

Week Four, Autumn **First Grade**

Theme: Autumn Leaves & Dragons, Separation



This Week's Lessons:

Language Arts:

The Four Skillful Brothers Story

Letter D

Anxious Leaf Story

Mathematics:

Number 4 & 5

Squares

Square Formation Poem

Introduction to Division, DIVIDE

Social Studies, Geography, Weather, Time:

Calendars

Four Seasons: Autumn, Winter, Spring & Summer

Science, Nature Study, Earth Discovery:

Learning About Leaves

Exploring Nature in Autumn

Teacher's Classroom Work:

Create Autumn Seasonal Nature Table

Become Familiar with Simple Embroidery Stitches for Lesson

For the Caregiver:

Caregiver's Meditation: Separation

Caregiver Focus: Meditative Thoughts for Autumn & Autumn Walk

Domestic Arts:

Creating Autumn Seasonal Table

Bake Dragon Bread

Bake Homemade Pizza

Music:

Autumn, Leaves, Dragons & Separation Fingerplays/Songs

Continue Practicing Recorder or Flute

Art/Handwork:

Handwork: Beginner Knitting, Continue Practicing Knit Stitch

Handwork: Beginner Knitting, Make an Autumn Scarf

Hand Sewing/Embroidery, Running Stitch

Create Roman numerals with Stitches

Create Autumn Seasonal Table

Art: Watercolor Painting, The Anxious Leaf

Art: Waxed Leaves, Leaf Garland

Art: Leaf Rubbings

Form Drawing:

Spiral

Movement, Body Awareness & Health:

Dragon Tail Movement

Spiral Walking, Hopping, Jumping, Skipping

Supplies Needed for Week Four

Cooking List:

For Dragon Bread:

2 ½ Cups Unbleached Flour
1 Package Dry Yeast
1 ½ Cups Milk
½ Cup Water
3 Tbsp. Margarine or Butter
3 Tbsp. Brown Sugar
1 ½ Tsp. Salt
2 ½ Cups Whole Wheat Flour
Almonds, Dried Fruit, Raisins, Etc. to Decorate Bread

For Homemade Pizza:

2 Cups Flour
1 Package Instant Yeast
¾ Teaspoon Salt
¾ Teaspoon Sugar
2/3 Cup Warm Water
2 Tablespoons Oil
Pizza Pan
Tomato Sauce
Shredded Cheese
Pizza Toppings (optional)

Homeschooling List:

4 Small Puppets or Wood Blocks, 4 Silks, 5 Stones or Wooden Eggs, Nest or Bowl, Ball of Green Roving, a Green Ball or Stuffed Toy, 4 Seasonal Trees or Similar Items to Represent Four Seasons
Blackboard
Chalk
Lesson Book
Stockmar Stick Crayons
Stockmar Block Crayons
Stockmar Beeswax Modeling Material
Flat Surface, Windowsill or Table
Autumn Colored Cloths or Silks

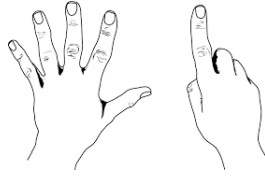
Found Nature Treasures to Display
Other Autumn Items to Display
Knitting Needles
Super Bulky Single Ply 100% Wool Yarn
Embroidery Needle
Embroidery Floss
White Scrap Fabric
Embroidery Hoop (optional)
Scissors
Items to Symbolize your TEN Dragons (Green Wood Pegs, Marbles, Animal
Figurines, Green Painted Popsicle Sticks, etc.)
Four Seasonal “Trees” Without Leaves (Branches in Four Vases, a Paper
Display of Trees on the Wall, Four Drawings, or Small Seasonal Trees)
Items to Decorate Each of the Trees in Four Seasons
Playdough
Leaves, Green Felt, Other Items for Playdough Division Grouping
Leaves
White Paper
Jump Rope or Sidewalk Chalk for Spiral Practice
Watercolor Paper
Paintboard
Watercolor Paints
Paintbrush
Leaves from Nature Hunt
Wax (Paraffin or Beeswax)
Mini Crockpot or Metal Container for Wax Only
Waxed Paper
Rake

Week Four Book Recommendations

Visit your local library the weekend before to check out books based on your theme for the week. Older children can help you look up the books by author and title. When setting up your play space for the week ahead, mindfully display these books in baskets for the children to enjoy.

Llama, Llama Misses Mama ~ Anna Dewdney
I Know Its Autumn ~ Eileen Spinelli
Fall Is Not Easy ~ Marty Kelley
It's Fall ~ Linda Glaser
Mama Mine, Mama Mine ~ Rita Gray
Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf ~ Lois Ehlert
Trees, Leaves and Bark ~ Diane Burns
Don't Go! ~ Jane Breskin Zalben
The Kissing Hand ~ Audrey Penn
When Mama Comes Home Tonight ~ Eileen Spinelli
Mama Always Comes Home ~ Karma Wilson
Oh My Baby, Little One ~ Kathi Appelt
The Reluctant Dragon ~ Kenneth Grahame
No Dragons for Tea: Fire Safety for Kids (and Dragons) ~ Jean E. Pendziwol
Do Not Bring Your Dragon to the Library ~ Julie Gassman
My Father's Dragon ~ Ruth Stiles Gannett
Flight of the Last Dragon ~ Robert Burleigh
Saint George and The Dragon ~ Margaret Hodges
Dragon Baked Bread ~ Warren Lee Cohen
Help Your Dragon Deal With Anxiety ~ Steve Herman
The Koala Who Could ~ Rachel Bright and Jim Field
When You Are Brave ~ Pat Zietlow Miller and Eliza Wheeler
Sun Kisses, Moon Hugs ~ Susan Schaefer Bernardo and Courtenay Fletcher
In My Heart ~ Mackenzie Porter and Jenny Lovlie
You Weren't With Me ~ Chandra Ghosh Ippen and Erich Ippen Jr.
When I Miss You ~ Cornelia Maude Spelman
I'll Lend You My Daddy: A Deployment Book for Kids ~ Becky King
Grandmother's Dreamcatcher ~ Becky Ray McCain
Zog and the Flying Doctors ~ Julia Donaldson
There's a Dragon in Your Book ~ Tom Fletcher
Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn ~ Kenard Pak
The Fall of Freddie the Leaf ~ Leo Buscaglia
The Very Last Leaf ~ Stef Wade and Jennifer Davison

Week Four Circle, Songs & Movement



The following songs and verses should be shared during circle time each day this week after you open your circle.



