Number Sense

- Uses one-to-one correspondence to determine "how many"
- Recognizes numbers in the environment
- Recognizes the number of objects in a small set without counting (subitizing)
- Counts, compares, and orders groups of objects (more, fewer, less, and/or same)
- Recognizes and names numerals
- Understands numbers always represent the same quantity

Patterns, Operations, and Algebraic Thinking

- Understands addition as adding to, and subtraction as taking away from

Geometry and Spatial Sense

- Responds to and uses positional words (e.g. in, under, between, down, behind)
- Sorts two-and/or three-dimensional shapes

Measurement and Data

- Uses charts and graphs to collect and analyze data
- Uses terms related to time periods such as morning, afternoon, night, today, tomorrow, and yesterday

Science

Scientific Inquiry and Reasoning

- Participates in scientific investigations, analyzes, draws conclusions, and communicates results
- Makes and verifies predictions
- Compares, contrasts, and classifies objects and data
- Collects, describes and records information

Life Science

- Describes characteristics in the appearance and behavior and habitats of animals
- Notices similarities and differences among various living things

Earth and Space

- Understands the use of natural resources and demonstrates environmental awareness and responsibility (e.g. reduce, reuse, recycle)
- Observes and describes the weather and how it changes

Engineering

- Designs, builds, analyzes, and modifies structures

Social Studies

Self, Family and Community

- Demonstrates knowledge of personal information (hair color, age, gender, phone, address etc.)
- Recognizes and accepts responsibility

Government

- Recognizes patriotic symbols and activities

Geography and Cultural Differences

- Recognizes aspects of the environment, such as roads, buildings, trees, gardens, bodies of water, or land formations

Technology

Technology Use

- Understands how to open or close windows and use the "back" button
- Uses technology independently to explore concepts and gain information
- Enjoys electronic forms of storybooks and informational texts
- Uses technology for research with teacher's support

Approaches to Learning

Initiative and Curiosity

- Demonstrates flexibility, imagination, and inventiveness tasks and activities

Engagement and Persistence

- Focuses attention on tasks and experiences, despite interruptions or distractions

Creativity

- Uses imagination in play and interactions with others

Reflection and Problem Solving

- Reflects on what has been learned

Creative Arts

Art

- Creates original artwork that reflects thoughts, feelings, experiences, or knowledge
- Describes or explains own artwork
- Experiments with a variety of art materials
- Shows care and persistence in a variety of art projects

Creative Movement and Dance

- Participates in a variety of dance and movement activities with or without props

Dramatic Play

- Demonstrates appropriate audience skills
- Engages in cooperative pretend play with other children
- Represents fantasy and real-life experiences through pretend play

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

- Demonstrates control, strength, and dexterity to manipulate objects
- Demonstrates hand-eye coordination
- Uses a variety of writing, drawing, and art tools with increasing coordination
- Uses writing and drawing tools

Gross Motor Skills

- Moves with an awareness of personal space in relationship to objects and others
- Combines a sequence of large motor skills
- Moves with balance and control
- Demonstrates strength and coordination of large muscles to engage in skills such as jumping, hopping and running

Social/Emotional Development

Relationships

- Seeks assistance from adults and classmates

Social Problem Solving

- Works with others to solve problems

Emotional Development

- Empathizes with the feelings of others
- Recognizes and identifies emotions in self and others
- Demonstrates confidence in own abilities and expresses positive feelings about self
- Recognizes self as unique having own abilities, characteristics, emotions, and interests

Unit 5 • Week 18: Dinosaurs

This week you will teach the children about many different species of dinosaurs and how, through the work of paleontologists and their discoveries, we have come to know about these extinct creatures. The children will also:

- Learn /k/ and identify initial and final /k/ words
- Discover just how large some dinosaurs were
- Find out why a dinosaur wouldn't be a good classroom pet
- Become familiar with dinosaur names and create dinosaur names of their own
- Make their own fossils
- Vote for their favorite dinosaur book of the week
- Distinguish between true and not true
- Create dinosaur footprints
- Compare dragons and dinosaurs
- Write a class story

Essential Questions

- *What would it have been like to live with the dinosaurs?*
- *Would you rather be a paleontologist or an astronaut? Why?*
- *Why do you think there are no more dinosaurs on earth?*
- *Why is following directions important?*

Standards & Benchmarks

Reading

- Asks and answers questions about key elements and details in a text
- Retells important facts from an informational text
- Identifies roles of author/illustrator
- Makes connections using illustrations/photos, prior knowledge, real-life experiences
- Identifies basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic
- Recalls important facts from informational text
- Differentiates between fiction and nonfiction
- Recalls information from stories

Phonics & Word Recognition

- Associates letters with their names and sounds
- Identifies words beginning with the same letter as their own name
- Demonstrates understanding of one-to-one correspondence of letter and sounds

Print Concepts

- Connects oral language and print
- Recognizes spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequences of letters
- Shows where print begins on the page
- Focuses on letter names and shapes
- Recognizes relationship between illustrations and text

