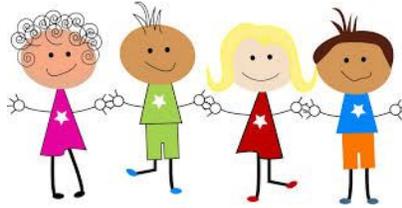


## PreK At Home Learning Activities



Week of: May 11, 2020

Theme: Insects

Book Activities	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <a href="#">Click here</a> for <b>Scholastic Learn at Home</b> stories and projects to keep kids reading, learning, and growing. ***If the links in the book activities below do not work first click the scholastic link above and leave the page open before opening the link to your preferred book activity***</li><li>● <b>Watch the Story:</b> <a href="#">Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!</a> by Bob Barner This can also be found at <b>Scholastic Learn at Home - Day11/Week 3</b>.</li><li>● <b>Read the Book:</b> <a href="#">A Ladybug Larva Grows</a> Up by Katie Marsico (click the title to view). This can also be found at <b>Scholastic Learn at Home - Day11/Week 3</b></li><li>● Watch the Video: <a href="#">Lovely Little Ladybugs</a> and learn about the lovely ladybug's life cycle. Then try this Math Activity: Counting Ladybug Spots! First, draw ladybugs (or <a href="#">print out this outline of a ladybug</a>). Have your child draw three or four large circles on a piece of paper with a line down the middle of each. Draw a head and six legs on each bug. Next, let your child draw spots on the ladybug. Together, count the spots and write the number. If your child is up for the challenge, try this simple addition activity. Count the spots on one half of the ladybug. Then count the spots on the other half and add them together! <i>For example: 4 + 4 = 8 spots</i></li><li>● Listen to Sophie's Masterpiece by Eileen Spinelli, Read by CCH Pounder Then make your own spider web art masterpiece. This fun process art project isn't just about painting spider webs with yarn, it's more about the process. <a href="#">Click here</a> for more information. Listen to <a href="#">Hey Little Ant</a> by Phillip M. and Hannah Hoose. This book will help the children see life from the point-of-view of an ant. The idea is great for creating dialogue about their life and how they would feel if they were an ant and someone wanted to squish them. Adopt Ants For A Day - <b>For no longer than thirty minutes or so</b>, adopt some ants from the nearest outdoor life surrounding your home. You can put some soil in the bottom layer (optional) of a clear container that has pin holes in the top and scoop a few ants inside the container. It may be better to get the larger ones so that they are easier to observe. Try not to keep them out of their environment too long - but long enough for your child to observe their size and make up. <b>Caution: Make sure the lid is on tightly so that they don't escape and warn the children not to play with them because they may bite.</b></li><li>● Listen to <a href="#">Bumblebee Bumblebee Do You Know Me</a> by Anne Rockwell . Do you have any of these flowers growing in your yard? Can you find any of these insects?</li><li>● Explore other stories on <a href="#">TumbleBooks</a> : Username: <b>Gilead</b> Password: <b>books</b></li></ul>

## Literacy

- Listening to sounds - This game will help develop your child's memory and attentional abilities for thinking about sequences of sounds and the language for discussing them. Use a variety of objects that make distinctive sounds (such as banging on different surfaces, blowing a whistle, clapping, tongue clicking, coughing, crumpling paper, crunching foods, clapping, fingers drumming on table, ringing a bell, noisy chewing, etc). Begin with single sounds and familiarize your child with the sounds each object/action makes. Then have them close their eyes and try to identify the sound they hear as you randomly make one of the sounds. When they are good at this level, increase the challenge and make two sounds at a time and have your child try to identify both sounds in the correct sequence. **Support consideration: make a picture or simple stick drawing to represent each sound so your child has visual cues to select from**
- Clap out and count the syllables in insect words - ant, ladybug, caterpillar, butterfly, mosquito, fly, bumblebee, cricket, grasshopper, earwig, hornet, beetle **Support considerations: model first and have your child imitate you**
- Letter hunt & slap game - use a fly swatter, rubber spatula or rolled up newspaper to slap letters written on a large paper/cardboard. The first player can call one letter at a time and the second player can try to find it and slap it as fast as they can! **Support consideration: focus on the letters in your child's name or only a few letters at a time**
- Get out your alphabet rocks! If you didn't make them last week, gather some rocks, wash them and write or paint a different letter on each rock. Try spelling some insect words with your rocks such as: *bug, fly, ant*. **Support consideration: write the word as a model for your child to match the letters to.**
- Or use your alphabet rocks to match the corresponding letter to the initial sound in these buggy words: *ladybug, grasshopper, bee, cricket, daddy long-legs*. **Support consideration: provide a small field (2 or 3) of letter rocks for your child to select from**
- Here is a [Printable Color Bugs emergent reader book](#) for students to color and read.
- ["What Letter Is It?"](#) by [Jack Hartman](#). In this letter sound song Jack gives the letter sound and then students are asked to name the letter that makes the sound. This version is in alphabetical order. A fun way to learn phonemic awareness!
- Learn about [dividing words and counting syllables](#) with [Scratch Garden](#).
- Blend and segment buggy compound words (lady-bug, grass-hopper, dragon-fly, bumble-bee) Say: "ladybug, if I take away **lady** what is left?" (answer- bug) "If I take away **bug**, what is left?" (answer-lady) **Support considerations: use visuals such as two blocks to represent the two parts of the word, pointing to and moving the corresponding blocks as you say each part of the word, remove the block that represents the part of the word to omit**
- [Learn Syllables by Clapping, Stomping and Chomping](#) with [Jack Hartman](#)  
This syllable song helps children hear the syllables in 1, 2 and 3 syllable words and helps them develop their phonological awareness skills. The syllable song engages children with not only visuals of the words, but also fun movements (clapping, stomping and chomping with their arms.) This syllable