Five Little Leaves

Five little leaves, so happy and gay
(hold up five fingers)
were dancing about on a tree one day
the wind came blowing through the town
and one little leaf came tumbling down
(put one finger down)

Four little leaves, so happy and gay
(hold up four fingers)
were dancing about on a tree one day
the wind came blowing through the town
and one little leaf came tumbling down
(put one finger down)

Three little leaves, so happy and gay
(hold up three fingers)
were dancing about on a tree one day
the wind came blowing through the town
and one little leaf came tumbling down
(put one finger down)

Two little leaves, so happy and gay
(hold up two fingers)

were dancing about on a tree one day
the wind came blowing through the town
and one little leaf came tumbling down
(put one finger down)

One little leaf, so happy and gay
(hold up one finger)
were dancing about on a tree one day
the wind came blowing through the town
and one little leaf came tumbling down
(put last finger down)



Leaves Fingerplay

Once I saw some little leaves
Way up on a tree,
(looking upward as though looking at a tree)

But while I was looking
Down they came on me.
(both arms raised, hands making fluttering motion and gradually towering, in imitation of falling leaves.)

A red one on this shoulder,
(point with thumb of hand to right shoulder)

Yellow one on that;
(point with pointer finger of right hand to left shoulder.)

A crimson one on my head — The dearest little hat.
(point with middle finger of right hand to the crown of head.)

A brown one stuck upon my nose,
(point with ring finger of right hand to nose.)

Another on my chin —
(point with little finger of right hand to chin)

One, two, three, four — five leaves,
*(as counts are made repeat rapidly previous five motions, using different fingers
for each — same as already done.)*

A silly shower to be in!

For just one little minute
I stayed as still could be,
*(bend body lightly forward, hands hanging loosely, as though trying to keep body
motionless.)*

Then shook and shook my own self,
(shake body from waist vigorously up and down — arms also in motion.)

"But — back they came on me:
*(glide body slightly backward, extend arms forward and then bring hands so that
tips of fingers will rest on chest.)*

Red leaf, brown leaf, yellow leaf,
They surely wanted to play,
But along came a little breeze
And whiff!
Away — Away — Away.
*(hands brought in front of body, palms downward, then fingers are rapidly moved
as arms are carried in circular motion behind back. This carries out idea of
fluttering away of leaves.)*



Fly Dragon, Fly
(do motions as indicated with child)

Fly, fly, dragon fly.
Fly, fly, dragon fly.
Fly, fly, dragon fly.
Way up in the sky

Hop, hop, dragon hop.
Hop, hop, dragon hop.
Hop, hop, dragon hop.

Stop dragon stop!
Turn, turn, dragon turn.
Turn, turn, dragon turn.
Turn, turn, dragon turn.
Sit, dragon, sit!



Five Little Dragons Fingerplay

One little dragon with scales of blue;
Ran to meet the green one,
And then there were two.

Two little dragons sitting under a tree;
The red dragon joined them,
And then there were three.

Three little dragons, wishing there were more;
Along came the purple dragon,
And then there were four.

Four little dragons, happy to be alive;
Found a yellow dragon,
And then there were five.

Five little dragons all out to play;
“Watch out, they breathe fire,” is all I have to say.



Color Dragons

Red dragon,
Green dragon,
Yellow dragon,
Blue.

Orange dragon,
Brown dragon,
Purple dragon, too!

How many dragons do we see?
Count them now along with me,
One, two, three, four, five, six, seven.
Seven bright dragons fly in the heavens.



There's a great big dragon coming our way,
A great big dragon on this holiday,
(have child walk in waving lines like a dragon)

Let's grab our lanterns and follow along,
Dancing & waving and singing a song.
(dance and wave in line)

There's a great big dragon coming our way,
Hip, hip, hurray!
(jump up and down)

Week Four Blackboard Drawing

Drawing Ideas for This Week: FOUR sons standing in a row at four different crossroads, a dragon with letter D emphasized inside of it, five eggs in the nest with the nest showing a Roman numeral V inside, father of four brothers raising his arms up to show the Roman numeral V in gesture, stitching of the tailor in the Roman numeral IV, FOUR kingdoms with castles incorporating 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the architecture, a square in the castles, four seasonal trees by each crossroad or kingdom, the division symbol as created in the huntsman's bow and arrow.

Week Four Teacher's Classroom Work

1. Prepare for making a seasonal Autumn Table with your child this week. When choosing this place, consider the age range of the children in your care. If you have very young children who still put small items in their mouth, pick a place that is out of their reach but accessible to the older children.
2. Review any handwork before working on the projects with your child.

Week Four Caregiver Meditation

This Week's Reflection: Separation

"A human being is part of a whole, called by us the 'Universe,' a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings, as something separated from the rest--a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circles of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty." ~ Albert Einstein

As a leaf is connected to the tree, we are all part of the whole. We come from the same source and return to the same place, whatever you believe that to be. When we are removed from our family or community, we often believe ourselves to be separate.

What we need to understand is that we do not have to be with others physically to remain connected to one another. You are never alone. Go within and feel the absolute truth of interconnectedness that is present in all times and in all spaces. Look without and see that nothing exists in isolation, including yourself.

Week Four Story



This week's fairy tale not only highlights the number 4 in the four brothers, but also our theme of 'separation' as the brothers leave their father to go off and learn a trade of their own, on four separate paths and meet again in four years.

For this story, you can use four small puppets or wood blocks to symbolize the brothers. Different color silks would be a wonderful way to create the four roads the brothers journey on. Walk each brother down his silk path as you tell his part of the story as he chooses a trade. Simple stones or small wooden eggs can be placed in a nest of some sort as the Father challenges each brother. The dragon can be represented very simply with a ball of green roving, a green ball or a stuffed toy.

When the brothers are provided their own kingdoms place them at the top of the four silk paths. If you have four seasonal trees of some sort you could add them to each 'kingdom' to represent the four seasons.

