Clifford and friends inspire imaginative play, friendship, and an interest in reading and storytelling among early learners. Clifford helps prepare your child for school and develop important life skills.

This week, explore adventure stories and storytelling along with Clifford and his friends.

**ACTIVITY: MONDAY, MAY 23 – SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

**Adventure stories**

Clifford and Emily Elizabeth love to go on pretend and real adventures around Birdwell Island! They get ideas for their adventures from reading books and the conversations they have about them. They also get ideas from hearing stories from friends and neighbors, every day experiences, and visits to familiar and new places. Great adventures start with a story! What books and stories inspire your child’s imagination and interests? Whenever you encourage your child’s imagination, you are stretching their thinking skills both concrete (hands-on) and abstract (creative), which prepares them for school learning, boosts their self-confidence, and develops their abilities to problem-solve. What will be your next adventure?


**ACTIVITY: TUESDAY, MAY 24 – MATH THINKING**

**Pirate adventure**

After reading a book about pirates, Clifford and Emily Elizabeth go on a “pirate” adventure in search of treasure! You and your child can go on a pirate adventure too. Make a simple treasure map based on a space in your home, outside or even a local park. Hide an object and mark it on the map with a red x for your child to hunt. Then tell your child you are going on a treasure hunt together! You can role-play pirates or create a story about finding the treasure. Show your child the map and explain what the map represents. Following a simple map will help your child translate a two-dimensional view into the three-dimensional real world. Help your child with hints and clues along the way, using positional words such as on, under, above, in front of, behind and between. Did you find the treasure?


**ACTIVITY: WEDNESDAY, MAY 25 – EARLY LITERACY**

**Fairy tale adventure**

Share with each other your favorite fairy tale or super hero adventure. What did you like about the story? What didn’t you like? Who are your favorite characters? Then pick one of the fairy tales and encourage your child to draw a picture or scene from the fairy tale and dictate to you what is happening in their picture. Older children can dictate or write out phonetically the beginning, middle and end of the story and illustrate pictures to go with it. Once finished, encourage them to share and talk about their story and the details in their illustrations.

**PA STANDARD: 1.4.PK.B – WITH PROMPTING AND SUPPORT, DRAW/DICTATE ABOUT ONE SPECIFIC TOPIC. 1.4.PK.B AND 1.4.PK.R – EMERGING TO… SPELL SIMPLE WORDS PHONETICALLY. 1.3.PK.H ANSWER QUESTIONS TO COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE ADVENTURES AND EXPERIENCES OF CHARACTERS IN FAMILIAR STORIES.**

**ACTIVITY: THURSDAY, MAY 26 – SCIENCE THINKING**

**Space adventure**

Clifford and Emily Elizabeth read a book about astronauts and want to go on a pretend adventure to space. Ask your child what it would be like to go to outer space and fly a spaceship or rocket. What planets and stars would you see? Try making a star gazer together to observe the stars. Use a paper towel roll (or roll up a piece of paper and tape together) and add a small piece of foil at the end and tape it. Poke small holes in the foil and then look through the tube to check out the “constellations”. For fun, act out a trip to the moon—set up a pretend rocket ship using chairs or a couch and blast off! Don’t forget to bring your star gazer on the trip.

**PA STANDARD: 3.3.PK.B IDENTIFY OBJECTS THAT CAN BE FOUND IN THE DAY OR NIGHT SKY. AL.3.PK.C - USE MATERIALS AND OBJECTS TO REPRESENT NEW CONCEPTS. 9.1.D.PK.E – USE IMAGINATION AND CREATIVITY TO EXPRESS SELF THROUGH DRAMATIC PLAY.**

**ACTIVITY: FRIDAY, MAY 27 – THE ARTS**

**Ocean adventure**

Clifford and Emily Elizabeth hear stories about adventures in the ocean. What would it be like to go on an ocean voyage or an underwater sea adventure? To spark your child’s imagination, look up pictures of the ocean in books at the library or online. What creatures would you see in the ocean? What would it be like to be a fish, whale or another ocean creature? Then create an “underwater” ocean scene using art materials, blue paper, and/or pictures from a magazine or photograph. Encourage your child to draw, add cut-out pictures or stickers of ocean creatures to their “underwater” scene. Then go on a pretend ocean adventure together!

**PA STANDARD: 4.2.PK.C – DESCRIBE AN AQUATIC (WATER) AND TERRESTRIAL (LAND) HABITAT. AL.3.PK.C - USE MATERIALS AND OBJECTS TO REPRESENT NEW CONCEPTS. 9.1.D.PK.E – USE IMAGINATION AND CREATIVITY TO EXPRESS SELF THROUGH DRAMATIC PLAY.**

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