



Curriculum Map
PreKinders.com

People often ask me in what sequence I teach my themes. Here are my curriculum plans and theme sequence for the year. **I look at these plans as “possibilities”, not anything set in stone. I like to let the children’s interests invade my plans at any time.**

Also, another reason I wanted to make these plans is because so often I have all these great materials or activities, but then I get to the end of the year and I remember some neat thing we never got around to doing.

One Theme Per Month

My themes pages have been online for many years now, but what I do in the classroom has evolved over the years. I now do one broad theme each month, and have combined some of the themes wherever it made sense. For example, Families and Pets can go together because they are both related to children’s home life. Community and Transportation go together because we talk about what kinds of things people transport in our community, or what types of vehicles community helpers drive, or how the vehicles help people in the community. Wild Animals is a combination of my Safari and Rainforest themes. Plants and Bugs go together because they are related to each other: they both depend on each other to survive. Bugs pollinate the plants to help them grow, and the plants provide food for the bugs. Our Water theme combines Pond and Ocean themes.

Why One Theme Per Month?

Doing themes for a month makes so much more sense for the children and me because they get to enjoy and explore a topic longer, and I don’t have to work so hard changing out books and center materials constantly as I would if I did weekly themes. Work smarter, not harder! What can children gain from a topic if their topic is being changed every week? Do they even have time to enjoy it? Do you really want to put out Farm themed puzzles, stamps, books, photos, puppets, dramatic play clothes, etc. only to change them again next week? The children probably like having the room changed so much even less than you do.

How Do You Fit Everything In?

One more thing about themes: I've had people tell me before that they don't understand how I can possibly do all of the activities I have listed in my theme pages. I don't. I never do one year exactly like the other. I add in some new activities, take away some old ones. When I have added new activities to my themes pages, I left in the old ones, so that teachers who visit the site can pick and choose what they want.

A few notes about the different sections on these charts:

Nursery Rhymes: My students usually learn nursery rhymes quickly and ask for more. I have matched these up with the themes, but they may be introduced earlier in the year. I also may add other nursery rhymes that aren't listed here.

Art: Children do art mainly in the Art Center, and sometimes at Small Group. Our Art Center is **entirely** open-ended art.

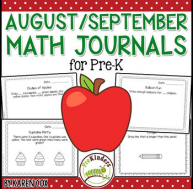
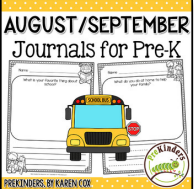




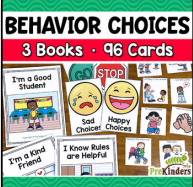

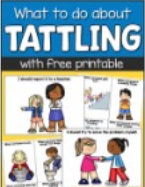
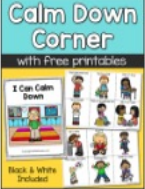
Fine Motor: I listed two for each month, but I have more than two fine motor activities available. I planned two per month so that I would be sure I didn't miss these at some point in the year.

Science Center: I have more in this center each month than what I've listed here.

Math & Literacy: One year is never exactly the same as another, because children progress at different rates. I've listed my Math & Literacy theme packs here, which cover a variety of math & literacy skills that you can use in Small Group or Centers. We might take a week or two and focus on a specific math skill (such as patterns), then we'll work on shapes for a week or two. We circle back around to the different math skills, building on them each time. I do not teach one skill for a whole month, and then abandon that skill for the rest of the year. My Math and Literacy Center will have a variety of skills in it for children to practice.




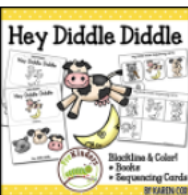

August

Theme: Beginning School

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
		<p>Bubble Making Experiment</p>	<p><u>Pom-poms,</u> <u>tongs,</u> <u>containers</u></p>	<p>Class Routines & Personal Hygiene</p>
		<p>Mix food color in vanilla pudding or yogurt (2 colors to make 1 color, e.g. yellow + blue)</p>		
		<p>Science Center: Basic materials, such as prisms, magnifying glasses, seashells.</p>		
				
				



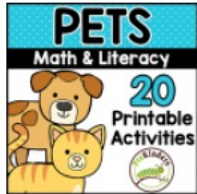

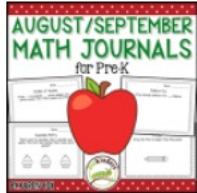




August

Theme: Beginning School

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
Find lots of simple Fine Motor activities here		None	None	Book List
				Free resources from the website
Basic materials, such as peg boards				Dramatic Play: Introduce House Center 







September

Theme: Families & Homes, Pets

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
 <p>FAMILY & HOMES Math & Literacy 7 Printable Activities</p>	 <p>FAMILY & HOMES Math & Literacy 7 Printable Activities</p>	<p><u>Color explorations:</u> <u>Color swirl, color mixing, etc.</u></p>	<p>Paper strips, scissors, paper punchers</p>	<p>Emotions & Manners</p>
 <p>PETS Math & Literacy 20 Printable Activities</p>	 <p>PETS Math & Literacy 20 Printable Activities</p>	<p><u>Five Senses</u></p>	<p><u>Pour sand from pitchers & containers of all sizes</u></p>	<p>Homes Around the World (book available in Family & Homes pack)</p>
 <p>AUGUST/SEPTEMBER MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K</p>	 <p>AUGUST/SEPTEMBER Journals for Pre-K</p>	<p>When I was a baby</p>		
 <p>PETS Ten Frame Game</p>	 <p>PETS Writing Center</p>	<p>Science Center: add color paddles, color sorting cups, color matching cards</p>		
 <p>PETS Geoboard Cards</p>				


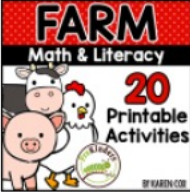
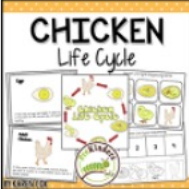



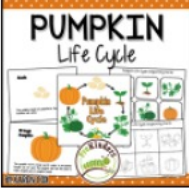





September

Theme: Families & Homes, Pets

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
		None		Book Lists: Families Pets
Interlocking cubes				Music & Movement: Families Pets
				Free resources from the website: Families , Pets
				Dramatic Play: Vet 

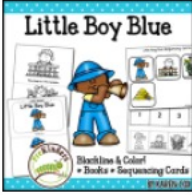

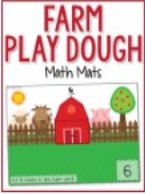




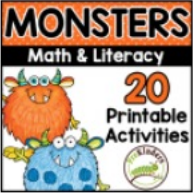




October

Theme: Farm

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
			<p><u>Veggie Scrubbing</u></p>	
			<p><u>Spiders, leaves, river rocks, tree blocks, sand</u></p>	
				<p>Compare crops we grow in our state to other places.</p>
		<p>Center: <u>Pumpkins or gourds.</u></p> <p>Transparent & non-transparent items.</p>		
		<p>Chemistry: <u>Slime, Make butter</u></p>		



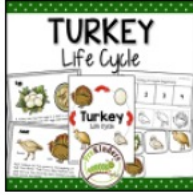
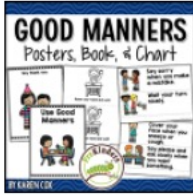
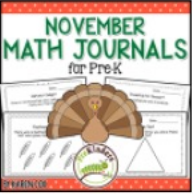


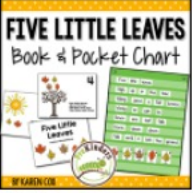

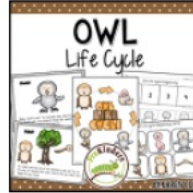




October

Theme: Farm

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
				<p>Book List: Farm Halloween</p>
				<p>Music & Movement: Farm Halloween</p>
				<p>Free resources from the website: Farm, Halloween</p>
<p>Beads in suction cup shapes.</p>				<p>Dramatic Play: Grocery Store or Fruit & Veggie Stand</p> 
<p>Water drops in pumpkin ice tray.</p>				

November

Theme: Forest (Trees, Leaves, & Animals)

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
			<p><u>Measuring cups, containers, funnels, rice or sand</u></p>	
			<p><u>Turkey basters, bucket of water, containers</u></p>	<p>Giving Thanks (Gratitude)</p>
				
		<p>Center: <u>Things from Trees, Leaf Symmetry, Tree Life Cycle, Mystery Boxes</u></p>		
		<p>Explorations: Nature walk, leaf fossils, bird watching</p>		



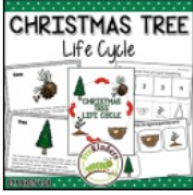
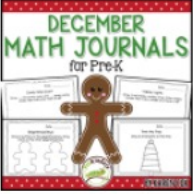
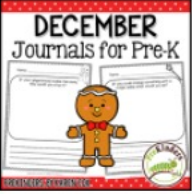
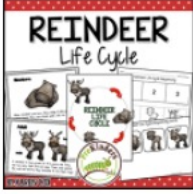





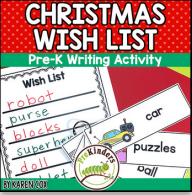
November

Theme: Forest (Trees, Leaves, & Animals)