Please note, this fairy tale is long, and it is suggested to read it or tell it to your children in parts that work for you throughout the day and week ahead. It is difficult to expect active and curious children in first grade to sit for extended periods of time.

The Four Skillful Brothers *by the Grimm Brothers*

There was once a poor man who had four sons, and when they were grown up, he said to them, "My dear children, you must now go out into the world, for I have nothing to give you, so set out, and go to some distance and learn a trade, and see how you can make your way." So, the four brothers took their sticks, bade their father farewell, and went through the town gate together. When they had travelled

about for some time, they came to a crossroads which branched off in four different directions. Then said the eldest, "Here we must separate, but on this day in four years, we will meet each other again at this spot, and in the meantime, we will seek our fortunes."

Then each of them went his way, and the eldest met a man who asked him where he was going, and what he was intending to do. "I want to learn a trade," he replied. Then the other said, "Come with me, and be a thief." "No," he answered, "that is no longer regarded as a reputable trade, and the end of it is that one has to swing on the gallows." "Oh," said the man, "you need not be afraid of the gallows; I will only teach you to get such things as no other man could ever lay hold of, and no one will ever detect you." So, he allowed himself to be talked into it, and while with the man became an accomplished thief, and so dexterous that nothing was safe from him, if he once desired to have it.

The second brother met a man who put the same question to him, what he wanted to learn in the world. "I don't know yet," he replied. "Then come with me and be an astronomer; there is nothing better than that, for nothing is hid from you." He liked the idea, and became such a skillful astronomer that when he had learnt everything, and was about to travel onwards, his master gave him a telescope and said to him, "With that canst thou see whatsoever takes place either on earth or in heaven, and nothing can remain concealed from thee."

A huntsman took the third brother into training and gave him such excellent instruction in everything which related to huntsmanship, that he became an experienced hunter. When he went away, his master gave him a bow and arrow and said, "It will never fail you; whatsoever you aim at, you are certain to hit."

The youngest brother also met a man who spoke to him and inquired what his intentions were. "Would you not like to be a tailor?" said he. "Not that I know of," said the youth; "sitting doubled up from morning till night, driving the needle and the goose backwards and forwards, is not to my taste." "Oh, but you are speaking in ignorance," answered the man; "with me you would learn a very different kind of tailoring, which is respectable and proper, and for the most part very honorable."

So, he let himself be persuaded, and went with the man, and learned his art from the very beginning. When they parted, the man gave the youth a needle, and said, "With this you can sew together whatever is given you, whether it is as soft as an egg or as hard as steel; and it will all become one piece of stuff, so that no seam will be visible."

When the appointed four years were over, the four brothers arrived at the same time at the crossroads, embraced and kissed each other, and returned home to their father. "So now," said he, quite delighted, "the wind has blown you back again to me." They told him of all that had happened to them, and that each had learned his own trade.

Now they were sitting just in front of the house under a large tree, and the father said, "I will put you all to the test, and see what you can do." Then he looked up and said to his second son, "Between two branches up at the top of this tree, there is a chaffinch's nest, tell me how many eggs there are in it?" The astronomer took his glass, looked up, and said, "There are five."

Then the father said to the eldest, "Fetch the eggs down without disturbing the bird which is sitting hatching them." The skillful thief climbed up, and took the five eggs from beneath the bird, which never observed what he was doing, and remained quietly sitting where she was, and brought them down to his father.

The father took them and put one of them on each corner of the table, and the fifth in the middle, and said to the huntsman, "With one shot thou shalt shoot me the five eggs in two, through the middle." The huntsman aimed with his bow and arrow, and shot the eggs, all five as the father had desired, and that at one shot. He certainly must have had some amazing skill to have the arrow split and shoot round corners.

"Now it's your turn," said the father to the fourth son; "you shall sew the eggs together again, and the young birds that are inside them as well, and you must do it so that they are not hurt by the shot." The tailor brought his needle and sewed them as his father wished. When he had done this, the thief had to climb up the tree again, and carry them to the nest, and put them back again under the bird without her being aware of it. The bird sat her full time, and after a few days the young ones crept out, and they had a red line round their necks where they had been sewn together by the tailor.

"Well," said the old man to his sons, "I begin to think you are worth more than green clover; you have used your time well and learned something good. I can't say which of you deserves the most praise. That will be proved if you have but an early opportunity of using your talents."

Not long after this, there was a great uproar in the country, for the King's daughter was carried off by a dragon. The King was full of trouble about it, both by day and night, and caused it to be proclaimed that whosoever brought her back should have her to wife. The four brothers said to each other, "This would be a fine opportunity for us to show what we can do!" and resolved to go forth together and liberate the King's daughter.

"I will soon know where she is," said the astronomer, and looked through his telescope and said, "I see her already, she is far away from here on a rock in the sea, and the dragon is beside her watching her." Then he went to the King and asked for a ship for himself and his brothers and sailed with them over the sea until they came to the rock.

There the King's daughter was sitting, and the dragon was lying asleep on her lap. The huntsman said, "I dare not fire, I should kill the beautiful maiden at the same time." "Then I will try my art," said the thief, and he crept thither and stole her away from under the dragon, so quietly and dexterously, that the monster never remarked it, but went on snoring. Full of joy, they hurried off with her on board ship, and steered out into the open sea; but the dragon, who when he awoke had found no princess there, followed them, and came snorting angrily through the air.

Just as he was circling above the ship, and about to descend on it, the huntsman aimed his bow and arrow and shot him to the heart. The monster fell down dead but was so large and powerful that his fall shattered the whole ship. Fortunately, however, they laid hold of a couple of planks, and swam about the wide sea.

They were in great peril, but the tailor, who was not idle, took his wondrous needle, and with a few stitches sewed the planks together, and they seated themselves upon them, and collected together all the fragments of the vessel. Then he sewed these so skillfully together, that in a very short time the ship was once more seaworthy, and they could go home again in safety.

When the King once more saw his daughter, there were great rejoicings. He said to the four brothers, "One of you shall have her to wife, but which of you it is to be you must settle among yourselves." Then a warm contest arose among them, for each of them preferred his own claim.

