



# Legacy Lines

*A Newsletter for Families*  
February 2021



*Love is in the air at Legacy*



## Take a Peek Inside ....

From the Desk of...  
 Framework for Their Future® ~ February  
 Enhanced Learning ~ February  
 Family Time: Nurturing Early Literacy Skills  
 Family Time

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## Let's Celebrate



**Valentine's Day**  
Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

**President's Day**  
Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>



## February Class Themes of the Month



### **Dreamers ~ Theme: Lullabies, Love, and La! La! La!**

We'll bring peace and calm, through beautiful, enduring lullabies. The babies continue to master a sense of self through problem solving, exploration and play. Our routine allows baby to anticipate familiar events and notice the beginning and the end of a time interval!



### **Travelers ~ Theme: Guess How Much I Love You**

Continued experiences include activities that involve puzzles, finger plays, music and song where Valentine's Day will take shape. The heart will be viewed as a symbol of love; and what better way to carry out activities in our loving classroom during the month of February? Colored water in tubs, a Valentine collage, Valentine Tube Rhymes and open-ended easel options round out this month!



### **Adventurers ~ Theme: Hearts, Rhymes, and Valentines**

Dental health, rhyme time books, poetry and winter activities will delight your child. Language skills, communication, space and time, all support the key experiences. Ground Hog Day will also make its entrance as the children learn about this special day that comes in February.



### **Discoverers ~ Theme: Circles, Lines, and Valentines**

Listening is a way of loving as the children are taught this important concept. Classification to describe the attributes will help the children better understand concepts of the color red – light and dark. Hearts of many sizes will help them seriate from small to large. What better way to learn than through "love". A heart hunt will add to their familiarity with this shape to round out experiences relative to the holiday.



### **Voyagers ~ Theme: Shapes, Signs, and Valentines**

A wide range of activities will leave room for creativity and interests of the children. A simple geometry lesson and great sink and float activities will combine the holiday with science and sensory fun. Continued use of fingerplays, poems, rhymes and song will provide the balance of early learning that you have come to expect in your child's classroom.



### **Navigators ~ Theme: Community Project**

Friendship pins, Chinese Dragon, Heart Blots, Mosaic Hearts, Community Service Awards – these are but a few exciting activities in which your child will participate this month. With continued efforts to promote literacy, drama, creativity and brain entertainment, like a rebus Valentine, your child will delight in what they experience and bring home. We are so glad you share your child with us! We are confident that your child feels just as we do and are happy to complete their school day the Legacy Academy way. Welcome to February!

## February

### Dreamers



**Math-** Dreamers will work on their color and shape recognition skills as they learn all about the color blue and hearts!

**Science-** January is all about discovery as infants learn all about their legs and where their heart is. They will participate in sensory exploration and have a chance to discover what their legs can do as they move their bodies.

**Social Studies-** February's Social Studies Enhanced Learning lessons will focus on love and positive self-identification.

### Travelers



**Math-** Travelers will work on their shape recognition skills as they go on a hunt for hearts! They will learn all about triangles this month and practice their differentiation skills.

**Science-** Toddlers will learn about the body this month. They will learn what their body can do and why it's important to keep it healthy. They will participate in sensory exploration and work on their body part recognition skills.

**Social Studies-** Travelers will work on positive self-identification as we learn about playing nicely with our friends and how important family is.

### Adventurers



**Math-** Adventurers will work on the mathematical concept of more and strengthen their differentiation skills with multiple characteristics.

**Science-** Adventurers will learn about what it takes to make things sink in water as they conduct several experiments. They will also learn all about groundhog's and whether seeing their shadow really means anything for winter.

**Social Studies-** Adventurers will learn all about libraries and police officers this month. They will get a library card and a chance to "check out" books from their classroom library.

### Discoverers



**Math-** Discoverers will be introduced to 3-D shapes as they learn all about spheres. They will also learn about different types of lines and create their own.

**Science-** 3-year old's will explore the human body as they learn all about heartbeats and veins and what their functions are. They will learn why it's important to keep their hearts healthy and what veins look like in their body.

**Social Studies-** This month, Discoverers will learn about President's Day and who we are celebrating. They will also learn all about rivers and where the longest river in the world is!

### Voyagers



**Math-** Voyagers will work on their pattern recognition and creation skills as they work with valentine patterns. They will also be exposed to several 3-d shapes this month.

**Science-** 4-year old's will experiment with melting hearts and they will learn about what a pulse is and what it means inside their bodies.

