

Weekly Family Note

October, Week 3

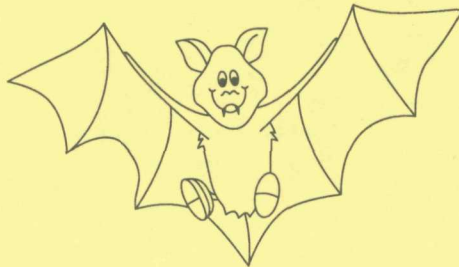
Night Creatures

Introduce:

Letter F
Number 6

Topics for This Week:

Nocturnal Animals
Bats
Spiders
Cats
Raccoons



Things to Do at Home:

- Name animals living in your area and discuss if they are nocturnal. If your family has pets, discuss if they are nocturnal also. What animal sounds do you hear at night? Imitate those sounds.
- Talk about the things people do at night before going to bed. Ask your child when certain tasks are done. For example ask, "Would you put your pajamas on before or after your bath?"

Recipe

Tricky Raccoon Trail Mix

Ingredients: 1 cup peanuts
1 cup M & M's
1 cup raisins
1 cup sunflower seeds
1 cup pretzel sticks

Pour ingredients in a large bowl and mix together. Divide evenly into four small sandwich bags. Ingredients may be added, deleted, or substituted depending upon dietary needs and preferences. This recipe can be doubled or tripled as needed.

Just a Quick Note...

Weekly Family Note

October, Week 4

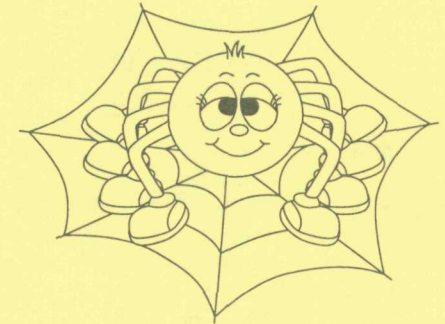
Night Creatures (Continued)

Review:

Letters D - F
Numbers 4 - 6
Colors Orange and Black
Triangle Shape

Topics for This Week:

Skunks
Owls
Pumpkins
Halloween



Things to do at Home:

- Look through books and magazines with your child. Find things that are real and pretend. What makes them different?
- The next time your child is engaged in pretend play, appreciate the moment! Valuable learning is taking place when a child is rocking her doll to sleep or pretending to be a space alien. Imaginary play helps sharpen social skills, builds memory, develops creativity, and provides an outlet for stress.

Mother Goose Corner

Research shows that listening to and reciting nursery rhymes helps young children develop phonological awareness, which means they can hear and focus on the various sounds that make up different words. Children who are exposed to these types of activities in preschool show accelerated gains in learning to read. Help your child learn the following nursery rhyme this month.

The Itsy, Bitsy Spider


The itsy, bitsy spider went up the water spout.
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain.
And the itsy, bitsy spider went up the spout again!

Just a Quick Note...

Songs, Rhymes, and Fingerplays


I'm a Little Pumpkin

Sung to "I'm a Little Teapot."

 I'm a little pumpkin, I start out slow. (*curl into a ball*)
Here is my vine, watch me grow. (*slowly stretch arms out*)
When I'm big and round and orange so bright, (*arms out*)
Just harvest me. What a beautiful sight! (*hop up*)


Little Skunk

Sung to "London Bridge."

 Little skunk is black and white.
He hides all day. He's out at night.
When he's scared he shoots a spray.
Oh, PHEE-EW! Let's stay away!


Pumpkin, Pumpkin

Invite your child to do the actions while reciting the following rhyme.

 Pumpkin, pumpkin, orange and round.
(*hold arms in a circle*)
Sitting in the garden, waiting to be found.
(*sit on floor and tuck up tight*)
Make a funny face, and add a light.
(*fan fingers out around side of face*)
Jack-o'-lantern, jack-o'-lantern, shine all night!
(*make big, silly face*)

Night Creatures

Recite the following rhyme with your child.

 Four night creatures sitting on a gate.
Black spider said, "Spin a web, it's getting late."
Orange pumpkin said, "I hear owls in the air."
Brown bats said, "We don't care."
Black cat said, "Let's run and play,
Because the night will soon turn to day."
"Wooohhh," went the wind.
And away went the moon.
And the four night creatures said, "See you soon!"

Book List

Bat Jamboree

by Kathi Appelt

The Bat in the Boot

by Annie Cannon

Stellaluna

by Janell Cannon

Pumpkin Soup

by Helen Cooper

Where Are the Night Animals?

by Mary Ann Fraser

Up All Night Counting:

A Pop-Up Book

by Robin Koontz

The Sleepy Owl

by Marcus Pfister

Pumpkin Light

by David Ray

Opossums

by William John Ripple

Animal Faces at Night

by Hannah Kate Sackett

Plumply, Dumpy Pumpkin

by Mary Serfozo

Nighttime

by Alastair Smith

Owl Babies

by Martin Waddell


Nocturnal Animals

by John Bonnett Wexo

Songs, Rhymes, and Fingerplays

Who Is It?


Sung to "The Muffin Man."

 Who's got a black mask on his eyes,
And black stripes going 'round his tail?
Who digs in my trash at night
And makes a great big mess?
(*shout out*) A raccoon!



Spider Web

Sung to "The Ants Go Marching."

 The spider is spinning a sticky web, hurrah, hurrah!
He's spinning a web above my head, hurrah, hurrah!
He sits in the web when it's time for lunch.
He watches for bugs to get stuck,
Then he'll munch,
And he'll crunch! Crunch! Crunch!
And gobble that tasty bug!