

## Early Childhood Classroom Newsletter

It is important to inform parents of what is happening inside of your classroom each week. Parents are eager to know what their students are learning and what events are planned for their students. While there are many ways to communicate weekly announcements, using the form of this newsletter allows early childhood teachers to convey our specialized curriculum written with parents in mind.

Some important things to note when using a newsletter such as this:

- Send the newsletter home with the student, but make it available to parents on your family bulletin board and electronically such as via email or your classroom website.
- Make sure to convey the current theme being studied in the newsletter.
- Update the newsletter with the new social-emotional and academic skills being taught during the week.
- This template is best to use in Microsoft PowerPoint.

In this artifact, the teacher is introducing the new Target (grocery store) theme as part of the Tools of the Mind curriculum in her classroom newsletter. The newsletter features an overview of the new theme, how parents can support the classroom and their child at home during the new unit, a finger play or nursery rhyme, read aloud books from the week, and activities students are participating in as part of the theme. Although this artifact is from a Tools of the Mind classroom, the newsletter can be used for any early childhood classroom.

### For Teachers:

- Let families know that you will be updating them this way at the beginning of the school year.
- Create a schedule for when the newsletter is created and sent home. Maintaining a consistent schedule ensures parents know when to expect this information
- Include pictures and graphics to support your text.  
Include familiar activities parents can do at home with their children as part of "At Home Extensions."

### For School Leaders:

- Send reminders in weekly bulletins or emails about sending home newsletters.
  - Show staff examples of newsletters being sent home – highlight different types of information that can be included in these newsletters.
  - In school-wide communications, remind parents to read their teachers' newsletters.
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## Ms. Kyles' Classroom Newsletter

**Date:** January 26, 2015

### WHAT AM I READING?

*Corduroy* by Don Freeman

*Maisy Goes Shopping*  
by Lucy Cousins



*Max's Dragon Shirt* by Rosemary Wells

### FINGER PLAYS I KNOW

*The Little Turtle*

There was a little turtle.  
He lived in a box.  
He swam in a puddle.  
He climbed on the rocks.

He snapped at a mosquito.  
He snapped at a flea.  
He snapped at a minnow.  
And he snapped at me.

He caught the mosquito.  
He caught the flea.  
He caught the minnow.  
But he didn't catch me



Welcome to our new unit on Target! We are in the process of transforming our classroom into our favorite neighborhood store complete with a grocery aisle, clothing department, Pizza Hut, parking garage and metro/bus stop, and checkout. Target continues to be a fun way to practice our language, math, and literacy skills.

### How can you support us during this unit?

- Look for upcoming field trips to Target and Trader Joe's!
- Donate any of the following items we can use in centers:
  - grocery containers (rice boxes, detergent bottles, milk cartons, etc), target shopping bags, old clothing, shoes, hats, jewelry, toy cars, Pizza Hut containers, and boxes
  - one man's trash is another teacher's treasure ☺

### WHAT AM I DOING IN PLAY?

**Theme:** Target/Grocery Store  
**Roles I can be:** Cashier, customer, Manager, Bus driver, cook



What's happening in my centers:

Shopping for food and clothing  
Checking out  
Making pizza  
Stocking the shelves  
Parking the car

I am practicing my reading/writing and math by:

Giving receipts, collecting money and giving change  
Arranging/sorting by size, color shape  
Writing price tags  
Weighing produce



### EXTENSIONS AT HOME:

- Make a shopping list for the grocery store
- Teach someone the fingerplay
- Draw a picture and write about your favorite food
- In order to help your child make connections between this unit and home, we would love for you to snap a photo of your child grocery shopping. We will display the photos in the various centers around the classroom.

