

# Family Newsletter

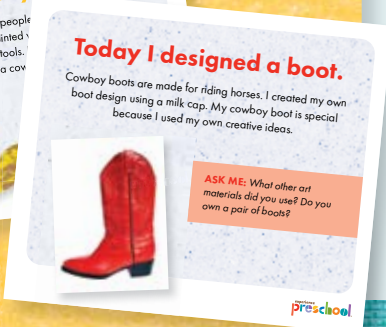


THIS MONTH'S THEME

## Desert Discovery

Pull up your boots, put on your cowboy hat and head to the Experience Curriculum Rodeo! After practicing your rope skills, wander out into the dunes of the Sahara Desert. Explore the Mojave Desert while riding your bumpy burro. Sit for a while in the shade of a cactus, but be careful not to fall asleep because the desert comes to life at night!

Look for the daily notes about your child's art projects!



## Confidence Building

To help your child learn and grow, they need to feel safe, secure and connected to their learning environment. A child who feels comfortable and secure is more willing to risk failure during the learning process.

Here are some key ideas to help your child build confidence:

- **Smile, laugh and express yourself often.** Modeling positive expressions will allow your child to feel free to express themselves.
- **Take time to be involved in the activities** as much as you expect your child to be involved in them. They will develop an appreciation for effort, perseverance and dedication.
- **Have open conversations that are personal and casual.** Encourage them to share their likes, dislikes and opinions without judgment. Find out and follow their interests.
- **Offer positive non-verbal communication** whenever possible (high fives, hugs, kisses, etc.).
- **Offer support without doing it all for your child.** Give just enough help to make sure your child feels successful or alleviate their frustration, but leave enough room for your child to continue to learn and eventually celebrate the accomplishment.

When you foster a caring climate, you open up a world of safe learning for your child. This is a wonderful tool to encourage them to take risks, which ultimately fosters a joy and love for discovery and learning.



## THIS MONTH'S FEATURED CONCEPTS

Letters Ww, Zz & Nn

Shape Star

Numbers 13 & 14

Color Black

Character Trait Honest

Letter Ww watermelon, water & wolf

Letter Zz zipper, zero & zebra

Letter Nn nest, net & nut

Cowboy Boots 1

Cowboy Hat 2

Lasso 3

Horse 4

At the Rodeo 5

Wild West

Topics your child will explore this month:

6 Sahara Desert

7 Camel

8 Small Desert Animals

9 The Great Pyramid

10 Plants of the Sahara

Sahara Desert

Desert Discovery

11 Mojave Desert

12 Desert Tortoise

13 Burro

14 Cactus

15 Plants of the Mojave

Mojave Desert

Desert Cottontail 16

Desert Night 17

Coyote 18

Rattlesnake 19

Campfire 20

Desert Night

# Cuddle Up

WITH A GOOD BOOK

**Cowboys**

by Lucille Recht Penner

**I Want to Be a Cowboy**

by Dan Liebman

**Rodeo Day**

by Jonelle Toriseva & Robert Casilla

**A Desert Habitat**

by Kelley MacAulay & Bobbie Kalma

**Creatures of the Desert World**

by National Geographic Society

**My Cowboy Boots**

by Crystal Bowman

**The Desert Alphabet Book**

by Jerry Pallotta

## Family Activities

### Desert Adventures

Check out local dunes, beaches or sandy areas. Try to find patterns in the sand caused by wind and water. Is the sand you find dry or wet? Search for signs of life, such as plants and animals. Visit a horse farm and experience the wonder of horse riding together. End a family night with stories and songs by your own campfire.



### I am a Cowboy

(To the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

Invite your child to choose where to pretend to ride, for example "rodeo" or "desert," and insert it in the song as you pretend to ride a horse together.

I am a cowboy,

I love to ride,

Hat on my head,

Rope on my side.

In the rodeo, my horse is best,  
"Yeehaw!" We yell with all the rest.