The astronomer said, "If I had not seen the princess, all your arts would have been useless, so she is mine." The thief said, "What would have been the use of your seeing, if I had not got her away from the dragon? so she is mine." The huntsman

said, "You and the princess, and all of you, would have been torn to pieces by the dragon if my arrow had not hit him, so she is mine." The tailor said, "And if I, by my art, had not sewn the ship together again, you would all of you have been miserably drowned, so she is mine."

Then the King uttered this saying, "Each of you has an equal right, and as all of you cannot have the maiden, none of you shall have her, but I will give to each of you, as a reward, half a kingdom." The brothers were pleased with this decision, and said, "It is better thus than that we should be at variance with each other." Then each of them received half a kingdom, and they lived with their father in the greatest happiness ever after.

Monday Student Lessons – Week Four (Baking/Cooking – Purple Day)



Language Arts

1. Begin your lesson time by reading (or telling) some of the story of *The Four Skillful Brothers* to your child. This is a long fairy tale so take it in parts and as it works for your family. You can share some in the morning, during afternoon time or before bed. Do not rush or insist your child sit through the entire story. Take the full week to read it and retell it as you can. Let the children look at the sentences as you read as this visual will aid with their knowledge of letters, words, and sentences. If possible, use simple props to accompany the story as we have suggested.
2. When your story is finished, unveil your blackboard drawing that you have prepared ahead of time as suggested at the beginning of this week's curriculum. If your child has his or her own small blackboard and chalk, have them take a few moments to create their own drawing.
3. Review what your child worked on last week in their lesson book. Have them practice writing the capital letter C a few times on their blackboard or an extra piece of paper. Be sure they have a good grasp of this letter before moving onto the next.
4. In your child's lesson book, have them create a similar drawing of the dragon from your blackboard drawing (or whatever depiction you used) with the letter D inside on the left side of a new layout. On the right hand side, have your child practice writing the capital letter D. Share this silly poem as you work to form the letter from top to bottom:

Straight line to the ground
And then you take a break
Half circle up around
Is what you need to make

Mathematics

1. In this lesson we will be first teaching the child Roman numeral V (five). The reason for this is because it is much easier to then describe how Roman numeral IV (four) is simply representing one number before five as it is quite visual. It will also be easy then to 'add' to V with I's when we learn future Roman numerals such as VI (six), VII (seven), etc.

Begin by writing down the Roman numeral V, the number 5 and word FIVE in all capital letters for your child to see. Say each letter as you write: F, I, V, E, and the word out loud. Repeat the following as you write and your child watches or imitates:

F
I
V
E

FIVE
(show five fingers)

I am V or number five

F
I
V
E

FIVE
(show five fingers)

Just a V and you have FIVE

2. Briefly look over the previous lessons your child has created in their lesson book and how, up until this point, the Roman numerals have just been a series of I's to represent ONE (I), TWO (II) and THREE (III).
3. Teach your child that V stands for 5 in Roman numerals. Hold your arms up to the sky in the shape of a V and have your child do the same. In your lesson book, have your child draw a picture of the king from our story holding his two

arms raised up in the shape of a V on the left side of their layout. Next, encourage them to practice writing Roman numeral V, the number 5 and the word FIVE on the right side of their book.

4. When your child has a good grasp on this concept, explain now that they know the Roman numeral V, it is quite easy to teach some of the others. Write down the Roman numeral IV, the number 4 and word FOUR in all capital letters for your child to see. Say each letter as you write: F, O, U, R, and the word out loud. Repeat the following as your write and your child watches or imitates:

F
O
U
R

FOUR
(show four fingers)

Five is V but I'm ONE before

F
O
U
R

FOUR
(show four fingers)

I before V, that shows FOUR!

5. Explain to your child that Roman numeral IV (four) is simply a line (or I) right before V to show it is ONE before FIVE. Count to four, then five. Use your fingers to show four and ONE more is FIVE.
6. In your lesson book, have your child draw a picture of the eggs from our story. Ask them to “stitch” the eggs together by using symbols IV a space and IV over and over as the ‘stitches’. Next, encourage them to practice writing Roman numeral IV, the number 4 and the word FOUR on the right side of their book.

Domestic Arts: Cooking

Baking Dragon Bread

After your morning blessing, have children help you set up your workspace and supplies to make Dragon Bread (should yield 12-16 servings).

If you happen to be using this week's lessons near the festival of Michaelmas (September 29th), making Dragon Bread is a traditional activity done in many Waldorf homes and schools during this time. From the simple to the elaborate dragon creations, it will become a much-loved tradition with your children.

Be sure to check out the Little Acorn Learning Autumn Equinox & Michaelmas Festival Book for more ways to celebrate.

Think wisely,
Speak well,
Stand upright
And St. Michael
Will lead you
from darkness
to Light.

Supplies Needed:

2 ½ Cups Unbleached Flour
1 Package Dry Yeast
1 ½ Cups Milk
½ Cup Water
3 Tbsp. Margarine or Butter
3 Tbsp. Brown Sugar
1 ½ Tsp. Salt
2 ½ Cups Whole Wheat Flour
Almonds, Dried Fruit, Raisins, Etc. to Decorate Bread

In a large bowl, mix flour and yeast. Heat milk, water, margarine, brown sugar and salt on low. Add to flour mixture. Stir several minutes. Remember to let children help during this entire process. Have them take turns and be patient. The goal is not to have bread, it is to enjoy the process of making the bread! Add whole wheat flour until dough forms. Knead on floured table until smooth

and elastic (children love this part!). Place in greased bowl. Cover and let rise until it doubles in bulk.

Have children clean up what they can (you will return later to finish), wash hands and get some fresh air.

After the dough has risen, you will need to punch down the dough. The best way to do this is to let children pound the dough with their fists.

Mathematic Integration:

After you have done this, **DIVIDE** the **WHOLE** into **FOURTHS**. Show your child that you start with **ONE WHOLE** and now will **DIVIDE** into **FOUR**. One of these four sections is one **FOURTH** of the whole amount. Two of these sections is one **HALF** of the whole amount.

Push the edges of each section to the center using your fingertips. If the four pieces are too small join them to make two and continue to punch down both sections. Cover and let rest for 10-15 minutes.

Now you can shape the sections into individual **DRAGONS** and place into pans. Cover the pans and let rise to double.

