



EKLAVYA SAMACHARA

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EKLAVYA EARLY YEARS

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sports Day	23 Dec
Christmas Celebrations	23 Dec

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Holidays: 23 Dec 2023 - 1 Jan 2024
Students Re-join: 2 Jan 2024

Parents' Workshop Dates: 2 Dec, Sat 10am – 11am
16 Dec, Sat 10am – 11am

As we approach the festive season, Eklavya Early Years would like to remind all parents that attendance of the children on the first and last day before and after vacations is compulsory. Please ensure that your child is present on both days.

Wishing you and your family a happy and festive vacation.

Field Visits

17 Nov Visit to Rachenahalli Park - Children visited the beautiful Rachenahalli Park and played in the community playground. They enjoyed playing on the different rides in the park and had a beautiful picnic style lunch under the shade of a tree. Later, they walked by the Rachenahalli Lake and observed the different types of trees and plants.



Enjoying the to and fro motion



Swinging as a group



Learning to balance



Adventurous climbing!

24 Nov Visit to Fire Station - Children visited the Yelahanka Fire Station this month. They learnt about fire safety, the brave and selfless work of the firefighters and the equipment used by them. The children not only learnt about different types of fire and how each one is extinguished, but they also saw a fire truck, different kinds of hose pipes, helmets, boots etc. At the end of the visit, children saluted the firemen as a gesture of thanks for their courageous efforts to save people from fire.



Listening intently to the firefighter



Observing the fire truck



How firefighters extinguish fire



A fan-style water spray

Events

1 October - Karnataka Rajyotsava - We celebrated Karnataka Rajyotsava, the formation day of our state, by hoisting the Karnataka flag, singing the Karnataka anthem Jay Bharata Jananiya Tanujate, and learning more about the state.

Children observed the Karnataka map and saw pictures of key monuments in the state such as Hampi, Vidhana Soudha, Gol Gumbaz and Mysore Palace. During Circle Time, they also learnt why we celebrate Karnataka Rajyotsava. Children wore yellow and red clothes and also enjoyed the yellow and red decorations in the classrooms and in their campus. They also learnt the colours of the Karnataka flag.

Finally, they watched the educators preparing Kadle Puri, a healthy snack in Karnataka, which is mentioned in the KG rhyme "Mari mari baa illi". Children relished the Kadle Puri and enjoyed Karnataka Rajyotsava.



Important monuments in Karnataka



Preparing Kadle Puri!



Yummy!

9 Nov Diwali Celebration - Children celebrated Diwali by making a beautiful rangoli in their classroom. In the process of making the rangoli, the children improved their fine motor skills, learnt to combine colours and explore their artistic side.



It's Rangoli Time!

14 Nov Children's Day - On Children's Day, a special set of activities were planned for the children. From an energetic and fun Gross Motor Path that involved hopping like a rabbit, jumping like a frog, twirling, tip toe walking, etc to an exciting treasure hunt and joyous, uninhibited messy art activity. The happiness on the children's face was a delight to see.



Enjoying the messiness



Looking for treasure!



Footprints!

27 Nov Guru Nanak Jayanti - Children celebrated Guru Nanak Jayanti by learning about Guru Nanak ji during the Circle Time. They saw a picture of Guru Nanak and the glorious Golden Temple in Amritsar. They learnt about Sikhism and also heard a story that highlighted Guru Nanak ji's generosity as a child and his penchant for sharing all his possessions with others.

Curriculum

Shloka chanting in November - Children revised the shlokas that they had learnt over the past three months:

ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः ।

तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं ।

भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि ।

धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात् ।।

उस प्राणस्वरूप, दुखनाशक, सुखस्वरूप, श्रेष्ठ, तेजस्वी, पापनाशक, देवस्वरूप परमात्मा का हम ध्यान करें। वह परमात्मा बुद्धि को संमार्ग में प्रेरित करे।'

Oh Lord, we pray to you who is life-giving, divine and holy. May you grant us the wisdom to choose the right path.

Song for November

Indian National Anthem: जन गण मन...

Practical Life Skills – Sorting Grains - Children of Kindergarten continued practicing PLS activities such as Sorting Grains, Pouring Water and Transferring Water from Bowl to Bowl using Sponge. Their repetitive work with the PLS materials showed a lot of growth in terms of concentration, patience and fine motor skills.