**Social Studies-** This month, Voyagers will learn all about our 1<sup>st</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> President and why they have their own holiday.



## Nurturing Early Literacy Skills Through Books

The best tip for sharing books with young children is to have fun together! If children are engaged and enjoying themselves, they are learning. When children have positive interactions with books, they are developing good feelings about reading, which will motivate them to continue seeking out books and other literacy materials as they grow. Here are a few tips for maximizing the joy of

book-reading and to foster a lifelong love of books.

**A few minutes at a time is okay, don't worry if you don't finish the story.** Young children can only sit for a few minutes at a time, but as they get older, the amount of time they can attend to a story will grow. Let your child decide how much (or how little) time you spend reading. You don't need to read every page; you may find that your child has a favorite page or picture and may want to linger there for a while then switch books or activities, babies may just want to mouth a book and that's okay. When you let your child explore books in ways that interest them, the reading experience will be more meaningful.

**Talk or sing about the pictures.** You do not have to read the words to tell a story. Try "reading" the pictures in a book for your child. When your child is old enough, ask them to read the pictures to you.

**Let children turn the pages.** Babies cannot yet turn pages on their own, but toddlers will want to give it a try, and preschoolers can certainly do it alone. Remember it is okay to skip pages.

**Show children the cover page.** Explain what the story is about. If you have an older child, ask them to guess what the story might be about based on the cover artwork.

**Show children the words.** Run your fingers along the words as you read them, this helps children to connect written words to spoken words. Tracking also exposes children to concepts of print, such as, we read from top to bottom and left to right.

**Make the story come alive.** Create voices for the characters and use your body to tell the story.

**Make it personal.** Talk about your own family, pets, or community when you are reading about others in a story.

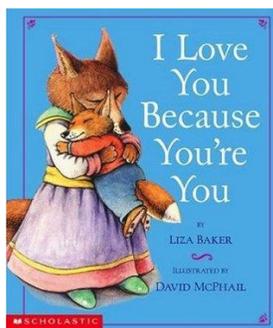
**Ask questions about the story and let your child ask questions too.** Use the story to have a back-and-forth conversation with your child. Talk about familiar activities and objects you see in the illustrations or read about in the story.

**Let children tell the story.** Young children can memorize and often enjoy re-telling a story.

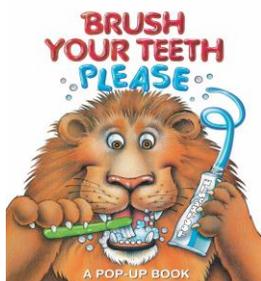
**Create books together.** Make photo books of family members. Cut pictures out of magazines or catalogs to make word books. Make a color book by having fun with crayons, markers, and paints. As your child gets older have them dictate a story to you and draw pictures to illustrate their story.

**Make books part of your daily routine.** The more that books are woven into children's everyday lives, the more likely they will be to see reading as a pleasure and a gift.

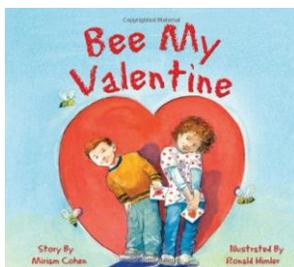
## February Books



**I Love You Because  
You're You**  
By: Liza Baker



**Brush Your Teeth Please**  
By: Leslie McGuire



**Bee My Valentine**  
By: Miriam Cohen

## Storytime STEAM

**Objective**

Build a three-dimensional Chicka Chicka Boom Boom alphabet tree that can hold many letters

**Materials**

Alphabet letters  
Craft Sticks  
Blocks

**Directions**

Read Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr & John Archambault together. If you do not have a copy of the book there are many online story time versions that you can view together.

**Younger Children:** Using the blocks and craft sticks build a tree together. Take turns adding letters to the top of the tree. While adding letters you can talk about the name of the letters, colors, or count as you place. Very young children will want to topple the tree over, which is a great activity to reinforce concepts of cause and effect.

**Older Children:** Show your child the gathered materials and ask, "how can we build a tree that can hold lots of letters using these materials?"

Give your child some time to experiment with the materials, then together make a plan on how to build a tree that will hold more than 1 letter. Your child may want to draw their design.

Build and test your design. Count the number of letters your tree was able to hold before collapsing.

Continue to redesign your tree keep track of the number of letters each design is able to hold. Compare the number of letters each design was able to hold. You can create a chart or graph to help show the comparison.



Activity From: <https://preschoolsteam.com/alphabet-preschool-stem-activities/>