English Conventions

- Uses frequently occurring verbs
- Recognizes first letter of names is capitalized

Alphabet Knowledge

- Recites alphabet in sequence
- Recognizes and names most letters of the alphabet, especially those in their own name

Phonological Awareness

- Counts and blends syllables into spoken words
- Identifies or discriminates rhyming words
- Recognizes and identifies beginning and ending sounds
- Isolates and pronounces the initial sounds in words
- Distinguishes individual words within spoken phrases or sentences

Vocabulary

- Comprehends increasingly complex and varied vocabulary
- Discusses words and their meanings
- Uses illustrations and context to determine meanings of unknown words
- Uses words and phrases acquired through conversations, activities and read alouds

Speaking & Listening

- Follows simple and multiple-step directions
- Engages in conversations with peers and adults
- Participates in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about pre-k topics and texts
- Demonstrates knowledge of nonverbal conversational rules

Writing

- Writes own name
- Uses drawing, dictation, scribble writing, or invented spelling to convey meaning
- Recognizes writing as a way of communicating for a variety of purposes, such as, giving information, sharing stories, or giving an opinion
- Uses writing tools and materials
- Uses appropriate writing conventions with adult assistance

- Explores letter sound relationships while writing
- Contributes to a shared writing experience or topic of interest
- Follows simple and multi-step directions
- Engages in conversations with peers and adults

Language Development

- Demonstrates the ability to listen, understand, and respond in increasingly complex ways

Mathematics

Number Sense

- Uses ordinal numbers
- Uses numbers to predict, estimate and make realistic guesses
- Uses one-to-one correspondence to determine "how many"
- Counts, compares, and orders groups of objects (more, fewer, less, and/or same)
- Understands numbers always represent the same quantity

Geometry and Spatial Sense

- Recognizes and identifies basic three-dimensional shapes
- Describes and compares basic shapes
- Identifies shapes regardless of their orientations or size
- Understands directionality, order, and position of self and objects in space

Measurement and Data

- Uses measurable attributes to compare objects
- Becomes familiar with standard measuring tools and their uses
- Measures length, weight, height, size, or capacity of one or more objects
- Uses charts and graphs to collect and analyze data
- Uses terms related to time periods such as morning, afternoon, night, today, tomorrow, and yesterday

Science

Scientific Inquiry and Reasoning

- Shows curiosity by asking questions and seeking information
- Participates in scientific investigations, analyzes, draws conclusions, and communicates results
- Compares, contrasts, and classifies objects and data
- Uses tools and equipment to explore objects
- Makes and verifies predictions

Science (Continued)

Life Science

- Describes characteristics in the appearance and behavior and habitats of animals
- Notices similarities and differences among various living things
- Recognizes living things have similar needs for water, food, and air
- Observes similarities and differences in living and nonliving things
- Notices changes in living things over time

Earth and Space

- Observes and describes the weather and how it changes

Social Studies

Self, Family and Community

- Recognizes his or her role as a member of a group (class, family, community)

Government

- Recognizes patriotic symbols and activities

Geography and Cultural Differences

- Recognizes aspects of the environment, such as roads, buildings, trees, gardens, bodies of water, or land formations

Technology

Technology Use

- Becomes familiar with interactive applications, games or activities
- Uses technology independently to explore concepts and gain information
- Uses a device to take pictures
- Understands common technology terms, such as computer, internet, mouse, keyboard, device, table, and printer

Approaches to Learning

Initiative and Curiosity

- Demonstrates increased flexibility, imagination, and inventiveness in approaching tasks and activities

Engagement and Persistence

- Brings a teacher-directed or self-initiated task, activity, or project to completion

Creativity

- Approaches tasks, activities and problems with creativity
- Uses imagination in play and interactions with others

Reflection and Problem Solving

- Uses prior knowledge to understand new experiences or problems in new contexts
- Reflects on what has been learned

Creative Arts

Art

- Creates original artwork
- Shows care and persistence in a variety of art projects
- Shows appreciation for the creative work of others

Music

- Enjoys participating in a variety of music activities

Creative Movement and Dance

- Participates in a variety of dance and movement activities with or without props
- Expresses concepts, ideas or feelings through movement
- Experiences different moods, tempos, and rhythms in music activities

Dramatic Play

- Engages in cooperative pretend play with other children
- Represents fantasy and real-life experiences through pretend play

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

- Demonstrates control, strength, and dexterity to manipulate objects
- Demonstrates hand-eye coordination

Gross Motor Skills

- Moves with an awareness of personal space in relationship to objects and others
- Combines a sequence of large motor skills
- Demonstrates strength and coordination of large muscles to engage in skills such as jumping, hopping and running
- Moves with balance and control

Social/Emotional Development

Self-Regulation

- Demonstrates self-help skills
- Uses materials appropriately and puts them away

Relationships

- Seeks assistance from adults and classmates

Emotional Development

- Recognizes and identifies emotions in self and others
- Shows emotions through facial expressions