

# Coop Scoop

• November 2010 •



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

## A Note from the Teachers:

As the school year continues, we are introducing more to the school and to the children. We feel like we know the children a lot more now than we did before and therefore can adapt the classroom activities to meet the different children's interests. We have even witnessed the shy children starting to work their way out of their shell. =)

The children seemed eager to write at the mailbox center and we decided that introducing a letter of the week would be a great start to early literacy for the students. We have a simple activity that goes along with the letters in which the children can choose whether they want to do the activity or not. Some of the activities included making as many A's as possible on the paper, gluing buttons on "B" or candy corn on "C" and dotting the letter "D." The students seem to love the letters and often sound out items in the room now. We encourage you to talk about the letter of the week with your children. You can always look for items around the house that start with the different letter of the week or even talk about different items you may see during a car ride that start with the letter. We encourage students to come up with as many items as they can during circle time.

Along with the letter of the week, we have a piece of paper set up on our easel art board with the letter. We leave the paper up all week and the students can go over to the letter and practice writing it. This makes writing the letter more fun because it is up on the board.

Hopefully everyone had a wonderful time at our Halloween party! Everyone's costume was fantastic and very appropriate for school.

We're looking forward to celebrating Thankful Soup. It is new to the both of us and we are very excited to talk about thankfulness with the children.

We will be asking for donations from the parents for the ingredients for our meal. The week before the Thankful Soup Day, we will be having a week of food fun, where we will be making different items to freeze/serve for the Thankful Soup celebration. Please feel free to talk to either of us if you have a questions, suggestions, comments or concerns!

### November at a Glance

#### Theme Weeks:

#### *We are Thankful for...*

1-5	Family / Friends
8-12	Native Americans / Pilgrims
15-19	Food Fun
22-26	Thankful Soup
29-Dec. 3	Healthy Bodies



#### Reminder:

Thankful Soup will be held on Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

School will not be held on Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

#### November Birthdays

Henry --- November 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### Looking Ahead (December)

1	Board Meeting
22	Holiday Family Tree
24 -31	No School

## Welcome New Friends!!

We'd like to welcome our new friends, Cole and Zachary to the school. They began on Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. They have blended in well with the class bringing in their own unique thoughts and ideas. We know that they are going to be a wonderful addition to our classroom.

### Family Profiles



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. Family Profiles need to be completed and submitted to Susan Rambeau. We will compile the profiles into a booklet which each family will receive. The family profiles will also be hung in the school on the wall across from the bathrooms. If you have any questions contact Susan.

### Weather News!

With the colder weather coming, feel free to leave extra socks, slippers, coats, rain boots, etc. at the school for your convenience. (Remember to put the child's name on these items so they are not confused for someone else's.) We will go outside every day unless it is raining or extremely cold.

If you have any extra weather gear (raincoats, rain/snow boots, hats, gloves, etc.) at home you are not using or plan on getting rid of, we would love for you to bring it to the school. We can use the extras just in case someone forgets theirs. Others may be able to make use out of your old/outgrown items. =)

It gets cold inside the schools, please dress accordingly.



### Call for Recipes

If you have a recipe you love, especially a kid-friendly one, please consider submitting it to the newsletter! We'll include it in the next issue and maybe even use it during our food fun week! You can leave a note at the Co-op or may email Susan at [SusanRambeau@gmail.com](mailto:SusanRambeau@gmail.com).

### Reminders:

#### *If your child will be absent...*

...please call the Co-op at 238-3922 to let the teachers know. You can leave a message on the answering machine if nobody picks up.

#### *Pick-up*

If someone other than a parent will be picking up your child, it is important to call a teacher or let her know in person that morning.

#### *Going Outside:*

We play outside in the rain. Please send boots, raincoats, umbrellas as appropriate.

We play outside in the cold. Unless it is less than 20 degrees, the kids will be offered the chance to play outside. Please dress them appropriately as the weather gets colder!

#### *Weather-related School Closings*

When the State College Area School District cancels or delays the starting time of school; the Co-op will be closed. The Co-op also has the option of closing, independent of the SCASD.



### Enrollment Openings

We still have several openings at the Co-op for this year. Remember, the Co-op depends on word-of-mouth for much of its publicity!

## Allergy Alert

If you are the helping parent, please have your snack available for parents to check in the morning for dietary restrictions.

Remember to fill out the required paperwork for any allergies.

We now have a student with Celiac Disease where the child cannot have gluten. Please keep this in mind when thinking of ideas for snack / activities. Thank you!

## Thankful Soup:

We invite families to join us for our Thankful Soup celebration on Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.

Children are asked to bring in a donation for our Thankful Soup the week prior. A sign-up sheet will be posted closer to the event.

To parents who are working on the Thankful Soup day, be aware that we spend the morning preparing our meal for an all-school lunch. Families come early to pick up their children and join us in a simple meal.

Please let us know if you plan on attending so we can be sure to provide enough seating and food. After you have eaten, you are free to leave with your child.



## Work Calendar Policy

**Please Note:** When the monthly work calendar has been posted on the bulletin board, parents are no longer permitted to erase their names from it. For example, in September, the September and October work calendars are posted. Names should not be erased from either one. However, names could be erased from the November through May calendars, located in the Work Schedule binder on the bookshelf.