After lunch and before rest time let the children watch you place the bread into the oven and set at 400°F for 30 minutes.

The smell of bread baking in the oven is a very soothing way for children to fall asleep or relax. This is a good time to work on quiet activities.

Outdoor Time/Nature Walk

Take your children outside each day regardless of the weather. Invest in good rain gear, snow gear and wool undergarments if your location requires it. Do your lessons outdoors whenever possible.

Caregiver Focus

Meditative Thoughts for Autumn

Spend time alone on an autumn walk this week. It is easy for us to appreciate the beauty of spring with seeds growing and flowers blooming but it is important for us to also see the beauty in the fading autumn, when the leaves change and fall from their host, when the animals start to scurry away, when we witness the death and hibernation of nature. While this time is a time of fading and death, it is at the same time so very alive and beautiful. Without one, we would not have the other.

Afternoon Lessons

Handwork: Beginner Knitting, Continue Knit Stitch

Continue practicing knit stitch with the verse we learned:

Knitting Verse

In the front door,
Around the back,
Through the window,
And off jumps Jack!

This project can turn into a beautiful autumn scarf as your child continues.

Tuesday Student Lessons - Week Four
(Painting - Red Day)

Language Arts

1. Like yesterday, begin your lesson time by continuing to read (or tell) the story of *The Four Skillful Brothers*. Provide your child with a piece of green beeswax modeling material as you read. Let them hold this piece of beeswax as they listen, warming it with their hands so it softens. Share this verse when placing it in your child's hand:

Wax, wax soft become,
I will warm you like the sun.
Out of you I'll bring each form,
That is waiting to be born.

2. Ask your child to form the softened beeswax material into the Letter D. Roll it into a long snake, curve it just so and then put it back together again. Next, have them try to form it into the number 4. Lastly, have them create a spiral with the long snake. We will be practicing spirals this week for form drawing.
3. Open your lesson book and review the work you did yesterday. Have your child trace the letter D, number 4, number 5 and word FOUR and FIVE with their fingers.
4. Today we will work on a tongue twister to practice and memorize with your child to help learn the letter D and its sound. Tongue twisters and rhymes are fun ways to learn and help with finding rhythm.

To begin, say the following tongue twister to your child slowly and clap your hands for the words that begin with D and pause for the other words:

David (*clap*) and the Dainty (*clap*) Dragon (*clap*)
Dancing (*clap*) in the Daisies (*clap*)

Say it again but stomp alternate feet for the D words and stop stomping for the other words:

David (*stomp*) and the Dainty (*stomp*) Dragon (*stomp*)
Dancing (*stomp*) in the Daisies (*stomp*)

Mathematics

1. Today review the four processes story you created for your child last week. Give a little extra time to **DIVIDE** this week as it is a new concept for our children.
2. Spend a little time reviewing **MINUS** from last week. Be sure your child has a good understanding of subtraction at this point. You should always weave practice in from previous lessons where you see fit.
3. On the left side of your child's lesson book, have your child draw a picture of the character **DIVIDE**. Include the associated symbol on the character's clothing and the word **DIVIDE** under or above the drawing.
4. Herding Dragons Division

Supplies Needed:

Items to Symbolize your **TEN** Dragons (Green Wood Pegs, Marbles, Animal Figurines, Green Painted Popsicle Sticks, etc.)

Say the following verse for each division equation you call out. Have the child stomp in a circle around the table, and then group their ten dragons on the surface when you say the amount.

Ten green dragons stomping loud
Four brave brothers fighting proud

Herd the dragons in groups of ____
Away!

How many dragons remain today?

Then say the equation in correct terms and ask your child how many groups there are of even dragons that the brother's herded and caught and how many remaining unherded dragons remain.

Show the tangible items as you say these equations together out loud.

Verbal example:

10 dragons **DIVIDED** into groups of 5 equals 2 groups of dragons

10 dragons DIVIDED into groups of 4 equals 2 groups of dragons with 2 lonely dragons remaining

10 dragons DIVIDED into groups of 3 equals 3 groups of dragons with 1 lonely dragon remaining.

10 dragons DIVIDED into groups of 2 equals 5 groups of dragons

On the right side of your lesson book layout, have the children practice writing these equations in the correct format vertically.

Written example:

$$10 \div 5 = 2$$

$$10 \div 4 = 2 \text{ with } 2 \text{ remaining}$$

$$10 \div 3 = 3 \text{ with } 1 \text{ remaining}$$

$$10 \div 2 = 5$$

Outdoor Time/Nature Walk

Take your children outside each day regardless of the weather. Invest in good rain gear, snow gear and wool undergarments if your location requires it. Do your lessons outdoors whenever possible.

Social Studies

Time should be taught as it is relevant to nature. We have learned more about the days of the week, daytime and nighttime, a month and how they are used to create a whole. There are many other ways to quantify time.

1. Four Seasons: Autumn, Winter, Spring & Summer

Do you live in an area where four distinct seasons are visible? If so, your child may already understand this idea. If you live in an area where the weather does not display four distinct changes, it is still a good idea to teach your child the concept of the four seasons. The seasons are not only experienced physically

but also inwardly throughout the year with various festivals, holidays and changes in our environment and home.

For this activity, display four trees without leaves in your homeschool area. This could be branches in four vases, a paper display of trees on the wall, four drawings, or actual seasonal trees you may have.

Working with your child, decorate each one of these trees together to symbolize the different seasons.

Examples:

Autumn: Hang leaves of various colors, acorns, leaves underneath that have fell, a squirrel, etc.

Winter: Keep the leaves off or only a few left, snow on the branches (wool or cotton), winter birds, pinecones, snowflakes etc.

Spring: Hang a few flowers budding on the branches, a birdhouse, birdfeeders, a squirrel coming out of his hole, etc.

Summer: Decorate with full green and flowers all over the branches, honeybees at the flowers, birds of all kinds, etc.

2. Take time to talk to your child about the four seasons. Here are some questions you can ask to inspire discussion:

Do you know what season we are in? (Autumn)

Do you know another word for Autumn? (Fall)

Why do you think people call Autumn 'Fall'?

Could it be because certain leaves *fall* to the ground?

Did you know that some trees lose their leaves in Autumn and others do not?

