

June 2012 Newsletter



Welcome to the June edition of the preschool theme newsletter. We are well and truly into winter and the never ending nagging for shoes and jackets has begun. We just get the children used to putting on hats in summer and now we have to say shoes and jackets! Father's day falls in the month of June (at least in SA it does, in NZ it's on 6 September). Plan to make something special for the children to give to their dads to show their love and appreciation for everything our dads do for us.

Supplementary activities for themes - Pinterest

Some of you have been using my theme books for some time and may be getting tired of the same old activities year after year. I certainly do and I am always on the lookout for new and different ideas and activities to implement in my teaching. I started to blog ideas and activities to use as supportive activities for the themes, but subsequently was introduced to Pinterest. My life has never been the same since!

This is a web site where you have access to thousands of other web sites and blogs with amazing ideas and activities not only for teaching but for personal use too. You join up and can pin an ideas on to your own boards that

you create and it stores the ideas for you. The web site or blog address is with the activity. I can hear some of you already saying not for me! BUT I really urge you to click through on my link – you don't have to sign up if you don't want to (it's free) – and have a look at some of the fantastic preschool ideas and activities. I have created a board for each theme and then some general teaching boards such as perceptual activities, outdoor and indoor activities, admin ideas, storage ideas and basic techniques and recipes. **For the Grade R teachers I have made a separate board with literacy and numeracy activities suitable for this group** If you want to see more details about the activity you just click on the image, it opens up bigger, right click again on the image and it takes you directly through to the web site or blog. Mostly you will find great instructions to follow.

To join Pinterest go to www.pinterest.com or Google it. You can ask to join and they send you an 'invitation' as an e mail and you are on your way to creating your own boards.

You can repin from my boards to your boards and it doesn't remove it from mine.



Father's day ideas

Please visit Pinterest using the link <http://pinterest.com/kstedall/fathers-day/> for some Father's day ideas. Some are more suitable for your personal use or can be adapted for the children to make.

There is a tie template in the theme on my family which always makes a nice father's day card and gift. The idea here is on Pinterest.

I would love to receive photos of some of the activities your children have made.

I came across this web site and just loved the ideas. It was for Mother's day but could be applied to Father's day or Grandparents day. Great for family involvement in the preschool!

<http://www.teachpreschool.org/2012/05/celebrating-mothers-day-in-the-preschool-classroom/>

CAPS outcomes

New outcomes are posted on the web site.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christmas• Circus• Clothing• Colour red | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Colours• Day and night• Dinosaurs• Easter |
|--|--|

The updated CAPS outcomes for the existing themes can be downloaded free of charge from the web site under the tab CAPS outcomes. The file should open as a PDF file which you can print out. I set them out in the same format as the existing ones and you should be able to cut them out and paste them over the old ones. Alternatively staple the few pages to the inside cover of the theme book.

I am working through the list alphabetically.

Mother's Day idea- feedback

This activity was sent in by my friend who works at Southern Cross School, Hoedspruit, Limpopo. They used 2 litre cold drink bottles to create these stunning sunflowers for gifts for mothers day. Thanks Les for sending these photos and for sharing the idea. I think they look super and I am sure there were many delighted moms.

These would be great to make for sunflower day and sold to parents to raise funds for Bone marrow transplants in conjunction with Bandana day.



To view my theme boards on Pinterest use this link <http://pinterest.com/kstedall/>



Paint inside using acrylic paint

Take a 2 litre Coke bottle Cut off the top, then using the markings on the plastic as guide lines, cut petals



Roll a tube of green cardboard and push it into the opening of the bottle

Tape the cardboard in place using green insulation tape Make a ball of black crepe paper and glue it into the centre of the flower



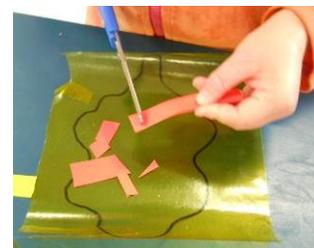
Autumn art activities

Here are two autumn art activities I did with the toddlers which are also great for the preschoolers.

I found some coloured contact paper on a sale and saw the idea on Pinterest. It would be as

effective if you used clear sticky contact paper. You only need a small piece for each child so it's not too expensive. I

traced a leaf outline on the contact paper using a black thick koki pen. I folded the corner so it would be quick and easy for me to pull off the top layer for each child. I set out thin strips of red and yellow paper and some scissors. They loved snipping the paper strips and watching the pieces land on the sticky contact paper. Once filled, I quickly

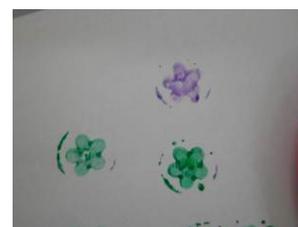


covered them with another piece of contact and I cut out the leaf shapes. I painted a tree on the window and attached the leaves. I thought it was very effective.



NOTE: Some children could not resist touching the sticky paper with their hands and because of this some of the leaves did not make it to the tree!!

- Use Bostick and not white glue as the shapes came off when I washed them
- Reverse numbers and letters otherwise they are back to front when they print them
- Keep away from children who put things in their mouths. I had several foam shapes eaten off instead of being used for printing!



Sponge painting with 'dobbers' (sponges on sticks)



A similar activity is in the autumn theme book using sponges in pegs. Use flat plates for the paint so the sponges don't get too wet with paint and I used red and yellow to create orange when

they mixed.



Sorting and matching colours

We were given a container of these plastic lids. I think they come from medicine bottles. I used them for colour sorting and for colour matching. I drew dots to match the colours of the lids



on paper and the children covered the dots with the lids. Milk lids will be just as effective. Some

children preferred to colour sort the lids. For the younger children you can cut a slot in the lid of a baby food tin and the children post the lids into the container.



NOTE: Needs supervision so the little ones do not eat the lids and the under two's tend to just throw the lids all over the place.

Printing with milk lids and sponge shapes

Here is another good idea I found on Pinterest. Glue pre-cut bought foam shapes to milk lids. The children used these to print with. You can be selective and use shapes which are appropriate to the theme you are doing e.g stars and moons for space or day and night.

NOTES:

Rhymes

I have decided to include a new rhyme or two in each newsletter. It's a good idea to have a

rhyme file or copy the rhymes and paste them to the back of the relevant themes.

HERE IS MY HEAD

Here is my head, and here is my nose
Here are my knees, and here are my toes
Here are my fingers, one, two, three -
(Susan) come and shake hands with me

"Four Little Stars"

Four little stars winking at me.
One shot off and then there were three!
Three little stars with nothing to do.
One shot off, and then there were two!
Two little stars afraid of the sun
One shot off, and then there was one!
One little star alone is no fun.
It shot off, and then there was none.

Happy teaching and stay warm.

Regards

Karin

