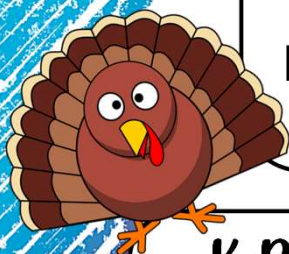


# K-PREP NEWS

Nov 2022

**K-Prep is CLOSED**  
**Thursday,**  
**November 24<sup>th</sup> &**  
**Friday, November**  
**25<sup>th</sup>.**



**K-Prep's 2022 Holiday**  
**Lunch will take place on**  
**Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>.**  
**More details to follow.**

**A Peek at What**  
**We're Learning!**



Week 9 – **Theme** and **BIG Idea** are teacher's choice  
this week. Check your child's Tadpoles report to see  
what they're learning!

**Letter of the week:** Oo

**Words of the week:** orange, of, out, off

Week 10 – **Theme** and **BIG Idea** are teacher's  
choice this week. Check your child's Tadpoles report  
to see what they're learning!

**Letter of the week:** Ii

**Words of the week:** is, I

Week 11 – **Theme:** Thanksgiving **BIG Idea:**  
Thankfulness is being happy with what you have.

**Letter of the week:** Tt

**Words of the week:** to, this, the, they, take, turkey

Week 12 – **Theme:** Thanksgiving **BIG Idea:**  
Thankfulness is being happy with what you have.

**Review all letters and words on the word wall**



## Spirit Week

Nov 21-23

**Monday**– Story Book  
Character Day

**Tuesday**– Decades  
Day

**Wednesday**– Fall  
Colors Day

## Transitions

Children with birthdays in  
the next few months will  
begin transitioning to the  
next room after the holiday  
break. Look for more  
information on your child's  
transition in the upcoming  
months!



## Looking ahead:

K-Prep will be closing early  
on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> to  
begin winter break.  
The center will remain  
closed through Monday,  
January 2<sup>nd</sup>.



# K-PREP NEWS

Nov 2022

## Tips to Support Language Development

You drop your child off at school and their very vocal classmate comes up to you. They're talking up a storm. You look at your child and wonder "Why isn't my child talking like that?" We've all been there, *trust me*.

As hard as it may be, try not to compare your child with others. Every child *is* different and that is okay. Below are some strategies to try to build language at home:

- **Read, read, read. Talk, talk, talk.** The more language your child hears during the day, the more they will understand and begin to use it themselves.
- **Play dumb** – It goes against our parental instincts, but it is beneficial. You know your child wants their cup. Instead of giving it to them try "What do you want? I don't know what you're saying." Don't give in to pointing or grunting. Hold out, prompt, and model. "Oh, you want the cup? Say 'cup'. Here's your cup."
- **Hold objects at your face** – Hold objects next to your face so that you have the child's attention AND they can see how the words are formed when you label it for them.
- **Rule of 3** – Rule of thumb is label something 3 times before giving it to them. After the 2<sup>nd</sup> time, pause to see if your child imitates. Label again and hand it over.
- **Label EVERYTHING** – Talk about everything you see; objects, colors, animals, etc.
- **Offer 2 Choices** – Would you like grapes or cheese for snack? Be sure to present each option as you label it.
- **Provide smaller portions at snack times/meals** – This allows more opportunities for your child to use their language. "More" is a great steppingstone, but don't get stuck there. As your child begins using some words, such as "more," continue to expand. i.e., "Do you want more cheese or more water?"
- **Pair gestures/signs with words** – Baby signs are a great way to breach the communication barrier, so you and your child are not frustrated. Just make sure that when modeling signs, you're pairing the word with it. This also works great with other gestures. i.e., When walking up the stairs "up, up, up," or during play "The frog goes 'hop, hop, hop.'"
- **Praise, praise, praise!** – Positively reinforce any and all attempts, approximations, or successes during this journey!



# K-PREP NEWS

Nov 2022

## Questions you may have...

- **How many words should my child have?**
  - On *average*, children should have at least 5 words (in addition to mama/dada) by one year.
  - By two years, children should be putting 2 words together, and it requires an estimated 50-word vocabulary to do so.
- **If I teach my baby signs, will they use the words?** YES! As long as you pair the words, most children who pick up the signs will eventually drop them once they can talk.
- **What is the point of using baby signs?** Children often get frustrated when they cannot communicate. *Communication* is more than just *language*. In addition to decreasing frustration, it helps children understand the *power of communication*. i.e., I let mom know I wanted milk, and I got milk! If I can do that with signs, what can I do with words?!
- **How can I learn baby signs to teach my child?** There are a variety of books and YouTube videos that can help teach you simple baby signs.
- **I've tried everything, but my child is still not talking. What should I do?** If you are concerned, contact your pediatrician or local Early Intervention program. Independent speech therapy through insurance is also an option. Remember, the earlier services can begin, the better.

**Lancaster County EI – 717-399-7323**

**York/Adams County EI – 717-771-9893**

