

Letter to Families

Dear families,

Have you noticed your child showing an interest in balls? You might have seen them pushing a ball to see how far it rolls across the room or dropping a ball to see how high it bounces off the ground. We have noticed the children exploring different types of balls in the classroom and have watched them carry, roll, bounce, and kick balls to explore how they move. The children's interest in and curiosity about balls inspired us to introduce a study of balls.

We need your help gathering a collection of balls and other materials to support the children's investigations. Here is a list of suggested items, but you may also send in items that are not on the list. Please label with your name any items you would like returned to you. We will take good care of them so we can return them to you at the end of the study.

basketballs	golf balls	cotton balls	lacrosse balls
baseballs	beach balls	foam balls	table tennis balls
tennis balls	rubber balls	stress balls	
soccer balls	plush balls	rugby balls	
wiffle balls	pom-poms	cricket balls	

During our study of balls, children will develop language and literacy skills as they name and describe the balls' color, texture, and size; math skills as they compare balls' sizes; motor skills as they handle balls and explore how they move; and social skills as they take turns rolling, kicking, and tossing balls to each other.

What You Can Do at Home

Notice the welcome activity set up each morning for you to engage in with your child. These activities reflect what we are currently learning and investigating in the classroom and can give you ideas of activities you can do with your child at home to support their learning.

Look through balls that you have at home to create your own ball collection. Explore the collection with your child. Name the different types of balls, describe what the balls look and feel like, and invite your child to compare the balls' sizes and colors. Choose two or three different balls and invite your child to explore the different ways the balls move. Ask your child to notice what happens when they roll, bounce, kick, and throw the balls to you.

Thank you for being a part of our study and our learning!