

M&M MEMO

2023

SPRING



Supporting Happy, Healthy, Confident Kids

McKibben & Monte Builds Children's Confidence through Language, Literacy & Learning

Top 3 behavior strategies to support peaceful transitions:

- 1. Help your child find a good stopping point before its time to transition.** For example: Before you have to leave the house, give your child an option. "I see you are on level 4 of your game. Would you like to turn the game off when you finish level 5 or level 6?" The trick is to give plenty of time before you need to leave, so you are not rushing.
- 2. Let the timer be the bad guy.** Give your child 2-3 choices of how many minutes they want before turning off the tablet, then set a timer. Have them repeat back to you how much time they have. Use a visual timer for younger learners.
- 3. Try to give them something to look forward to!** Use "first-then" language. "First we need to get shoes on and get in the car, then we can listen to your favorite song on the way to school!"



Support Peaceful Transitions

Lisa Wedig is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) who provides behavioral support for McKibben & Monte patients. Lisa evaluates children of all ages, collects behavior data over time, and supports families with their child's specific behavioral needs. She creates and provides individualized interventions for her patient's parents and teachers, striving to target the most important challenges and needs for the child, family, and staff. Her services are highly individualized and tailored to support lasting behavior change and overall growth.

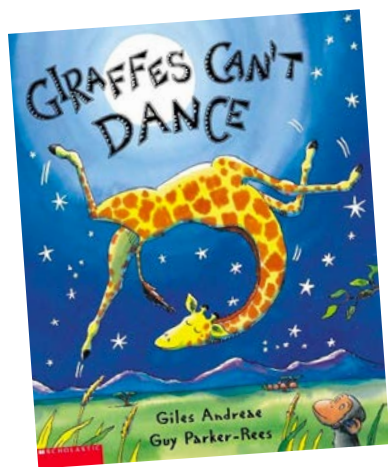
Kindergarten Readiness

Improve your child's phonemic awareness in preparation for kindergarten.
Stacy Heatwole, MA, CCC, SLP, Heggerty Program Coordinator

Phonemic Awareness is the ability to hear and manipulate individual sounds (phonemes) in words. What can you do to help your preschool child build these skills?

1. Read with your child every day
2. Find rhyming words in books (Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr. or Silly Sally Went to Town by Audrey Wood)
3. Break words apart and clap out syllables with your hands, sticks, or drums. (Be creative.) (e.g. Mom-1, Baby-2, Popsicle-3)
4. Listen for the first sound in words and find other words with the same sound (e.g. John, juice, jump...)
5. Point out letters in books and pair the letter with the sound (e.g. S makes the ssss sound)

Remember to access your M&M Parent Portal at mckibbenandmonte.com for progress notes and invoices. Next invoices will be available April 3, 2023.



Spring Reading

Allie Flanigan, MA, CCC-SLP is a speech-language pathologist who is passionate about literacy! She has completed training in Orton-Gillingham and enjoys connecting it with speech therapy to magnify student success. Her training helps students build connections between letters and speech sounds.

Allie's reading recommendations:

- Any picture books that include fun rhymes and build early phonological awareness. A few favorites of Allie's include:
- "Did You Take the B From My _ook?" by Beck Stanton
 - "Giraffes Can't Dance" by Giles Andreae
 - "The Word Collector" by Peter H. Reynolds

Motor / Sensory

Speech / Language

March Family fun!

Play Sneaky Snacky Squirrel or other board games. Practice following directions and take turns.

Pretend to be a leprechaun!. Look for items with target sound(s), all things gold, green or rainbow.

April Spring color!

Make a rainbow using chalk, paper, or crayons. Work on colors and motor skills with drawing or cutting semi-circles.

Hide plastic eggs around the house or yard. Have your child practice spatial concepts to describe where the eggs are.

May Get outside!

Make a garden. Use a small planter, seeds, and soil. Teach plant life cycle and responsibility.

Do a "Signs of Spring" scavenger hunt. Use descriptive words to discuss findings.

Contact Us

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