



The Learning Tree

Volume 43

Number 6

March 2021

March Calendar

- ✧ **Wednesday, March 3:** Dr. Seuss birthday party
- ✧ **Monday, March 9:** No School
- ✧ **Friday, March 12:** Miss Angela's parent conference
- ✧ **Monday, March 15:** Miss Kelsey's parent conference
- ✧ **Monday, March 15:** Miss Carolyn
- ✧ **Tuesday, March 17:** Green Day
- ✧ **Wednesday, March 17:** Music with Ms. Julie
- ✧ **Wednesday, March 24:** Pajama Party and bear picnic
- ✧ **Friday, April 2 – Monday, April 5:** **NO SCHOOL, Easter break,** classes resume Wednesday, April 7



MARCH WIND

Winds of March we welcome you!

*We have a job for you to do
Work and play and blow all day
Please blow the winter cold away!*

Please blow winter away!

It seems that we had all those March winds in February – not much along the lines of ice and snow!

We hope that the winds of March will blow away winter and that the warm **breezes** of spring will be here soon.

Hugs and kisses to everyone who bought or baked cookies, cupcakes and assorted snacks for our Valentine Parties.

Thank you to **Miss Michelle** from Chrisstudio for all her energy and creativeness to get beautiful pictures! We used our lovely smiles for our school pictures – what a great way to remember all our Learning Tree friends! They were beautiful pictures of beautiful children! We hope that

you will be pleased with the results.

We had lots of science fun with **Ms. Carolyn**. We talked about how animals get ready for winter. We were even able to feel a skunk, beaver and fox pelt! (among others)

We also were able to make such beautiful music with our **Miss Julie**. She is always able to use up so much of our extra energy with our singing and dancing.

We will begin month celebrating Dr. Seuss. We will read lots of books with all the silly words we talked a lot about rhyming and opposites. The most fun will be eating green eggs and ham. We will count, cook, smell, taste and *enjoy*. The kids love seeing naturally colored eggs and noting that even though the eggs may be different on the outside they are all the same on the inside----yummmm.

In March we will be continuing our themes of senses and healthy bodies. We will be cuddling up to our favorite teddy as we celebrate bears coming out of hibernation.

In between all these things we will talk about St. Patrick, lions and lambs, the wind and spring. Blows (like March winds) your mind doesn't it? I think this is just a hint of what's in store for us as we try to squeeze in all the fun things we've planned in before the school year ends.





Wake up Bears!

*Now it's time for sleeping
The bears go in their caves
It keeps them warm and cozy
Time for lazy days
When the snow is gone & the
sun comes out to play
The bears will wake up from
their sleep and then go on to
play!*

We are having a pajama party to wake up our Teddy Bears with a picnic!

Wear your pajamas and bring your favorite stuffed teddy bear to hug and take to our Teddy Bear Picnic. Please wear regular shoes in case we are able to use the playground. We will be hugging and singing songs about teddies. We will eat teddy bear food and do a lot of dancing to celebrate the coming of spring.



SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year is upon us! Registration forms will be going home with your kiddo in the next couple weeks. Please return the form and registration fee to either your teacher or Miss Nadene.

We will continue to register children until we are full. Please tell your friends! If, after registration you find that your circumstances have changed and your child will no longer be attending the Learning Tree in the fall, please let us know (although the registration fee is non-refundable). Thanks for your help!



PARENT CONFERENCES

We will have a conference for both classes. Miss Angela will have hers on **Friday, March 12th** and Miss Kelsey will meet with her class parents on **Monday, March 15th**. At this meeting you may talk about where they've been as a class and how we will spend the time together for the rest of the year. A signup sheet will be posted on the boards outside of each classroom. **We will have a substitute teacher on those days so that the children will have school as usual.**



For Children Going to Kindergarten:

Registration for children going to kindergarten in Allegany County is **during the month of April** at your child's "big kid" school. In order to register you will need:

1. Proof of residency (a utility bill with your name and address will suffice)
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Social Security card
4. Immunization record.

For additional information call the school or the Allegany County Board of Education Pupil Services at 301-759-2001.

Mineral County School system does kindergarten enrollment at your convenience. You will need a state issued birth certificate and immunization records. You may call the Director of Curriculum and Instruction at 304-788-4200 for more information.

Bedford Area schools will have registration **in April by appointment**. You will need to call 814-623-4285 to schedule a time.



**Daylight Savings Time Begins
on Sunday, March 14th at 2
a.m.**



MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON
WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

I can't believe that I'm talking about this already! It is a very important day for us, so we are beginning our plans now. As many of you know (except for maybe some of our new moms) this is a big celebration of the year - and why not, it's for our Moms!

