



Month: October Week: 5 Subject: Approaches to Play & Learning

Day 1	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Review Week	APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL2.1 Demonstrate development of flexible thinking during play
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	May choose a center and stay engaged briefly with adult support.	May plan a play idea, stay with it, and try new strategies when challenges arise.

Activity: Open Center Exploration

Reopen favorite October centers (Farmer Market, Construction, Garden, Pumpkin Patch). Invite children to choose where to start and what they want to try. Teachers observe focus, turn-taking, and how children use materials in new ways. Close with a quick share: “What did you try today?”

Resources/Materials • Dramatic play props from October themes • Blocks, tools, pretend food, clipboards	Key Vocabulary: • choose • try • plan • share	Support:
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Day 2	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Review Week	APL2.1 Demonstrate development of flexible thinking during play APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	May attempt a simple challenge with modeling and gesture cues.	May test different ideas and revise a plan to complete a challenge.
Activity: Challenge Stations Set 3 quick challenges: build a bridge for a toy, sort leaves by size, and move 10 blocks with tongs. Model thinking aloud (“This didn’t work- what else can we try?”). Children rotate, try, and talk about what helped them succeed.		
Resources/Materials • Blocks, trays, toy car • Leaves or picture cards • Tongs, small blocks/counters	Key Vocabulary: • challenge • try again • idea • solve	Support:



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Day 3	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Review Week	APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	May act out a simple role or scene from earlier in the month.	May create a new scenario, add roles, and extend the story with peers.
Activity: Imagination Rewind Invite children to act out a favorite pretend-play from October and ‘rewind’ or change one part. Offer props and encourage new endings or roles. Children draw themselves in the scene and tell what changed.		
Resources/Materials • Dramatic play props (farmer, builder, gardener) • Paper, crayons/pencils for reflection drawing	Key Vocabulary: • pretend • role • change • story	Support:



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Day 4	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Review Week	APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	May point to a problem and choose from two pictured solutions.	May describe a problem from play and suggest or try a solution with a peer.
<p>Activity: Problem-Solving Talk</p> <p>Circle time: model a small problem from centers (two kids want the same tool). Brainstorm possible solutions together and practice a quick role-play. Children draw the solution they would try and share with a partner.</p>		
Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solution cards (take turns, trade, timer) • Chart paper and markers • Paper, crayons/pencils 	Key Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • problem • solution • share • turn 	Support:



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Day 5	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Review Week	APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	May choose a center and clean up with reminders.	May make a plan, follow through, and reflect on what worked during the cleanup share.
<p>Activity: Choice Centers Offer open choice time across centers with a focus goal (build, create, or sort). Invite children to say their plan before starting and share what they finished at the end. Teachers note independence, persistence, and collaboration.</p>		
Resources/Materials • Open centers with October materials • Timers/visuals for cleanup cues	Key Vocabulary: • plan • finish • clean up • work together	Support: