

Dear Pre-K For All Families,

For the month of March, we will focus on the concept of Water.

In Unit 7: Water, children move from thinking critically about light, darkness and shadows to an exploration of the properties and uses of water. This unit, like all Pre-K for All units, provides opportunities for children to observe objects and phenomena in their environment with increasing complexity. Activities throughout the unit prompt children to learn about water through hands-on explorations and provide opportunities to observe water in their immediate environment.

In the Water unit, children begin by considering where we can find water. Children will observe, discuss and explore water in their classrooms and throughout their environment such as bodies of water and weather. In the second week, children will focus on changes in water temperature. They will explore and observe ice and water at different temperatures and perform experiments with water and ice. In the third week, children will think about how objects are affected when they are placed in water. This will lead them to think critically about why some items float and some sink. There are also opportunities in this week to learn about substances that dissolve or expand in water (like salt and sponges). In the final week of the unit, children will have learning experiences and do activities that encourage them to think about how water helps living things. This is a great time to revisit the classroom job chart and add in a “gardener” who can water classroom plants.

Here is a list of some of the key vocabulary words that we are learning through this unit of study. We encourage you to use these words with your child as appropriate:

absorb~ beach~ boat~ boil~ captain~ conclude~ condensation~ clean~ cloud~ deep~ dissolve~ diver~ drenched~ drink~ environment~ evaporate~ faucet~ ferry~ float~ form~ fountain~ freeze~ gas~ hail~ hydrate~ ice~ island~ lake~ liquid~ melt~ meteorologist~ mist~ observe~ ocean~ perspiration~ pond~ precipitation~ predict~ puddle~ quench~ rain~ repel~ river~ sailor~ saturate~ sea~ shallow~ sink~ sleet~ snow~ soak~ sponge~ solid state~ storm~ stream~ swamp~ sweat~ swim~ temperature~ thirst~ umbrella~ vapor~ wash~ water~ water cycle~ waterproof~ weather