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
				<p>Book List: Forest Thanksgiving</p>
		<p>Compare Red Riding Hood to <i>Pretty Salma</i>, by Niki Daly</p>		<p>Music & Movement: Forest Thanksgiving</p>
<p>Birds eating worms (clothespins & yarn)</p>	<p>Fall the Leaves (Get poster here)</p>			<p>Free resources from the website: Farm Thanksgiving</p>
<p>Pumpkin shape punch</p>				<p>Dramatic Play Pizza Shop</p> 
				



December

Theme: Gingerbread

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
			<p><u>Rice or sand,</u> <u>colorful paper</u> <u>clips, magnets</u></p>	<p>Celebrations Around the World</p>
			<p>Kinetic sand w/ small baking pans & cookie cutters</p>	
		<p>Experiments: <u>Make glue,</u> vinegar & baking soda</p>		
				
				






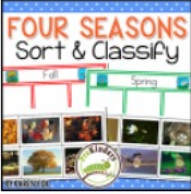
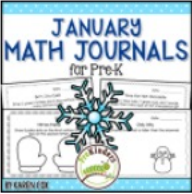





December

Theme: Gingerbread

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
		<p>Gingerbread Boy/Man</p>	<p>Christmas</p>	<p>Book List: Gingerbread Christmas</p>
		<p>Compare Gingerbread Boy/Man to <i>Gingerbread Baby</i>, by Jan Brett</p>		<p>Music & Movement: Gingerbread Christmas, Bells</p>
<p>String beads on pipe cleaner</p>		<p>Compare Gingerbread Boy/Man to <i>Gingerbread Girl</i>, by Lisa Campbell Ernst</p>		<p>Free resources from the website: Gingerbread Christmas</p>
<p>Spoon flat marbles into other containers</p>	<p>Jack Be Nimble (Get poster here)</p>			<p>Dramatic Play: Toy Shop w/ Gift Wrap Station </p>
				

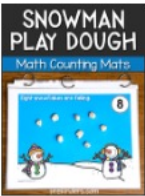

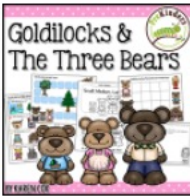




January

Theme: Winter & Weather

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
			<p><u>Snow in the Sensory Table</u></p>	<p>Compare our Winter to other places</p>
			<p><u>Rain: water, cups with holes, cups without holes</u></p>	
		<p>Talk about Winter Changes</p>		
		<p>Center: <u>Magnets, Can the wind move it?</u></p>		
		<p>Experiments: <u>Magnets, InstaSnow, Cryogenics</u></p>		




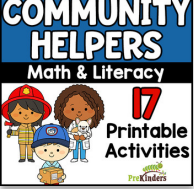
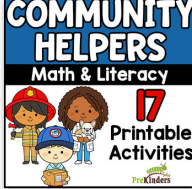
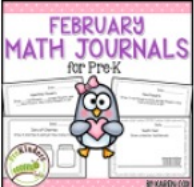
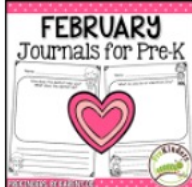

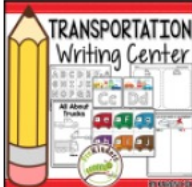


January

Theme: Winter & Weather

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
			<p>Martin Luther King, Jr.</p>	<p>Book List: Winter Weather</p>
<p>Move marbles from bowl to bottle with melon scoop</p>		<p>Compare Goldilocks to <i>Three Snow Bears</i>, by Jan Brett</p>		<p>Music & Movement: Winter Weather</p>
<p>Pompoms and tweezers</p>	<p>Rain, Rain, Go Away (Get poster here)</p>			<p>Free resources from the website: Winter Weather</p>
				<p>Dramatic Play: Bakery</p> 
				












February

Theme: Community & Transportation

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
			<p><u>Boats, water, bear counters to put in boats</u></p>	<p>Community Helpers</p>
		<p>Center - Simple machines: <u>Spinning objects, ramps, locks/keys, can you fix it</u></p>	<p>Aquarium rocks, trucks, mini construction cones</p>	<p>Dental Health</p>
		<p>Experiments: <u>Ramps, fingerprints, rockets</u></p>		<p>Nutrition</p>
				
				





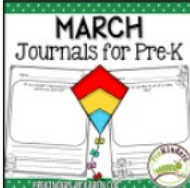
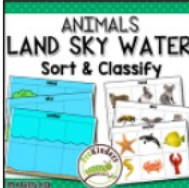


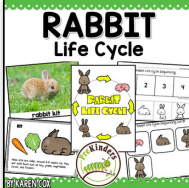
February

Theme: Community & Transportation

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
				<p>Book List: Community Transportation</p>
				<p>Music & Movement: Community Transportation</p>
<p>Nuts & bolts</p>				<p>Free resources from the website: Community Transportation</p>
<p>Toothpick punch</p>				<p>Dramatic Play: Post Office</p> 
				

