

## Focus: Civic Literacy

### Note to Parents:

This month, we will begin the fourth literacy in our propriety curriculum titled "INSPIRED." It is the Civic Literacy. The lessons in this literacy will focus on what it means to be a good "citizen" in our school, community, and world, as well as ways to demonstrate character with others. Our infants and toddlers will begin to learn about citizenship by simply being introduced to the value of cooperation as they start to interact and play with others. Our preschool students will go a step further and also discuss the importance of being honest. In addition to reviewing the values of cooperation and honesty, our pre-kindergarten students will learn about the value of integrity as they begin to understand the need to make good decisions "even when no one is looking." Lastly, our pre-kindergarten students will also explore the value of patriotism and what it means to support and care for our country and everyone in it.

Following are recommend activities that you can do at home with your child to help support and supplement our curriculum. The activities are broken down by age groups but feel free to expand your child's learning by doing any of the activities. We hope you enjoy them!

## Fun at Home

### Infants & Toddlers



#### *"Paint Together"*

Finger paint a picture together! Talk about the painting and how you are sharing materials with each other and working together. Praise your child for playing well with you!

#### *"Helping Out"*

Cooperating with others does not just encompass sharing objects! It also includes helping others with tasks. At this age, the children can begin to learn to pick up one or two toys and put them away after they are used. Read a book or play with a toy on the floor with your child, and at the end of play, help your child place the item back in its proper location.

### Nursery School



#### *"Cooperate While You Bake"*

During this literacy, your child will read the book, [The Little Red Hen](#) by Lucinda McQueen. If available, read a version of this book to your child and talk about how the Little Red Hen's friends did not help her bake the bread. Review the importance of helping and cooperating with others. Then bake something very simple together and praise your child for helping and cooperating.

#### *"Piece by Piece"*

Complete a simple puzzle together by taking turns adding pieces to the puzzle. When it is your turn, encourage your child to help you find the piece you are looking for. Then, when it is your child's turn, encourage your child to allow you to help find the piece he/she is looking for. Praise your child for cooperating with you to finish the puzzle!

## Preschool

### *"Build a Pyramid"*

Build a pyramid together using plastic cups! Take turns stacking the cups on top of each other to form a pyramid. See how big you and your child can make the pyramid! As you build, discuss how you are both cooperating and working with each other to complete the task!

### *"Telling the Truth"*

Review the importance of telling the truth with your child. Act out various scenarios that involve people being honest and dishonest and see if your child can figure out if the characters are showing honesty or dishonesty. Then, review what happens as a result of the characters being honest or dishonest.



## Pre-Kindergarten

### *"Cooperative Family Fun"*

Throughout the Civic Literacy, the children will begin to understand that cooperating with others does not always mean that one person gets exactly what he/she wants. During these lessons, the children will be introduced to the concept of compromising as a way of showing cooperation. To help practice this, work together to plan a fun family day! As you plan, allow your child to choose one activity that he/she would like to do and then allow someone else to choose another activity. If one person does not want to do another person's activity, encourage everyone to find a way to compromise so that everyone will enjoy the family day.

### *"Integrity Picture"*

The children will also learn about the importance of having integrity. During a quiet time, sit down and paint or draw an "integrity picture" with your child. Fold a piece of white paper in half, creating two sections. On the left side of the paper, ask your child to create an example of someone who is not doing the right thing. On the other side of the paper, encourage your child to create a picture of someone doing the right thing. You may also want to further participate by drawing or painting your own "integrity picture"! After the pictures are done, talk about each one and discuss why doing the right thing even when no one is watching is important!

