



# Coop Scoop



• March 2011 •

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

## March at a Glance



### Theme Weeks:

Feb. 28-4	Teddy Bears
7-11	Music
14-18	Weather
21-25	Here Comes Spring
28-1	Me, Myself & I

### Reminders:

*No School: Teacher In-Service---March 11<sup>th</sup>*  
*Board Meeting---March 30<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm*  
*Pajama Day---Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>*  
*Spring Clean Up---TBA*

children and will plan a date to have our parent/teacher conferences. Please look at our weekly emails for future reference. =)

We are looking for a person to become our library person, preferably a new family who does not yet have a helping job. =) This library person will be in charge of organizing our book "nook" in the quiet room. Contact Karen for more information.

We plan on making a small gift for the families of the Co-op so please view the [Family Profiles](#) section of our newsletter. =)

### Looking Ahead:

We will not have school on Good Friday (April 22<sup>nd</sup> ). Our last day of school (at the school) is Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. We will hold a last day picnic (location to be announced) on Wednesday June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will not have school on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Remember, if you have any comments/suggestions feel free to let us know. We are always welcome to new thoughts and ideas. Thank you to all of the parents for helping us make our school year a success!!

### *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,  
March 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-9:00pm**

### A Note from the Teachers:

February seemed to come and fly by and now we're already into March. We want to thank you for all of your help making our Valentine's Day pancake breakfast a success.

We had some great fun in February and will continue with the fun. The kids absolutely loved our Dinosaur theme and we hope to enjoy March just as much! Our themes for March include teddy bears, music, weather and spring.

We plan on going outside more now that the ice has melted. Please remember the appropriate attire. We will be going out if the temperature is above 20\* (weather permitting). The students will not have a choice whether or not they go outside, unless you are the working parent. Now that we have more students, we will all be heading out to play.

We will be completing simple evaluations on the





## 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](mailto: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!

## 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.



## 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 Coop 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.

## 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.





## Songs for March:

### *Bear Song*

"Row, row, row your boat"

Hug, hug, hug your bear

Squeeze him very tight

Hold him high

Help him fly

Then hug with all your might.

Enrollment for the 2011-2012 Friends School House is open to families of children ages 3 -- 5

Friends School House in session  
September - May  
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Before School Care 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
After School Care 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

They offer a variety of scheduling options to help children ease in the transition from home to school and provide flexibility for busy families. Their schedule is designed to offer both flexibility to parents and consistency for the child.

5 Day Full Day  
8:30 - 3:00

5 Day 1/2 Day  
8:30 - 12:00

2 and 3 Day Options also available

For more information, please contact  
Mary Ziegler, Head of Admissions at  
State College Friends School  
814-237-8386 or [mziegler@scfriends.org](mailto:mziegler@scfriends.org)

### *Teddy Bear Teddy Bear*

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Turn around,

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Touch the ground

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Dance on your toes,  
Teddy bear, teddy bear.

Touch your nose.

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Stand on your head,

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Go to bed.

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Say good-night,

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Turn out the light.

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Wake up now,

Teddy bear, teddy bear,

Take a bow.





**Songs for March:**

*I'M A LITTLE SHAMROCK*

Tune: "I'm A Little Teapot"

I'm a little shamrock with petals three.  
You'll have good luck if you pick me.  
One of my petals will bring you health,  
One's for love and one's for wealth.

*I SEE RAINBOWS*

Tune: "Frere Jacques"

I see rainbows,  
I see rainbows,  
Way up high  
In the sky.

They are red and orange,  
Yellow, green and blue.  
Purple, too.  
What a view!

I see rainbows,  
I see rainbows,  
Way up high  
In the sky.

They are made from sunshine,  
Shinning through the rain.  
What a view  
In skies so blue!





by Jennifer Gregory

# 7 Fun Ways to Get Your Preschooler to Listen to You

The preschool years are a fun and wonderful time. As parents, we want to savor these days, but there are shoes to put on, toys to clean up and manners to be taught. Here are some fun ways to get your preschooler to cooperate with you while having fun and creating family memories.

**1. Tell A Secret** – Use this game when you need your preschooler to come to you. Call out in your best dramatic voice “I have a secret for whoever tags my hand” (or foot, or bellybutton or whatever silly variation you want). When your preschooler tags you, whisper a secret in their ear. It can be a sweet secret (I love you so much), a silly secret (I saw a purple cow), or a joke (why is 6 scared of 7). The trick is to be as dramatic and silly as you can.

**2. Pretend to Be an Animal** – Use this game when you need your preschooler to go somewhere, such as go to the car or leave a play date. After you have given your children a countdown (We are leaving in 5 minutes), say, “OK, It’s time to leave. Let’s pretend to be a frog (or whatever type of animal you choose) as we go to the car.” Then everyone (including you) pretends to be an animal. The more dramatic (complete with noises) that you are, the more fun it is. A variation is to have everyone choose their favorite animal from a category, such as favorite farm animal or sea animal.

**3. Have a Race** – Use this to get your preschooler to do something quickly, like get their shoes on, get dressed, or clean up something. The trick is to have the child race against the clock, not each other. Ask the child if they are fast. Then say, “Let’s see if you can get your shoes on in 2 minutes.” Set the timer and watch how quickly your preschooler moves. If you don’t have a timer, you can also count. It works best if you pick a crazy number, such as

“Can you put your jacket on before I get to 17?” A fun variation if you are counting is to speed up the counting and slow it down randomly. For some reason, this game is magic and will turn dawdling preschoolers into speed racers.

**4. Give Your Preschooler A Mission** – Use this when you need your preschooler to complete a task or go somewhere. Have them help you find your car, count the steps to the bathroom, guess how many blocks are on the floor, or whatever fun mission that you can come up with. This helps them take their mind off the task or transition at hand and helps them feel useful. It helps to tailor this game to your child’s interests, if they like to count have them count items, if they have a favorite color have them find blue cars.

**5. Put on Your Listening Ears** – Use this game when you need your preschooler to remember their manners, such as at a restaurant, movie theatre, or museum. Right before you enter the building, gather your preschooler up and say dramatically “I have something important to tell you. Can anyone tell me what type of ears we need to wear in the museum?” When your preschooler says “Listening ears” say “OK, let’s put on our listening ears. I think that mine are in my shoe (or some other funny place).” Then dramatically pretend to pull them out of your shoe and put them on. Have your preschooler find their listening ears and pretend to put them on. You can also do this with walking feet or inside voice. The trick is to be as silly and dramatic as possible. If your child forgets their manners during the situation whisper to them “You must have put your listening ears back in your belly button when I wasn’t looking. Let’s find them again and put them back on.”

**6. Have a Special Dance** – Use this as a reward when your preschooler finishes something that they don’t want to do. You could have a Clean





Teeth Dance, a Clean Plate Club Dance, a Got Dressed by Myself Dance, or even a Clean Room Dance. The sillier the dance, the better. Hint – It’s a lot more fun if all of the grownups in the room join in the dance.

**7. Hip Hip Hoorays** – Use this as a reward when your preschooler behaves appropriately in a situation or when they accomplish something. For example, if your preschooler shows good

manners in the grocery story, you can reward them with Hip Hip Hoorays when you get to the car. Tell them what they did good and then shout “Hip Hip Hoorays” several times. If you are really silly and want to make an impact, give your preschooler Hip Hip Hoorays by jumping up and shouting in public. The kids love it and everyone ends up laughing.

