### 2021-2022 Activity Schedule

Month	Themes	Letters Numbers	Colors	Shapes
September 2021	My Friends and Me Forest Adventure	A, B, C 1, 2, 3	Red	Circle
October 2021	Community Helpers Night Creatures	D, E, F 4, 5, 6	Orange Black	Triangle
November 2021	Making Music I'm Thankful	G, H, I 7, 8	Brown	Rectangle
December 2021	All Aboard! Jolly Holidays	J, K, L 9, 10	Green	Star
January 2022	Tinker Time Polar Pals	M, N, O 11, 12	White	Octagon
February 2022	Hearts and Hugs Opposites Everywhere	P, Q, R 13, 14	Pink	Heart
March 2022	Sand and Sea Sunny Savanna	S, T, U 15, 16	Blue	Oval
April 2022	Springtime Sparkles Eating the Rainbow	V, W, X 17, 18	Yellow	Rhombus
May 2022	Pet Friends Gardening and Growing	Y, Z 19, 20	Purple	Square
June 2022	Dairy Days Pond Life	Review	Review	Review
July 2022	Vacation Bound Colors and Shapes	Review	Review	Review
August 2022	Beautiful Bugs Lazy Summer Days	Review	Review	Review

# An Overview of the 2021-2022 Curriculum Year



# Family Guide



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## **Welcome to FunShine Express!**

Your child's teacher/child care provider will be offering a wide range of preschool activities this year through our professionally designed Fireflies® curriculum program. The Fireflies program is for ages 3-5. The activities are designed to meet early learning standards established throughout the United States.

#### **Benefits for Your Child**

Our curriculum:

- Builds enthusiasm for lifelong learning
- Encourages socialization and cooperation
- · Promotes hands-on learning
- Nurtures teamwork and respect
- Promotes concentration and patience
- Builds confidence, selfesteem, and autonomy
- Embraces diversity



#### **Benefits for Parents/Caregivers**

- Knowledge that your child is participating in a curriculum program aligned with the highest quality standards in early childhood education.
- Built-in family engagement to keep you involved in your child's learning. You will receive a monthly Family Newsletter that includes a "Watch Me Learn!" activity to do with your child at home and return to child care, information about theme-related concepts, songs, a recipe, and a few book suggestions. Consider gathering some of the suggested books to supplement the program. Additional materials available online include calendars, blog articles, and music playlists.



 Exceptionally prepared teachers are able to spend more time each day interacting with children and less time prepping and planning.

#### What Will My Child Learn?

Monthly kits are centered around two themes. Each day, your child's teacher will choose from a series of activities that promote growth and school readiness. Fireflies activities address eight developmental domains:



#### **What Is Developmentally Appropriate Practice?**

Developmentally Appropriate Practice means that activities and programs take into account what each child is ready to do based on his/her development. Children ages 3-5 should be offered a range of opportunities to interact with and explore their environment.

#### What Are the Benefits of Developmentally Appropriate Practice?

Practices that take into account the developmental readiness of each child can boost self-confidence and independent thinking. Children will have opportunities for individual expression and to practice decision-making. This type of environment promotes skills and discipline, inspires creativity, encourages flexibility, and allows for emotional release.

#### Is Fireflies Developmentally Appropriate?

The Fireflies curriculum is designed to be open-ended and flexible. We provide ideas that teachers can implement to ensure appropriateness. To a great extent, each teacher determines how the program is used in his/her setting.

As family members, you can support developmental appropriateness by following the lead of your child's teacher and being involved in their efforts. Children can accomplish many things without you seeing a specific project each day. Pay attention to how your child matures and talk with them about what they are learning.

Learn more at funshineexpress.com.

Connect with Us!