	<p>song is perfect for kinesthetic (visual) learners. They participate with singing (auditory) seeing the words (visual) and doing the movements, clap, stomp and chomp to each syllable (kinesthetic.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Click <a href="#">here</a> for more Jack Hartmann songs. These songs may drive you nuts, but your kids will love them, we promise! :-)</li> </ul>
<b>Math/Game</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make a bee pattern using strips of black and yellow paper. Children can cut their own strips and either glue them in order or create a paper chain by linking the strips. <b>Support consideration: begin a simple AB pattern (yellow/black) for your child to repeat</b></li> <li>• Bug Math - Take a walk in the woods with a grown up. Do you see any rotting logs? Lift the log to see the life hidden underneath. What types of bugs live in rotting wood? Count the different bugs. How many bugs can you find in one log?</li> <li>• Draw different geometric shapes and write a numeral in each one. Help your child count out and glue the corresponding number of small items into each shape. Ideas: you could draw flowers to glue seeds on or geometric shapes to glue macaroni or beans inside, etc. <b>Support consideration: focus only on numerals 1-3 or 1-5</b></li> <li>• Ladybug Math - Using the number rocks from last week’s activities, place them in a bag or box and randomly draw one number rock at a time. Have your child draw or glue that many spots on a pre-made ladybug outline. Help your child divide the spots evenly on the ladybug so that each side has an equal number. Was the number able to be divided into two equal parts? Talk about even and odd numbers. <b>Support considerations: give your child premade cut-out spots to manipulate; focus only on even quantities to 6</b></li> <li>• Read the math story <a href="#">Ladybug Countdown</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">How Many Spots On a Ladybug?</a> is another math story that introduces addition concepts.</li> </ul>
<b>Estimation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many ants (raisins)? (fill a container with no more than 20 items for your preschooler to estimate.) Have your preschooler count the items after they give you their estimate. <b>Support Consideration: Add more or less depending on your child’s skill level.</b></li> <li>• After you estimate your jar of ants, make a snack of “ants on a log” together. See the recipe activity in the social section.</li> </ul>
<b>Sensory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather a container of dirt. Add water to make mud and play in it! Add various items from nature. Depending on what props are available you can add pots/pans/utensils, animals or vehicles</li> <li>• Make “dirt” pudding! Yummy!</li> <li>• Continue your work in the garden! What insect life can you see?</li> <li>• Make a sensory bin with birdseed. Add spoons, shovels, buckets and containers with lids for scooping, filling, pouring and shaking. Add plastic bugs or other small toys for added fun.</li> </ul>

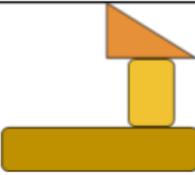
## Science

- Bug Nature Walk: Go on a nature walk in the woods or around your yard to search for insects. When you find one, observe it. What color is it? What body parts do you see? Does it have wings? antennae? What is it doing? When you are finished observing it, go inside and draw a picture of your insect. Have a grown up help you label the parts of your insect drawing.
- Have students get out some energy by searching for REAL bugs outside. Use [this checklist](#) for a fun scavenger hunt.
- Make a pollinator watering station with a shallow recycled container and marbles or stones collected from your yard.
- Bees are very important little insects! Learn about pollination, fertilization and the life cycle of flowers and plants with the [Baby Bumblebee Song](#) by [Scratch Garden](#)
- Make a butterfly feeder. Hang your feeder somewhere you can see it from a window and check on it daily. Have fun observing the butterflies that enjoy your “butterfly food”! [Watch this simple video to learn how.](#)
- Read [It's a Butterfly's Life](#) about the sequence of a butterfly's life cycle.
- Last week we suggested you try sprouting a new carrot, celery or lettuce plant. If you started this experiment, check in on it this week. Start a journal to track your vegetable's growth. Take a picture of it and send it to your teacher to share! If you didn't try this fun experiment, you can [click here](#) for more information on regrowing lettuce.



Mrs. Thayer's lettuce experiment.

- Listen to the [“The Life Cycle Song”](#) by [Scratch Garden](#)

<p><b>Blocks/ Construction</b></p>	<p>Construction Play</p>	
	<p>Main Materials</p>	<p>Supplemental Materials</p>
	<p>Anything you can build with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Package of solo cups</li> <li>• Blocks</li> <li>• Toothpicks and cut sponges</li> <li>• Popsicle sticks</li> <li>• Legos (without direction booklets)</li> </ul>	<p>Use any:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clothespins</li> <li>• Rug or fabric scraps</li> <li>• Small cars, animals, or people</li> <li>• Pictures or books with different buildings</li> </ul>
<p>Skills developed here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Storytelling</li> <li>• Balance and equivalence</li> <li>• Engineering</li> <li>• 3 dimensional shapes</li> </ul>	<p><i>Option:</i> You can print out photos of your family, or street signs, that children can use in their play</p>	
<p>Questions to ask: (if you decide to check in)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is happening here? Tell me the story here?</li> <li>• What are you making?</li> <li>• What do you think would happen if...?</li> <li>• What are you noticing?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Loose parts possess infinite play possibilities!</b> To learn more about loose parts <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> <li>• Here are some examples of <b>Nature-Based Loose Parts</b>: Sticks, Dirt, Dried Flowers, Rocks, Leaves, Seeds, Sand, Pinecones, Wood Cookies, Wood Chips, Moss, Shells, Pods, Logs, Acorns, etc..</li> <li>• Walk around your yard and look for an anthill. What shape is it? Can you build one in the sand? What could you use to mold a cone shape? Try a funnel.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Dramatic Play</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up a picnic (real or pretend). While you have your picnic share this story about 100 hungry ants on a way to a picnic <a href="https://safeYouTube.net/wyGqB">https://safeYouTube.net/wyGqB</a></li> <li>• Are you getting lots of packages in the mail? The boxes can be used to make props for dramatic play. Think about a theme your preschooler is interested in this week and together design a prop. A box could be a stove/oven for a kitchen or bakery, a washing machine or a kennel for an animal shelter.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Play-dough</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little bug enthusiasts will enjoy counting and fine motor practice with this set of <a href="#">Ladybug PlayDough Math Mats</a>. For additional themed PlayDough mats, <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> <li>• Enjoy this counting sing along classic "<a href="#">The Ladybug Picnic</a>"</li> <li>• Place strips of green construction paper (for grass) in a bug box (plastic container). Children make model bugs with play dough to put in the boxes.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Playdough recipe:</b> 3C flour, ½ cup salt, 1 TB cream of tartar, 3 TB vegetable oil, 2C boiling water (optional: you can add 2 envelopes of unsweetened Kool-Aid to add color and scent to your dough)</p> <p><b>**If flour is hard to find you can try making dough with a box of cornstarch and mix in a bottle of bargain hair conditioner until the consistency is moldable**</b></p>
<p><b>Process Art</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explore with balloons and paint. Blow up a few balloons, just a little, so they are still flexible and not too fragile. Squeeze a little paint on a plate and use the balloons to make fun circle prints. Connect the prints to make a caterpillar. Once dry add antennae and legs.</li> <li>● Same idea as above except use red, brown or black paint to create the three parts of an ant. (head, thorax and abdomen) Draw in antennae and 6 legs once dry. If you have sand in a sandbox you can use some to make an anthill for your ant, just paint a little glue on your paper and sprinkle on the sand</li> <li>● Use a fly swatter to make beautiful art! This activity is best done outdoors. Give your child a clean fly swatter and a flat dish of paint. You can use newspaper, a flattened box, or a large sheet of paper. Put paint on the swatter and then slap the paint onto the paper. So much fun!</li> <li>● Egg Carton Bugs: Make bugs using half of a cardboard egg carton, paint, wiggle eyes, pom-pom balls, or whatever other materials you have at home.</li> <li>● Paint a rock to look like a bug.</li> <li>● Symmetry paintings - fold a piece of paper in half, open and add a glob of paint. Fold the paper again and gently rub the paper. Open to find that the paint is symmetrical. Turn this shape into a bug. You can add legs and eyes with scraps of paper, yarn, or fabric.</li> <li>● Click Beetles: Cut out and decorate beetles from construction paper. Hot glue the beetles onto wooden clothespins (the kind that have a spring). After the beetle is dry, place it on the floor and push the end of the clothespin. It will "click" and flip! Sometimes it will land on it's back and sometimes it will land on its feet (students may enjoy charting results).</li> </ul> <p>Read the <a href="#">The Very Clumsy Click Beetle</a> by Eric Carle. When a little click beetle falls onto his back, he seeks the help of a wise old click beetle. "Look at me," says the more experienced click beetle, giving a loud CLICK and flipping onto its feet. But try as he might, the clumsy little click beetle just can't get the hang of it--or can he?</p>
<p><b>Gross Motor</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Listen to Laurie Berkner's Bumblebee song (<i>Buzz Buzz</i>) and dance to the tune <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwVo5E04CVQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwVo5E04CVQ</a></li> <li>● Listen to the classical piece "Flight of the Bumblebee". How would you move to this music? <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QV1RGMLUKE">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QV1RGMLUKE</a></li> <li>● Become a worker ant! Give your child a backpack and add small amounts of weight (a few blocks or a bag of sugar/flour). Add more in small increments and have your child walk across the room with the weighted bag. Imagine</li> </ul>