Do you know how many seasons there are in one year? (FOUR)

What are the names of these seasons? (Autumn, Winter, Spring & Summer)

There are also FOUR weeks in one month.

Do you know what month we are in right now?

3. Introduce a calendar to your child. We will be making our own in this curriculum, but it is a good idea for them to become familiar with a calendar each morning or afternoon in the meantime to help your child understand the month, day, holidays, etc.
4. In your child's lesson book create four equal boxes on the left by using a straight edge and making a line horizontally and vertically. Ask your child to color a symbol of each season in one of the boxes. They may draw a leaf, snowflake, flower and sun, etc.

On the opposite page continue to practice writing the number 4, FOUR, IV and the word FOURTH.

Afternoon Lessons

1. Music: Continue Practicing Flute or Recorder
2. Handwork: Beginning Knitting, Knit Stitch and Starting a New Row

Continue practicing the knit stitch with your child. Remember to teach them how to switch and start a new row without dropping a stitch on the sides. If you need to start over, it is perfectly fine to do so. They are still learning.

Wednesday Student Lessons – Week Four
(Coloring – Yellow Day)

Language Arts

1. Practice our Letter D tongue twister again. Keep working on this until you have it memorized together. Clap for D words and pause for other words.

David (*clap*) and the Dainty (*clap*) Dragon (*clap*)
Dancing (*clap*) in the Daisies (*clap*)

Say it again but stomp alternate feet for the D words and pause for the other words:

David (*stomp*) and the Dainty (*stomp*) Dragon (*stomp*)
Dancing (*stomp*) in the Daisies (*stomp*)

2. Tonight at bedtime, continue to tell your child the story of *The Four Skillful Brothers*.
3. Take your child to the grocery store with you and have them search the store for items that begin with the letter D. This letter is hard to find in many foods, so we listed some ideas to help. Bring the list with you and add to it as you find more.

Donuts
Dates
Danish
Dill pickles
Dark chocolate
Dairy
Diet Coke
Dumplings
Doritos
Dr. Pepper
Decaffeinated
Drumstick
Dill
Dove Soap
Drink

Mathematics

1. Review and practice the phone numbers you learned last week.
2. Continue to practice DIVIDE with your child by using playdough.

Here are some fun ideas:

Have your child use orange playdough to make little pumpkins. Cut out square pieces of green felt or paper. Tell your child to divide the pumpkins into pumpkin patches.

Example: Make 8 little pumpkins and place them evenly in 4 pumpkin patches. How many pumpkins are able to fit evenly in each?

8 pumpkins divided by 4 pumpkin patches equals 2 pumpkins in each patch equally

$$8 \div 4 = 2$$

Have your child create little bugs out of the playdough. Using real autumn leaves, tell your child to divide the bugs onto their leaf homes.

Example: Make 7 little bugs and put them all evenly among 3 leaf homes. How many bugs are on each home? Do any bugs remain lonely?

7 little bugs divided by 3 leaf homes equals 2 bugs on each leaf. 1 little bug has no home and remains alone.

$$7 \div 3 = 2 \text{ with } 1 \text{ remaining}$$

3. Using crayons, ask your child to draw groups of items on one side of their lesson book. Ask them to **DIVIDE** the group into a certain amount. Have your child do this by circling the items evenly. On the opposite side of your layout, help your child write out the equation vertically.

Example:

Group of 10 dragons

Divide the dragons by 2

Child circles 2 groups of 5 dragons each

On the opposite side writes: $10 \div 2 = 5$

Outdoor Time/Nature Walk














Take your children outside each day regardless of the weather. Invest in good rain gear, snow gear and wool undergarments if your location requires it. Do your lessons outdoors whenever possible.

Science, Nature Study, Earth Discovery

1. Autumn Scavenger Hunt

Take your child out on a nature walk and talk about the season of autumn. On the following page you will find a fun Autumn Scavenger Hunt to bring along and check off as you and your child find each item. Please note, this hunt has been created with very traditional autumn items and weather. If you live in an environment that this would not pertain to, we hope you use it as inspiration to create your own.

Autumn Scavenger Hunt

<input type="radio"/> ACORN 	<input type="radio"/> PINECONES 	<input type="radio"/> MAPLE SEEDS 	<input type="radio"/> YELLOW LEAF 
<input type="radio"/> RED LEAF 	<input type="radio"/> BROWN LEAF 	<input type="radio"/> ORANGE LEAF 	<input type="radio"/> PINE TREE 
<input type="radio"/> BARE TREE 	<input type="radio"/> MUSHROOM 	<input type="radio"/> BERRIES 	<input type="radio"/> FEATHER 
<input type="radio"/> SPIDER WEB 	<input type="radio"/> PUMPKIN 	<input type="radio"/> SQUIRREL 	<input type="radio"/> MOSS 

2. Leaf Rubbings



Supplies Needed:

Leaves

White Paper

Crayons

Place a leaf underneath your white paper, or to make a card, fold paper in half and place leaf inside. With the side of your crayon gently rub over your paper to reveal the leaf design. Block crayons work especially well. Multiple colors can be used to create a beautiful effect.

3. Parts of a Leaf and How Leaves Change Color

As you hunt for beautiful autumn things, take time to look closely at the leaves your child finds. Talk about the different parts of a leaf. Keep this simple, pointing out the stem, blade and vein.

4. The Anxious Leaf Story

Explain how in spring the leaves bud and grow green. They absorb the sunlight as their food and the tree drinks water from its roots. As the weather changes and it gets closer to autumn, the amount of light the leaves receive is less. This makes them change color and stop producing the food from the sunlight. The colors they turn are beautiful and it is a sign that their work is done, and they are no longer needed. They soon will fall off.

The Anxious Leaf



Once upon a time a little leaf was heard to sigh and cry, as leaves often do when a gentle wind is about. And the twig said, "What is the matter, little leaf?" And the leaf said, "The wind just told me that one day it would pull me off and throw me down to die on the ground!"

The twig told it to the branch on which it grew, and the branch told it to the tree. And when the tree heard it, it rustled all over, and sent back word to the leaf, "Do not be afraid. Hold on tightly, and you shall not go till you want to."

