

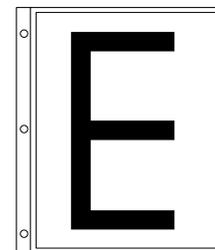
Materials From Kit: Calendar

Greeting: Sing the alphabet song with the children. Place the calendar piece on the grid and say the date together. Go on an outdoor walk today.

Daily Basics

Your Materials: hanger, yarn, spoon, paper, sheet protector, dry-erase markers

- **Number, Color, Or Shape:** Reinforce the square shape while reinforcing recycling concepts. Make a musical square by bending the top of a metal hanger into a loop and attaching a piece of yarn. Shape the hanger into a square. Show the children how to hold the square by the yarn and make music by tapping it with a metal spoon. Consider making a square for each child to use while singing the song below.
- **More Letter E:** Write a large uppercase letter E on a sheet of paper, or you may wish to print the letter from your computer. Make sure the letter shape is thick and bold. Laminate the paper or place it in a sheet protector. Invite the children to use dry-erase markers to trace the shape of the letter. Offer a lowercase letter E sheet as well. Talk about the differences. Save the laminated letters for the "More Letter E" activity (pg. 30).



Discuss/Do

Your Materials: wading pool or box, recyclable objects, laundry basket

- **Parent Participation:** Ask parents to help you collect materials for the "Recycling Center" and "Uses for Junk" activities today.
- **Things To Talk About:** Talk about recycling. Explain that when items are reused or made into something else, it is called recycling! Can the children think of items that can be recycled? (aluminum and steel cans, glass, plastic, paper, etc.) Does your community practice recycling? Recycling helps to keep our Earth clean and healthy. When we recycle, we keep extra trash out of landfills (dumps) and use objects over again.
- **Things To Do:** Fill a small children's wading pool or a large box with a variety of clean, safe trash. Heap boxes, cans (cover sharp edges with masking tape), food containers, newspaper, and styrofoam pieces in the pool. Be sure to wash food containers well and shake out crumbs. Ask the children, "What items do you think we can use again for something else?" Ask them to share their ideas with each other. Ask them if they can think of something to make from one of the items.

Sing Along

"Let's All Help" Song

Sung to "Mary Had A Little Lamb." Offer musical instruments for the children to use while singing this song.

Let's all help keep our Earth clean,
our Earth clean, our Earth clean.
Let's all help keep our Earth clean!
Let's all help today!

You can help by recycling,
recycling recycling.
You can help by recycling!
Let's all help today!

Always put trash in the can,
in the can, in the can.
Always put trash in the can!
Let's all help today!



Movers & Shakers -

Plastic Bag Ball

Your Materials: plastic grocery bags, pipe cleaners, scissors

Lay at least ten (or more) plastic grocery bags on top of each other and cut the closed ends open. Scrunch them together in the middle. Fasten a pipe cleaner or heavy string around the middle section to hold the bags together. Fluff the ends into a ball. The more bags you bind together, the denser the ball will be. Have the children practice tossing this soft ball back and forth to each other.



Buzzin' Right Along

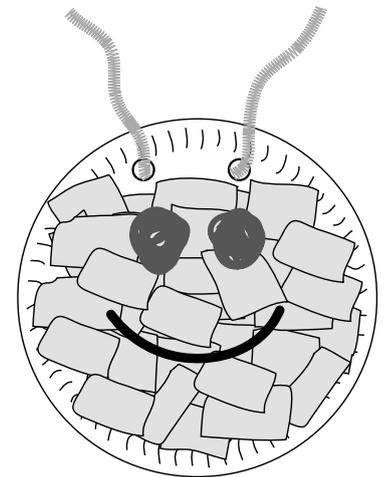
Invite one child at time to toss the "Plastic Bag Ball" (below) toward a laundry basket or other container before moving to the next activity.

Creative Arts - Litter Bug



Materials From Kit: per child - 1 paper plate, 1 hamburger wrapper, 1 metallic pipe cleaner, 1/2 yarn
Your Materials: glue, paper punch, paint, scissors, misc. clean trash, tape

- 1 Give each child a paper plate and a hamburger wrapper. Provide glue and scissors. Tear or cut the hamburger wrapper into pieces and crumple the paper. Paste the bunches of paper all over the paper plate. Add other bits of clean, miscellaneous trash that you might have available.
- 2 Punch two holes about one inch apart along one edge of the plate. Push the pipe cleaner through the holes and twist them to make antennae as shown. Tape the antennae behind the plate to hold them in place. Add drops of paint for the eyes.
- 3 Cut the yarn in half and give one piece to each child. Glue the yarn on the plate as a smile. Hang the litter bugs from the ceiling to decorate your play area, or hang them near areas where you want to remind children to pick up their trash and place it in garbage containers.



Adaptation: This is an excellent activity for children to practice using scissors since precise cutting is not necessary. Also, remind those who are learning to dispense glue to use "small dots" to attach the paper bits to the plate.

Dramatic Play - All Dressed In Blue

Your Materials: blue clothing

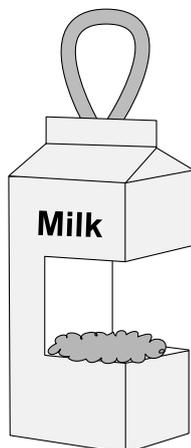
Reinforce the color blue today! Add a variety of blue colored dress up clothes and accessories to the dramatic play area such as pants, shirts, coats, sweaters, and shoes. Include different shades of blue, if possible. As the children play, point out and talk about the shades of blue each child is wearing. For example, ask the children, "Who is wearing dark blue?" or, say to them, "Sally is wearing a light blue shirt and Cody is wearing dark blue pants!"

Adaptation: Make sure the clothing includes pieces that are easy for the children to take on and off. Encourage them to practice zipping and buttoning, helping them as needed.

Various Centers - Uses For Junk

Your Materials: plastic scoops, magazines, newspaper, cardboard tubes, boxes, old milk cartons, birdseed

- Gather and rinse several plastic scoops from laundry detergent boxes and place them in your sensory table. Children can scoop water, sand, or rice with the scoops this week. Other items to include might be plastic soda bottles, plastic lids, jar lids, empty plastic buckets, etc.
- Add old magazines, newspapers, wallpaper books, toilet tissue tubes, small boxes, etc. to your art center this week. Invite the children to use them to create art and craft projects.
- Make bird feeders out of old milk cartons. Fill them with birdseed. Hang the feeders in an area where the children can easily see them and where birds will find them.



Science - Recycling Center

Your Materials: boxes, recyclable items

Set up an area for collecting recyclable materials. If there is a recycling center in your community, check to see what they collect and how the items must be sorted. You may need separate boxes for plastic containers, clear glass, cans, and paper.

Explain what each container holds and place a few samples in each box for the children to examine. Invite the children to help you collect and sort items to place in each box throughout the week.

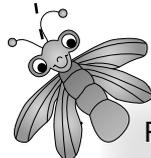
Adaptation: Recycling is a difficult concept for many some children. Spend extra time looking through books about recycling from the Book List, pg. 25, and other books you may have. Talk about the pictures.

Language - Reading To Children

Your Materials: books

Reading to children on a regular basis is the most important thing you can do to assist in language development and to build pre-reading skills. Set aside some extra reading time today!

- Include books with lots of rhyme and repetition for younger children.
- After reading a book with the children, ask them to "read" it back to you or tell you the story.
- Have children act out stories as you read them.
- Build familiarity with books by reading favorites again and again!



End Your Day!

Review today's activities. Briefly mention tomorrow's plans. Practice saying goodbye in Spanish, adiós (pronounced "ah-dee-ohs").