	<p>being an ant! Ants can carry many times their body weight over long distances. (CAUTION: add small increments of weight to avoid injury</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go on an adventure with Jaimie and meet <a href="#">Stella the Stick Insect</a> A <a href="#">Cosmic Kids</a> Yoga Adventure!</li> <li>• Your preschooler will love <a href="#">this collection</a> of songs by <a href="#">The Learning Station</a>. It Includes; Baby Shark, Boom Chicka Boom, Happy Dance, Ram Sam Sam, There was a Crocodile and much more! Children will sing, dance, laugh and learn!</li> </ul>
<p><b>Writing and Fine motor Development</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">In the Yard emergent reader</a> and <a href="#">word cards</a> This reader is a great way to practice sight words (is, a , in, the) and learning to read short sentences as your preschooler learns about different bugs in the yard..</li> <li>• “Bugs in a jar” You will need a clean water bottle and small cereal/beads/pebbles to pinch and put in the bottle. This can be an independent activity or a turn taking game with your child. Take turns pinching a bug and dropping it in the bottle. Count each bug as you drop it in.</li> <li>• Exercise your grip with a hole punch. Pretend you are a caterpillar and nibble your way through a scrap paper leaf.</li> <li>• Make a card for your mom, grandmother, aunt, or any other special woman in your life. It’s almost Mother’s day, so tell your mom you love her!</li> <li>• Use a spray bottle to water your plants, or use the hose nozzle to water the garden.</li> <li>• Trim the hair on your grass head or snip scrap paper with scissors.</li> <li>• Do you have a plastic basket and some string? You can weave a web like a spider!</li> <li>• Bead a bracelet or necklace. If you don’t have beads, try using pasta with holes in it.</li> <li>• Do you have a clothesline? Collect some clothespins and a sturdy piece of cardboard cut into a circle or you can use a paper plate. Paint, color or collage the circle yellow and clip the clothespins around the edge to create the rays of the sun. Spring plants need sun to grow!</li> <li>• Use a paintbrush (or old toothbrush, Q-tip, sponge, etc) and a container of water to “write” letters on the driveway or sidewalk with the water.</li> <li>• Make a clothesline in the kitchen. Tie a rope between two chairs and provide socks or washcloths in a laundry basket. Pretend to hang the laundry.</li> <li>• Punch art at home. A favorite fine motor activity is punch art. Using a piece of copy paper draw a simple image, a sun or flower, and provide a toothpick (under supervision). Place the paper on a carpet and punch through the perimeter of the image. Hold it up to a light or window to see the magic.</li> <li>• Create a cereal tower. From the pantry grab a cup of any cereal with a hole and a piece of dried spaghetti. You can stick the piece of spaghetti into a bit of playdough and have your child practice fine and visual motor skills as they build the tower to the top!</li> </ul>

