

Coop Scoop

• April 2011 •



Newsletter for the Cooperative Playschool • 611 East Prospect Avenue • State College, PA 16801 • 238-3922

April at a Glance

Theme Weeks:

4-8	April Showers Bring May Flowers
11-15	Bugs & Insects
18-20	Spring Celebrations (Easter & Earth Day)
25-29	Balloons & Bubbles

Reminders:

*Spring Conferences --- Monday, April 11th
Wednesday, April 13th
Friday, April 15th*

Spring Celebration --- Monday, April 18th

No School: Good Friday---April 22nd

Board Meeting---April 27th 7-9pm

Pajama Day---Friday, April 29th

as a variety of snack foods. Watch for an email with more information about this fun filled day!!

We are waiting for more warm weather so we can spend more time outside.

There are many opportunities for exploration in the spring and we are excited to explore the signs of spring. It's such an exciting time of year for the kids, and so we switch our focus from tabletop art activities to fun outdoor activities.



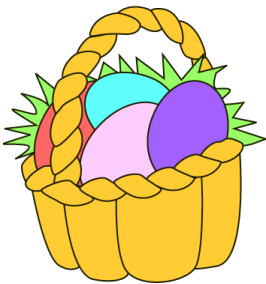
Please feel free at any time to take advantage of the warmer weather by providing outdoor activities such as soccer, bubbles, and gross motor games. Even doing crafts and painting outside are great options. If you are not the athletic type, often times a blanket set up under the shade or a tree is a nice place to read and enjoy being outside. Please let us know ahead of time with any activity you would like to do as a working parent.

We also have a co-op garden that flourished many years ago. If anyone has a green thumb, and wants to take charge of this, feel free to do so.

We will also be having bike **days**, not a full week of bike riding. Please read your weekly emails for bike days to be scheduled because with the uncertainty of spring weather, we will be watching the weather to plan so the kids are not disappointed when the day comes and it is raining...or snowing and we can't ride. =)

We have completed the basic evaluations of the students and will be holding our spring parent-

A Note from the Teachers:



March is already gone and spring is in the air, for the most part. Even though we enjoyed March, we are looking forward to the fun April will bring.

On Monday April 18th, the Jewish Community Center will be attending our spring celebration. The JCC kindly invited us to their Hanukkah party, and we look forward to hosting them for some Co-op style fun! We will be having a plastic egg hunt as well as making spring bonnets to wear. We have some other ideas in progress but of course, this all depends on the weather!! We will need extra parent helpers on this day as well

teacher conferences on Monday, April 11th, Wednesday, April 13th, and Friday, April 15th. There will be a sign up sheet located on our Parent Bulletin Board. The conferences are set up in fifteen minute increments ranging from 11:45 until 1:15. The conferences will just be a short discussion of your child and present you with the evaluations. This is a time where we can explain the evaluation and you can ask questions. If you have a conference time near another person, you may want to coordinate with them to come earlier or stay later so the kids can play together while you briefly talk with the teachers. It may be more effective if the child is distracted and does not want to be by your side. =)



spend time at school closing up the school for the year while the board, teachers, and students are having their school day at a park (location to be announced). At 11:30, parents will meet us at the park for the celebration and lunch. More information on this will be announced.

Families should have 10 to 12 working days by the end of the school year. Families that started halfway through the school year should have 5 to 6 work days.

Meet You on the Playground:

As the days grow warmer, many parents and their children like to gather on the Co-op playground after pick-up. Why not bring a blanket, bag lunch and linger with your Co-op friends for a while?

We would like to thank all of the parents who did such a wonderful job during the Spring Cleaning!! The rooms look great and I know you thank you for all of your continued commitment to the Co-op, and we hope you will enjoy these last two full months as we approach the end of a very special school year!!

Looking Ahead:

Mark your calendar for the Spring Parents' Meeting, Wednesday, May 18th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Remember that one member of each family is required to attend the meeting, and there are always good snacks to eat! More information will be announced as the date comes closer.

We will not have school on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th.

On Tuesday, May 31st and Wednesday, June 1st, there will be our end of the year clean up. Everyone must sign up except for the board. More information on the clean-up and the schedule will be announced.

We will hold a last day picnic (park location to be announced) on Wednesday June 1st. Parents

Come to the Board Meeting!

Yes, we really are a parent-run cooperative and that includes you! We encourage everyone to attend at least one board meeting this year. It really is inspiring to see a group of parents and teachers working together in the best interest of play-based education for our children!

**Our Next Board Meeting is Wednesday,
April 27th from 7:00-9:00pm**





Sharing Pictures

Along with our website, we also have an account at <http://concepcion-design.com/clients/>. The user name is coop and the password is friends. There is a folder titled 2010-2011 Coop Pictures. I have added random pictures of the kids. We can also make new folders as you'd like. (Example: Halloween 2010) Anyone from the Co-op can upload/look at the pictures. It is a great way to share pictures with our coop family and it allows them to be added to the website or even the newsletters. If you have any questions about it just contact Susan.

