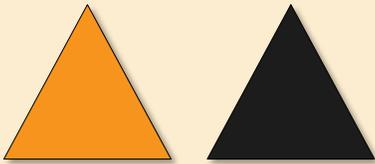


Themes

Mischievous Mice
On the Farm

Shapes and Colors



Numbers

4, 5, 6

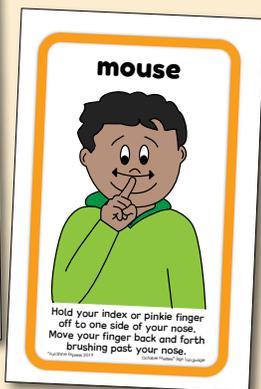
Letters

Dd, Ee, Ff

Alphabet Words

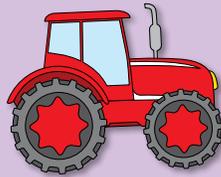
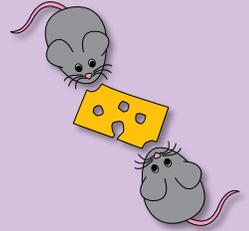
dandelions, deer,
doll, donkey,
ear, eggplant,
elk, envelope,
fan, fingerprint,
fork, fox

Sign Language



Theme Descriptions

Mischievous Mice: Mice are interesting little creatures! This theme includes facts about mice—from what they eat to the characters they have portrayed in children’s books and fairy tales.



On the Farm: This theme will teach children where their food comes from. Farming is big business! Typical farm buildings, equipment, and animals, such as cows, horses, and pigs, will be covered in depth. Fire Prevention Week will also be observed to help children learn important fire safety procedures.

Activities for Home

- Mice are popular characters in children’s books. Read some stories that feature mice as the main characters. Compare the mice in the stories. How are they the same and different?
- Practice a fire drill with your family. Designate a meeting spot outside, away from your house. Explain to your children that they should meet there if they ever need to leave the house in an emergency. Stress the importance of waiting in that spot until they see a familiar adult.
- Talk with your child about different foods that come from farms. As you shop for groceries this week, look at the foods in the produce and dairy sections of the store. Examine the foods you have in your refrigerator or cupboards at home as well. Are any of these foods raised on farms?
- Celebrate National Pasta Month by enjoying your favorite pasta dish for a meal this week. Let your child choose the perfect pasta noodles to use in the recipe!
- Visit a pumpkin patch, a pumpkin stand, or the produce section of the grocery store. Can your child identify the pumpkins that are big or small?

Look for Books

The best way to learn which books your child enjoys is to read children's books—lots of them! Check out **funshineextras.com** for Book Lists corresponding to each month's themes. Get to know your local librarians and ask for their recommendations as well.

The Gruffalo

by Julia Donaldson

Wemberly Worried

by Kevin Henkes

Library Mouse

by Daniel Kirk

Firefighters Help

by Dee Ready

The Farmer and the Clown

by Marla Frazee

Machines at Work:

Tractors

by Wendy Strobel Dieker

Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden

by George Levenson

Who Took the Farmer's Hat?

by Joan L. Nodset

Sing Along With Me

Find these songs at www.funshineexpress.com

Itsy Bitsy Mouse

Sung to "Itsy Bitsy Spider"

The itsy bitsy mouse crawled up so quietly,
Hid behind a pan and waited patiently.
All through the day he didn't make a sound,
At night he munched some cheese and
Scampered all around!

The itsy bitsy mouse hid in a kitchen door,
Loved that cheese and is looking for some more.
In comes the cat who sees mouse tracks—
Pounce, pounce! Meow!
The mouse scampers past!



Farmers Grow Good Things to Eat

Sung to "Mary Had a Little Lamb"

Farmers grow good things to eat,
Things to eat, things to eat.
Farmers grow good things to eat
To make me big and strong!

Corn, potatoes, milk, and fruit,
Milk and fruit, milk and fruit.
Corn, potatoes, milk, and fruit
To make me big and strong!



Cooking Together

When cooking with young children, allow them to help in a safe way with mixing, pouring, rolling, mashing, shaking, etc. Use words to describe what you are doing and what you plan to do next. Talk about what you see, smell, feel, hear, and taste.

Pumpkin Shakes

½ cup frozen yogurt OR ice cream
3 Tbs. milk
1 tsp. canned pumpkin
1 candy pumpkin OR candy corn (optional)

Blend the first three ingredients in a blender until smooth. Serve in cups and add a candy pumpkin or candy corn to the top of each shake. Pumpkin is a hearty, nutritious food! This snack is a nice way to reinforce the color orange, which your child is learning about this month.



Reminders...

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