If you are unable to work on your work date, please contact one of the parents who is available to work on short notice. There is a list of parent contact information in the back of the binder as well. If you are unable to contact anyone please let Miss. Susan know.

## 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,  
December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-9:00pm**

## Happenings in the Community

A great website for parents to find out what's happening in the community is <http://www.statecollege.macaronikid.com/>.

## 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.



### Food for Thought:

The following is a quote from Young Children, which is the journal of the National Association for Education of Young Children.

“Preschoolers have important lessons to learn about themselves, and their own kinds of skills to develop, that have virtually nothing to do with education as adults understand it. Play is learning for children and what appears to adults as aimless pattering about with paints, sand, water, and blocks, in activity centers with other children or by themselves, help preschoolers develop control of their bodies, investigate causes and effects, and follow up on the innate human curiosity that is at the root of all high achievement.”

“A good preschool program, moreover, offers children a richer learning environment than all but the best homes and more attentive parents provide, and permit them to explore it without fear of failure. Under the guidance of teachers who respond to the spontaneously expressed interests of the children themselves, rather than trying to impose on them a pre-determined curriculum that reflects adult learning priorities, young children are encouraged to develop a self-confidence and pleasure that provide the best possible motivation for formal schooling.”



### Songs for November:

Thankful Songs:



#### I'm Thankful

(Tune: "Row, row, row your boat")

I'm thankful for my friends and my family.  
I'm thankful for the food I eat  
I'm happy to be me!

#### We are Thankful

We are thankful for the food we eat. (hands over shoulders opening and closing fingers.)  
We are thankful for the friends we meet. (hands over shoulders, palms up.)  
We are thankful for the golden sun. (hands together over head making a circle.)  
The trees (elbow in other hand, arms straight up and fingers wiggling.) the birds (hands out flapping like wings) and everyone (hands open again)

#### Thank you, Thank you; This We Say (Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

Thank you for the earth and sky. (Form circle with fingertips; then point to sky)  
Thank you for the birds that fly. (Flap arms)  
Thank you for the food we grow. (Cup hands together; then slide one arm upward as if to grow)  
Thank you for the streams that flow. (Flutter fingers as hands move to side)  
Thanks you, thank you; this we say: (Point to lips)  
Thanks for all we have today! (Spread arms out wide)

#### If You're Thankful and You Know It (Tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It")

If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands.  
If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands.  
If you're thankful and you know it,  
Then your face will surely show it.  
If you're thankful and you know it, clap your

hands.  
If you're thankful and you know it, clap your  
hands.

(Stomp your feet. Shout I am. Do all three.)

**Let's be Thankful for this Day**  
(Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star")

Let's be thankful for this day,  
For our friends and our play.  
Let's be thankful; let's be glad,  
For our food and the things we have.  
Let's give thanks for you and me,  
And our home and family.

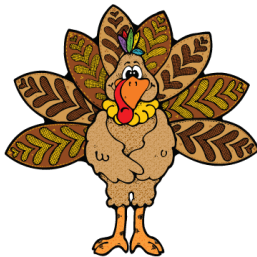
*Turkey Songs:*

**Gobble, Gobble, Giggle**

I'm a little turkey here to say,  
Try some beef on Thanksgiving day.  
Turkey is tough, and turkey is dry.  
You really should give chicken a try!  
Or how about a plate of veggie delight  
For a Thanksgiving dinner that tastes just right?

**I'm a Turkey**  
(Tune: "Yankee Doodle")

I'm a turkey, big and fat. (Spread arms out)  
I spread my tail. I walk like that.  
(Fan fingers like a turkey's tail;  
Waddle)  
Each day's corn I will not miss, (Rub  
stomach)  
And when I talk, I sound like this:  
(Point to lips; Cup hand next to ear)  
GOBBLE! GOBBLE! GOBBLE!(Shout)



**Little Turkeys**  
(Tune: "This old Man")

Little turkeys walking by,  
They can move from side to side  
With a wobble here and a wobble there.  
They can wobble everywhere.  
Little turkeys making sounds.  
They can talk as they move around  
With a gobble here and a gobble there,  
They can gobble everywhere!

*Other Thanksgiving Songs:*

**Smells Like Thanksgiving**  
(Tune: "Frere Jacques")

Smells like Thanksgiving, smells like  
Thanksgiving  
Mmmm so good, mmmm so good  
I can smell the turkey, I can smell the pies  
Mmmm so good, mmmm so good.

**Thanksgiving Time**  
(Tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

Thanksgiving time is here  
Let's give a great big cheer  
For food and friends and family  
Thanksgiving time is here.

**Little Pilgrim**  
(Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star")

Little Pilgrim dressed in gray  
on that first Thanksgiving Day.  
Little Indian dressed in brown,  
Came to visit Plymouth Town,  
They both came to eat and pray  
on that first Thanksgiving Day.

**The First Thanksgiving**  
(Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle")

Pick the corn and pick the beans,  
Pick the squash and other greens  
It is harvest time you see  
Come and share a feast with me.  
Bring your family out to play,  
We'll call this Thanksgiving Day

**Five Pilgrims, Five Native Americans**

Five Pilgrims fish in the morn. (Pretend to fish)  
Five Native Americans help them plant corn.  
(Pretend to plant)  
The Pilgrims bring the corn (Hold up right hand)  
The Native Americans bring the meat. (Hold up  
left hand)  
Ten new friends sit down to eat. (Fold hands)