PLEASE SUBMIT ANY PICTURES YOU HAVE BY APRIL 15TH.

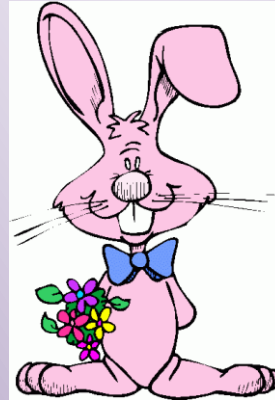
Family Profiles

We would like to put together a small gift for the families for the end of the year. For this gift to be successful, we would like everyone to complete a family profile. Family profiles are just a small article on your family. Some examples would be who is in your family, what do they "do" (work, fun, etc.). Please include a picture of your family to accompany your profile. If you do not complete a family profile by the end of April, I will assume that you are not turning it in and your family page will not be included. If you have any questions contact Susan.



Raise Money for the Co-op by Grocery Shopping!

One of our biggest fundraisers each year is as easy as shopping at Giant grocery stores! In fact, by shopping at Giant you can help raise \$5 for the Co-op for every \$100 you spend. Please email Shelley



at slfarahani@gmail.com to indicate each month how much you would like to spend at Giant. Cards can be purchased in any

increment between \$10 and \$300. The Co-op will purchase gift cards in that amount. Use your gift card for your regular grocery shopping and 5% of the money will go to the Co-op. Leave payment in the envelope provided next to the sign-up sheet. Please make checks payable to the Co-op. Happy shopping!!

Friends and relatives are welcome to participate as well!

This is the last month to order. =)

Help the Coop Raise Money through Amazon

By using the Amazon button on the top right corner of the Coop's Webpage, you can help us earn between 4% and 15% of your purchase through the Amazon Associates Program. YOU DO NOT NEED TO PURCHASE THE BOOKS LINKED TO! You DO need to begin your session from one of the links below and complete your purchase within 24 hours and in a single visit. A portion of your **entire** purchase when started from one of these links will be credited to the Coop.



Songs for April:

Flowers Growing

Tune: "The Mulberry Bush"

NOTE: Have your children lie on the floor and curl up into balls. Have them pretend they are tiny seeds buried in the ground.

This is the way we sprout our roots,
Sprout our roots, sprout our roots.
This is the way we sprout our roots,
When spring time is here.

This is the way we pop through the dirt,
Pop through the dirt, pop through the dirt.
This is the way we pop through the dirt
When spring time is here.

Additional verses:

This is the way we stretch and grow.
This is the way we shoot up so tall.
This is the way we open our buds.
This is the way we bend in the breeze.
This is the way we smile at the sun.

Rainbows in my Bubbles

Tune: "She'll Be Coming 'Round The Mountain"

I've got rainbows in my bubbles, yes I do.
I've got rainbows in my bubbles, yes I so.
When I blow up towards the sun,
They have rainbows, every one.
I've got rainbows in my bubbles, yes I do.

This Old Earth

Sung to: "This Old Man"

This old earth
Needs our help
To stay fresh and clean and green
With a pick it up; pitch it in; and throw it in the
can
This old earth needs a helping hand!

Six Little Ducks

Six little ducks that I once knew,
Fat ones, skinny ones, fair ones too
But the one little duck with the feathers on his
back
He led the other with a quack, quack, quack
Quack, quack, quack,
Quack, quack, quack,
He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.

Down to the river they would go
Wobble wobble wobble wobble to and fro
But the one little duck with the feathers on his
back
He led the other with a quack, quack, quack
Quack, quack, quack,
Quack, quack, quack,
He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.

Home from the river they would go
Wobble wobble wobble wobble ho ho hum
But the one little duck with the feathers on his
back
He led the other with a quack, quack, quack
Quack, quack, quack,
Quack, quack, quack,
He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.

Caterpillar Change

There was a little caterpillar crawling all about.
(Walk with fingers on arm)
He worked and he worked without a doubt.
(Wiggle fingers)
Wrapping himself in a snug cocoon.
(Wrap other hand around fingers)
Waiting and waiting, will it be soon?
(Hold fingers)
Look, he's coming out, my oh my!
(Raise arms in excitement)
For now he's become a beautiful butterfly
(Cross thumbs and flap hands like wings)

Hunting Bugs

A-hunting we will go
A -hunting we will go
We'll catch a (insert any insect here)
and put it in a box(loudly)
and then we'll let it go!

Rain, Rain Go Away

Rain, rain, go away.
Come again another day
Rain, rain, go away.

If All the Raindrops

If all the raindrops were lemon drops and
gumdrops
Oh, what a rain that would be!
Standing outside, with my mouth open wide
Singing La la la la, la la la, la la la,
If all the raindrops were lemon drops and
gumdrops
Oh, what a rain that would be!

Mr. Sun

Oh Mister Sun, Sun,
Mister Golden Sun,
Please shine down on me

Oh Mister Sun, Sun,
Mister Golden Sun,
Hiding behind a tree..

These little children
Are asking you
To please come out
So we can play with you.