	<p>Setting up a writing center at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assorted writing tools</li> <li>● notecards</li> <li>● Scissors</li> <li>● Scrap paper</li> <li>● Stapler</li> <li>● Old calendar, check register, junk mail and envelopes</li> <li>● Stencils</li> <li>● Stamps and stamp pads</li> <li>● Chalk or dry erase boards</li> <li>● Word box</li> <li>● Letter beads and pipe cleaners or string/shoelaces</li> </ul> <p>Material in your writing center are meant to encourage skills such as eye hand coordination, pre-writng and drawing skills, associating print with reading, recognizing and identifying letters of the alphabet in print/environment, building grasp and release skills, pincer grasp and practicing left to right progression in reading (just to name a few)</p>
<p><b>Social-emotional</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Make an edible ant hill in a cup. Use a clear cup so the children could see the layers they added to their dessert. First they put a layer of chocolate pudding into the cup for the “dirt”. Then, they crushed up graham crackers in a plastic ziploc bag and poured the crumbs into the cup for the anthill “sand”. Last, they added chocolate chips for the “ants” (you could also substitute raisins instead of chocolate chips). Share with a family member.</li> <li>● Make “ants on a log”. You will need celery, raisins and cream cheese or your favorite nut or seed butter. Spread the cream cheese on the celery stalk and add the raisin “ants” along the celery “log”</li> <li>● Pick a flower and put it on your neighbor’s door step (add a note if you’d like)</li> <li>● <a href="#">Peace Out Guided Relaxation for Kids</a> is a new series of guided relaxations and visualizations for kids, written and voiced by Jaime from Cosmic Kids. In this <a href="#">guided relaxation</a>, called Peace Out, we close our eyes and in our minds we can see lots of little stars. We're drawn to one in particular. This is Your Little Star. Whenever we try something new, it burns a little brighter as we learn. We don't need to worry about trying new things. Each time we try, we just shine a little brighter!</li> <li>● <b>Watch the Story:</b> <a href="#">Stick and Stone</a> by Beth Ferry (click the title to view) This can also be found at <b>Scholastic Learn at Home - Day 20/Week 4</b>.  <b>Activity:</b> Kindness Coupons Materials: paper, scissors, crayons, pencil, stapler Practice writing alphabet letters while spreading kindness. Give your child some scrap paper or construction paper, a pencil, and crayons. Have your child cut the paper into large rectangles for coupons. On each coupon, your child can write or dictate a way to help around the house—for instance, cleaning the table, helping to cook a meal, or taking clothes out of the dryer. Your child can also draw pictures on the coupons. When your child is finished, staple the coupons together to make a coupon book. The next time you need a hand, simply tear off a coupon and collect</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Read the Story:</b> <a href="#">Empathy: I Know How You Feel!</a> by Liz George (click the title to view) This can also be found at <b>Scholastic Learn at Home - Day20/Week 4</b>. You can choose to treat other people well. <a href="#">Here's how!</a></li> <li>● Listen to the <a href="#">FILL YOUR BUCKET SONG</a> by <a href="#">The Learning Station</a></li> <li>● Have a virtual visit with a grandparent, neighbor, teacher or classmate</li> <li>● Play Tic Tac Toe</li> <li>● <a href="#">Hearts For Healthcare Workers</a> - Cut out paper hearts and place them in your window to thank our local <a href="#">healthcare workers</a>.</li> <li>● <a href="#">Talking to Kids About Corona Virus Fears</a> This <a href="#">new podcast</a> is for families and is designed to help children and grown-ups practice their social-emotional skills. Each episode tells a story that's amazing, fantastical, and maybe a little bananas, while it tackles the big feelings that come with growing up.</li> </ul>
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## Unified Arts

<b>Art</b>	<b>Make some crayon magic with Mrs. Giammarco!</b> <a href="#">Crayon Magic Painting!</a>
<b>Music</b>	<b>What will grasshoppers and ants use to build a bridge?</b> <b>Sing along with Mrs. Sanstrom!</b> <a href="#">London Bridge</a>
<b>Gym</b>	Please follow the link below: <a href="#">Week 8-PE</a>
<b>Library</b>	Watch Mrs. Madeira read <i>Can I Be Your Dog</i> by Tony Cummings.. Please check your email for the link to the video.
<b>STEAM</b>	Click on this link to “grow” some: <a href="#">Flourishing Flowers</a>