And so, the leaf stopped sighing, but went on nestling and singing. Every time the tree shook itself and stirred up all its leaves, the branches shook themselves, and the little twig shook itself, and the little leaf danced up and down merrily, as if nothing could ever pull it off. And so, it grew all summer long, till October.

And when the bright days of autumn came the little leaf saw all the leaves around becoming very beautiful. Some were yellow and some scarlet, and some striped with both colors. Then it asked the tree what it meant. And the tree said, "All these leaves are getting ready to fly away, and they have put on these beautiful colors because of joy."

Then the little leaf began to want to go, too, and grew very beautiful in thinking of it, and when it was very gay in color it saw that the branches of the tree had no bright color in them, and so the leaf said, "O branches! why are you lead-color and we golden?"

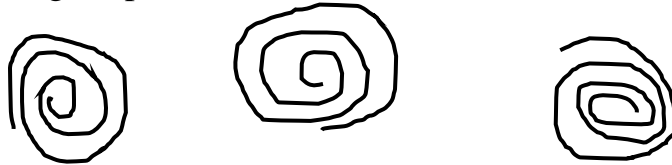
"We must keep on our work-clothes, for our life is not done - but your clothes are for holiday, because your tasks are over," said the branches.

Just then a little puff of wind came, and the leaf let go, without thinking of it, and the wind took it up and turned it over and over, and whirled it like a spark of fire in the air, and then it dropped gently down under the edge of the fence,

among hundreds of leaves, and fell into a dream, and it never waked up to tell what it dreamed about.

Afternoon Lessons

Form Drawing – Spiral



1. Using a jump rope or sidewalk chalk, make a spiral for your child to see. Have your child walk on it from the outside to the inside and from the inside to the outside. Continue with various movements such as hopping, skipping, and trying to walk backward.
2. On your blackboard or a separate sheet of paper draw a dark circle in the center, create a spiral coming out from this circle and say the following verse:

The Dragon roars at the men
Into his cave and back again

In your child's lesson book, have them draw a picture of the dragon living inside his cave. On the opposite side of the book, have them practice making spirals both starting from the center and outward and also try to begin outward and going into the center. Continue these forms until your child can create them with confidence.

Thursday Student Lessons – Week Four (Crafting/Games – Orange Day)

Language Arts

1. Take a few moments to review the hard C and soft C sounds we learned last week.
2. Practice saying the sound of D. Notice how our mouth forms to make the sound. Bringing awareness to the way our body forms sounds and words is very important. This process helps us to notice the use of air and our body muscles as we communicate.

Duh, Duh, Duh

Notice the tip of our tongue touches the top of our mouth and we push the air out and separate it from the top again. Then our tongue touches the top of our mouth again.

Let your child look at your mouth movements and also have them look in the mirror at their own.

3. Continue to share the story of *The Four Skillful Brothers* with your child.

Mathematics

1. Today go around your home or classroom and find examples of squares. Ask your child to count how many sides a square has and explain that squares have four equal sides which means each side is the same size.
2. In your child's lesson book, have them draw a large square on one side. Ask them to color it in with their crayons. Emphasis that now you see one whole square.

Say the following poem while your child does the same:

From the bottom to the top,
Straight across and then you stop,

Straight down to the bottom again,
Across and stop where you began,

If the lines are the same size,
Then a square is your surprise.

3. Take out a piece of paper and have your child cut it so it has four equal sides. Turn the square upside down and all around. Ask your child if it changes.
4. Next, have them find the center of the square. Using a straight edge, have your child make a line down the middle of the square making two equal sides. You can fold the paper in half as well by matching up the corners. Open up the paper. Explain how you now split the square in half. Cut down this center line. There are now two halves of the square. Show your child when the two halves are put back together they make a whole.
5. When you are outside after your morning lessons, get four large sticks of similar lengths. Ask your child to put them together to form a square. Continue to use nature to make squares together.

Outdoor Time/Nature Walk

Take your children outside each day regardless of the weather. Invest in good rain gear, snow gear and wool undergarments if your location requires it. Do your lessons outdoors whenever possible.

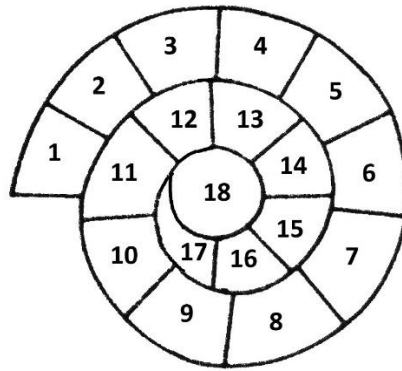
Movement & Body Awareness

Spiral (Escargot) Hopscotch

Supplies Needed:
Sidewalk Chalk

This activity is almost as fun to design as it is for children to play! Go outside and bring along sidewalk chalk. Help your child to make a Spiral Hopscotch. This type of hopscotch is familiar in France and called Escargot, which means snail in French. Show the children how the shape of the game is like the shape of a snail and introduce them to this foreign word.

Begin by drawing the spiral and adding numbers 1-10 to the spaces. Number 10 should fall in the center and will be considered “HOME”. This is the only space the children are allowed to rest in with two feet down. (as your child gets better you can expand this to larger numbers as we have shown below to number 18)



You do not need a beanbag or stone to play this form of hopscotch. Hop on one foot all the way to the HOME spot. Children should practice not putting the other foot down and staying inside the lines of the boxes. When they reach the HOME spot, they may put both feet down to rest before hopping back on the same foot to the beginning. Do this again with the other foot.

When your child has mastered this, there is a fun way to play with others that you can try. After your child has successfully hopped both ways without touching lines or putting their other foot down, they can pick one box to write their FIRST name in. The other children who continue may not jump in a space with a name inside. The child with the most boxes with their name in it at the end wins.

Afternoon Lessons

1. Art: Watercolor Painting

Supplies Needed:
Watercolor Paper
Paintboard
Watercolor Paints
Paintbrush
Water

Spend time this afternoon painting the Anxious Leaf. Have your child close their eyes and imagine what the Anxious Leaf looked like just as it was about to fall to the ground. Ask them to paint a picture of it.

2. Handwork: Hand Stitching/Embroidery

Supplies Needed:

Embroidery Needle

Embroidery Floss

White Scrap Fabric

Embroidery Hoop (optional)

Scissors

Take a little time to teach your child how to make a simple stitch with needle and thread.