Sensory Path - A sensory path was designed by the educators for the children this month that not only sparked curiosity but also provided diverse stimuli to senses and helped the children refine their tactile, auditory, olfactory and visual senses. The children first walked in trays containing different kinds of textures such as freshly mowed grass, pebbles, mud, hay, etc. Then they smelled different kinds of natural smells such as that of coconut oil, mint, cardamom, etc. They also saw flash cards of different animals and made the appropriate animal sounds, and then quickly did matching puzzles in order to refine their visual sense. The children thoroughly enjoyed the sensory path activity.



Bus Drill - This month children reinforced their learning of how to correctly board and alight from the bus independently. They learnt to climb up using the handrail as a support and alight from the bus carefully by paying close attention to the steps.

Gross Motor Skills Path - In November, educators painted a wonderful Gross Motor Skills Path that encouraged children to perform various large muscle movements and improved their balance and coordination. From hopping, skipping, twirling to tip toe walking, each movement is designed to be so amusing and enjoyable that the children are motivated to repeat the path many times.



Jumping over flat objects - As part of their Gross Motor Skills curriculum, children of Kindergarten learnt how to jump over flat objects in a continuous motion with simultaneous movement of legs. This enhanced their balance, coordination and strength.



Introduction of Vegetables - This month, children were introduced to the different vegetables found in the market during Circle Time. From carrots, cucumbers and potatoes to garlic, yam and beetroot, children saw, touched and felt many different kinds of vegetables in the classroom. Later, children also did a vegetable cut outs sticking activity. The smells, textures and colours of the vegetables were a great sensorial stimulation for the little ones.





Rhymes and Songs - This month children of PG and KG learnt the following rhymes and songs:

PG:

1. Row Row Row Your Boat
2. मछली चलती पानी में

KG:

1. एक दो तीन चार
2. African Animals
3. Whisky Frisky

Farming - Children continued their farming education this month and learnt how to de-weed their farm. Apart from enjoying their harvest of coriander, children also saw the fascinating process of the brinjal flower transforming into the brinjal, and then harvested their first brinjal. They were mesmerized by the little brinjal and admired its beautiful purple colour and smooth skin. They also observed the tiny prickly hair of the stem.



Nature Walk - Children went for several nature walks this month. On one of the nature walks, children got the opportunity to observe an excavator very closely. They saw how the operator moves the arms of the excavator to dig the earth and how it moves itself. On another nature walk, children collected lots of flowers and leaves that had fallen on the ground. Later, they stuck them in their drawing book. The process of applying fevicol and carefully sticking the flowers and leaves was very enjoyable for them, and also helped them develop a lot of patience and concentration.



Froebel Gift 1 - KG children have been learning the Froebel Gift 1 this month. Designed and created by the Father of the Kindergarten, Friedrich Froebel, his Gift 1 is a series of soft crocheted balls that help the children learn vocabulary, improve their fine motor skills and develop patience and concentration.



Activities with Minal Ma'am - Mrs Minal Patel, an early years educator since the past 18 years, conducts very interesting activities for our children every Wednesday and Thursday. These include storytelling using puppets and enactment, mystery box and even learning about living beings that live in the water or on land. Children enjoy learning with her and look forward to her engaging and thought-provoking sessions.





Updates

14 Nov Bhoomi Puja - On the joyous occasion of Children's Day, the Eklavya Early Years team performed the Bhoomi Puja for the upcoming campus. We were joined by members of the founding team of Eklavya School, Ahmedabad – Shri Sunil Handa (Chairman, Eklavya Education Foundation) and Shri Sridhar Rajagopalan (Co-Founder, Educational Initiatives).

The Bhoomi Puja was conducted according to Vedic rites and symbolized an offering of prayers to the Earth before starting construction activities. The tradition of placing of the 'foundation bricks' is also a symbolic commencement of the construction project.

We were thrilled to share this momentous day with our children and our educators. It was beautiful to see the children offering some earth in the Bhoomi puja pit with their little hands.