As we did with "Pancakes with Pop" we ask our families to bring in most of the necessary ingredients and then enjoy lunch with your child. It is a fundraiser and a great time with your little one.

We will begin collecting nonperishable items late April. Please check the bulletin boards for suggested items. Sign up and bring them to school. We will ask again in April. In May, we will be gathering the perishable items. Thanks so much!



Save the Date

Our end of year celebration for the 3s and 4s is **tentatively** scheduled for the morning of **Friday, May 28!**



Music: The Learning Tool

(From an article by kid's health.com)



Like most preschoolers, your child probably already loves music and has favorite songs. This may have happened with little encouragement from you beyond simply playing music on long car trips.

But did you know that your preschooler is now at an ideal age to expand his or her musical horizons and abilities?

Kids who grow up hearing music, singing songs, and moving to the beat are enjoying what experts all "a rich sensory environment." That's just a fancy

way of saying they're exposed to a wide variety of tastes, smells, textures, colors, and sounds. And researchers believe this forges more pathways between the cells in their brains.

Musical experiences are an important way to help create these pathways, also called neural connections. And while listening to music is certainly key to creating them, it's when kids actively participate in music that they make the strongest connections.

Research shows that kids who are actively involved in music (who play it or sing it regularly):

- do better in reading and math when they start school
- are better able to focus and control their bodies
- play better with others and have higher self-esteem

Preschoolers develop a catalog of songs, from "Happy Birthday" to "Old MacDonald." They begin by singing portions of favorite songs, sometimes substituting different words or rhythms. Eventually, they can sing entire songs, although the pitch may be off.

You've probably noticed that your preschooler can keep a steady beat. You can help your child practice this skill by encouraging listening for beats — and determining if they're steady or not — in everyday objects. For example, point out the noise a kitchen clock makes and ask your child if it is a steady beat; then ask if a sound like a car horn or a dog barking has a steady beat. Practice clapping or tapping the beats to favorite songs and Practice "patterns" — using a rhythm instrument or your hands, play or clap short rhythmic patterns. Invite your child to echo what you just played. As your child gets older and more used to the game,

make the patterns longer and more complicated. Allow him or her to lead. Encourage your child to copy you.



MISS ANGELA'S CLASS

Thank you so much for making our first weeks back to school a success. The children continue to amaze me by keeping their masks on and going about their days as though nothing is out of the ordinary. Valentine's Day celebration was yummy and fun, thanks to everyone's cards and treats! February this year was snowier than last year; I read in last year's newsletter that we even got outside one day!

March will hopefully move us into more Spring weather. We might even make it outside to look for early signs of Spring. We celebrate Dr. Seuss right away by reading his books and dressing like that famous cat. We will be "wearin' the green" and doing other things to become familiar with that Spring color through the month. Wild animals have lots of patterns for us to explore. The children might come home as an animal, talking about stripes and spots. We hope to wake the bears from hibernation, even though we missed seeing them go to sleep this year.

You may have noticed that we are venturing into prewriting skills with tracing left to right. The

children are recognizing letters, especially those in their names, and doing lots of counting! Some of them love singing the alphabet song! We are laying the groundwork for them to progress at their own pace into the 4 year old program next year! Helping them become more independent, socially confident, and able to problem solve are equally important goals we have for their success in school.

This little poem may be one of my favorites, and the children love to ROAR! in it:

The March wind ROARS!
Like a lion in the sky.
It makes me shiver
As it passes by.

Love,
Miss Angela, Miss Melinda, and
Miss Michele



MISS KELSEY'S CLASS

Spring is upon us! Finally! We've been working hard all month in the downstairs class. We learned about our important organs and bones, how to keep our bodies and teeth healthy, and we celebrated love - loving each other and ourselves! Our writing practice is coming along nicely. We can't wait to share our writing journals to show our progress as the year has gone on.

I look forward to getting to talk to everyone at conferences and visit with some parents to tell them just how much we enjoy your kiddos.

As March moves in, we'll continue our progress toward kindergarten readiness. We'll work all month with rhyming words and Dr. Seuss books, as well as move toward some of our most exciting units on bugs, plants, animals, and how things grow. We're anxiously awaiting some time outside and our soon to be graduates!

With the weather starting to warm up we will be going outside every chance we get. PLEASE remember to send jackets and play shoes on your child! We can't wait to get outside and moving!

Love,
Miss Kelsey and Miss Tami