How to Thread the Needle:

Embroidery floss usually comes in strands of six. Rarely are all six strands used in a project. How many strands usually depends on the fabric, but we recommend starting with three. Simply pull one strand out all the way and then proceed to pull the other two out individually. Put them all together evenly and thread your needle. If you have a needle threader it can be very helpful. With embroidery, you do not want to knot the thread. Instead get used to not knotting at all and leaving the backing with an inch or so of thread. As you continue to stitch it will stay put and you can weave it in later. This allows mistakes to be easily undone as you are learning.

Running Stitch: This is a simple stitch that is the basis of many embroidery projects and hand sewing. It is easy enough to teach yourself and child. When creating it, ask your child what math symbol it reminds them of (MINUS). If you go upward it can be the Roman numeral I as well.

If you'd like to challenge yourself and make Roman numeral IV and V, you can use a running stitch and also a fly stitch to form the V.

This would be a nice way to create a Roman numeral stitch chart or create little felt shirts for Roman numeral gnomes you create as you move through the lessons. Have your child practice the running stitch when they have time throughout the week.

Friday Student Lessons – Week Four
(Modeling/Housework – Green Day)

Language Arts

1. Today have your child continue to practice writing the letter D in their lesson book on unlined paper. Share this verse as you prepare for your writing lesson:

Paper is a gift of the trees.
Beeswax is a gift of the bees.
All these things are ours to share.
We use each thing with loving care.

2. In the story of *The Four Skillful Brothers*, the brothers were very brave as they went off to conquer the dragon and save the maiden. Ask your child to describe a time when he or she was also very brave. Can you share a time that you needed courage to conquer something that scared you?

Here is a verse to share with your children which also fits well around the time of Michaelmas:

We are knights so brave and true
Best of work we always do

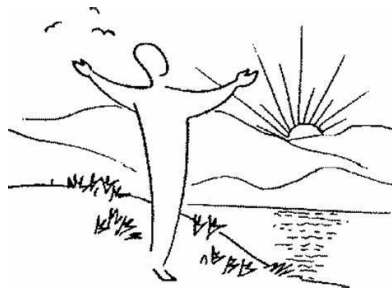
Help the poor and right the wrong
We are kind and good and strong

Off to battle we march along
Conquer evil and sing this song

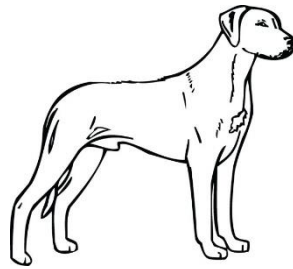
Brave and true will I be
Each good deed sets me free

Each kind word makes me strong
I will fight for the right
I will conquer the wrong

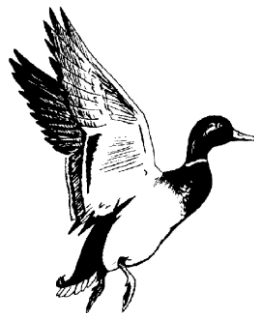
3. Print out or share the following photos and practice saying them together with your child.



DAY



DOG



DUCK



DRAGON

4. Ask your child to tell YOU their favorite part of the story *The Four Skillful Brothers*.

Mathematics

Homemade Pizza Division

Today make your own personal pizzas with your children.

Supplies Needed:

2 Cups Flour

1 Package Instant Yeast

$\frac{3}{4}$ Teaspoon Salt

$\frac{3}{4}$ Teaspoon Sugar

$\frac{2}{3}$ Cup Warm Water

2 Tablespoons Oil

Pizza Pan

Tomato Sauce

Shredded Cheese

Pizza Toppings (optional)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease pizza pan. Stir together 1 cup of flour, yeast, salt and sugar. Add warm water and oil and continue to stir. Dough will be wet. Add remaining flour slowly so dough becomes soft and not sticky. It should not stick to your hands. Knead the dough. Fold the dough. Pound the dough. Continue.

Roll dough with rolling pin to fit your pizza pan. Cover and set in a warm place 10 minutes to rise. Put dough on pan and stretch to reach edges. Add sauce, cheese and toppings to your liking.

Bake approximately 12-15 minutes. Keep an eye so it does not burn.

Mathematical Integration:

After you create your pie, ask your child some division questions using your pizzas.

Example:

There are 8 slices of pizza and 4 of us here. How many pieces would we give each person if we wanted to share the pizza equally?

$$8 \div 4 = 2$$

There are only 5 pieces of pizza left and 4 of us here. How many pieces would we give each person now if we wanted to make sure we each had the same amount? How many remain left over?

$$5 \div 4 = 1 \text{ with } 1 \text{ remaining}$$

Outdoor Time/Nature Walk

Take your children outside each day regardless of the weather. Invest in good rain gear, snow gear and wool undergarments if your location requires it. Do your lessons outdoors whenever possible.

Science, Nature Study, Earth Discovery

Waxed Leaves

Supplies Needed:

Leaves from Nature Hunt

Wax (Paraffin or Beeswax)

Mini Crockpot or Metal Container for Wax Only

Waxed Paper

If you are using a metal container, be sure you place it inside a pot of boiling water. You should not melt the wax directly over a flame.

Melt your wax. Lay waxed paper down to protect your workspace. Very carefully dip the leaves into the wax. Make sure you are supervising the children and use a utensil to hold the leaves by the stem if necessary, as the wax gets very hot. The leaves should only need one or two dips. The more you dip them the more you will see the wax and it will take away from the natural look of the leaf. Place dipped leaves to dry on the waxed paper. These leaves can be used to make a garland and string above your seasonal table or classroom.

Domestic Arts

Autumn Seasonal Table

Supplies Needed:

Flat Surface, Windowsill or Table

Autumn Colored Cloths or Silks

Found Nature Treasures to Display

This week find a corner, shelf or small table in your home or program that can be used for your new seasonal table. This is where you will display items found on your nature walks and other items that represent the seasons and activities that you are working on.

Afternoon Lessons

Use the afternoon hours today to review areas from this week's afternoon lessons that you feel may need a bit more attention. Bring these into your weekend as you find time.