Shri Sunil Handa, Chairman, Eklavya Education Foundation



Seeking blessings from Mother Earth



Little hands, large contributions

Eklavya Early Years' Outreach

4 Nov - Eklavya Early Years conducted a workshop at Vajram Essenza. Children aged 2-6 enjoyed art activities such as balloon art and magic painting, working with the Ultimate Construction Set and the fun rhymes and songs.



Abracadabra! Watch the magic unfold!



Circle time activities



Young builders!

18 Nov Children's Day Event - Eklavya Early Years conducted an energetic, stimulating and exciting Children's Day Event with activities such as Spray Painting, Messy Painting, Sensory Path, Gross Motor Skills Path and Treasure Hunt. The energy, joy and excitement of the children pervaded every inch of the campus.



Feeling the texture of hay



Refining the visual sense



Treasure hunters



A riot of colours



Joys of messy painting

P A R E N T C O R N E R

Creating Routines for Love and Learning

Routines provide the two key ingredients for learning: relationships and repetition.

For most of us, our lives involve a series of patterns—routines we perform almost every day, like having breakfast and leaving for work at the same time every day. This is also very true for babies and toddlers. While we play a part in creating routines in our children's lives, we may not fully realize the role they play in young children's development.

Routines help babies and toddlers learn self-control

Consistent routines, activities that happen at about the same time and in about the same way each day, provide comfort and a sense of safety to young children. Whether it is time to play, time for a snack, a nap, or a loved one to return, knowing what will happen next gives babies and toddlers security and emotional stability. It helps them learn to trust that caring adults will provide what they need. When children feel this sense of trust and safety, they are free to do their "work," which is to play, explore, and learn.

Routines can bring you and your child closer together and reduce power struggles

Stable routines allow babies and toddlers to anticipate what will happen next. This gives young children confidence, and also a sense of control, such as when parents say: "It is bedtime. Would you like to brush teeth now or after we get your pajamas on?" Routines can also limit the amount of "no's" and behavior corrections you need to give a toddler throughout the day, since your child can better predict what should happen next.

Routines support and develop children's social skills

As babies grow, they come into contact with more people and begin to learn patterns and routines for social interaction.

Greetings, good-byes, and chatting with others are examples of routine interactions that teach social skills. These interactions are also opportunities to help our children develop language skills.

Play-time and mealtime are two routines that are very social times for children and parents alike. Through talking, taking turns, sharing toys, learning to wait, and helping others during these activities, young children learn important social skills that will help them later on in school.

Routines help children cope with transition

Depending on your child's temperament, transitions between activities may be easy or more difficult. Going from play to lunch, lunch to the store, the store to home...and especially transitioning to bed time, can be challenging. Routines (like bedtime routines) can help make transitions easier. Some parents use a timer or a "5-minute warning" to prepare their toddlers for a change in activity. Others use a book, song, or special game. Special rituals can also help transition a child from one caregiver to the next: Each day, Leke and his mother count the steps as they walk up to the child care center. They leave his coat and lunch in his cubby. Then they go to the toy area where the other children are playing. Leke picks out a toy. He and his mother exchange "butterfly kisses" and mom waves good-bye.

Routines are an important opportunity for learning

Daily routines are often thought of as just "maintenance" activities: meal time, running errands, getting ready for bed, taking baths. But these everyday actions are rich opportunities to support your child's learning and development, while having fun. Routines offer the chance to build self-confidence, curiosity, social skills, self-control, communication skills, and more. Take grocery shopping:

Midori (aged 2) and her mom wheeled through the supermarket. Midori pointed at the apples and her mom said, "Look at the red apples and the green apples. Don't they look yummy?" She held one out to Midori to touch: "Feel how smooth they are." Then she picked up a plastic bag and turned back to Midori: "Why don't you help me choose some to bring home?" Together, they counted out five apples and put them in a bag. Midori tried her best to help, but those apples were hard to hold! It took two hands to get one in the bag. "Nice work!" said her mother. "Thanks for helping."

Here, a simple interaction in the grocery store opened the doors for practicing language skills, taking turns, talking, using one's senses, and learning about numbers. It also provided a chance to nurture Midori's self-confidence and self-esteem as her mother let her know that her thoughts and interests were important.

So enjoy these "ordinary" moments with your child. If she is having fun with you, she's learning, too!

(Excerpted from <https://www.zerotothree.org/resource/creating-routines-for-love-and-learning/>)