March

Theme: Wild Animals

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
			<p>Sand with wild animals, scoops</p>	<p>African Folklore about wild animals</p>
			<p>Easter eggs with sand, rice, or rocks</p>	
		<p>Center: binoculars</p>		
				



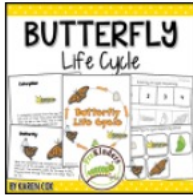


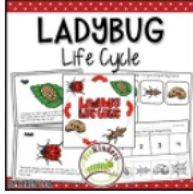
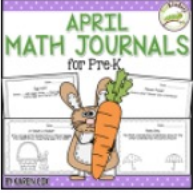







March

Theme: Wild Animals

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
			<p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>Book List: Wild Animals Rainforest</p>
			<p>Easter (sometimes in March)</p>	<p>Music & Movement: Wild Animals St. Patrick's</p>
	<p>Five Little Monkeys Sitting in a Tree</p>			<p>Free resources from the website: Wild Animals St. Patrick's</p>
<p>Paper clips, Dot to dot</p>				<p>Dramatic Play: Doctor's Office</p> 
<p>Slice bananas to make banana pudding</p>				


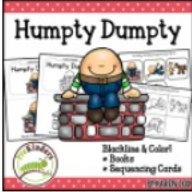




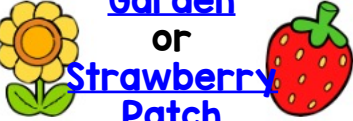
April

Theme: Bugs and Plants

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
			<p><u>Bugs, tongs, Easter grass, bug boxes</u></p>	<p>Caring for our Earth</p>
			<p><u>Small rocks, bugs, lizards, cups for scooping rocks</u></p>	<p>Relationship between bugs, plants, humans.</p>
				
		<p><u>Nature Walk Checklist</u></p>		
				

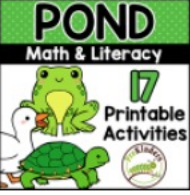
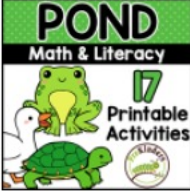
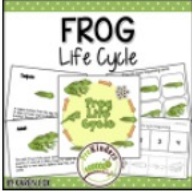
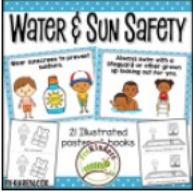
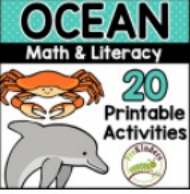
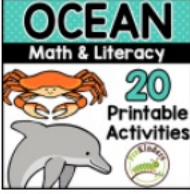
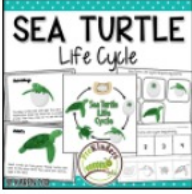




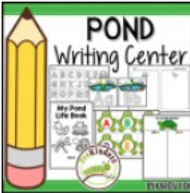
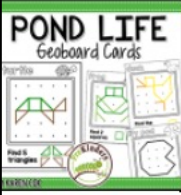
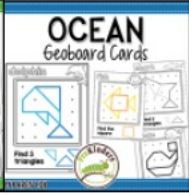
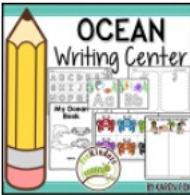
April

Theme: Bugs and Plants

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
			<p>Easter (sometimes in April)</p>	<p>Book List: Bugs Plants</p>
	<p>Mary, Mary (Get poster here)</p>		<p>Earth Day</p>	<p>Music & Movement: Bugs Plants</p>
	<p>Here is the Beehive (Get poster here)</p>			<p>Free resources from the website: Bugs Plants</p>
<p>Insect wrapping</p>				<p>Dramatic Play: Garden or Strawberry Patch</p> 
<p>Seeds with tweezers</p>				


May

Theme: Water Animals (Pond & Ocean)

Math	Literacy	Science	Sensory Table	Social Emotional
			<p><u>Foam lily pads, turtles, frogs, water</u></p>	
			<p><u>Catch foam fish in water with strainers</u></p>	
		<p><u>Sink & Float Experiment</u></p>	<p>Kinetic sand with ocean animal molds, shovels, small buckets, shells</p>	
 		<p>Water Experiments</p>		
 		<p>Center: <u>Make music w/ water, Things from ocean, wave bottle</u></p>		

May

Theme: Water Animals (Pond & Ocean)

Fine Motor	Nursery Rhymes	Fairy Tales	Holiday	More
		<p>The Ugly Duckling</p>	<p>Mother's Day</p>	<p>Book List: Pond Ocean</p>
	<p>Review all nursery rhymes (Get posters here)</p>			<p>Music & Movement: Pond Ocean</p>
				<p>Free resources from the website: Pond Ocean</p>
				<p>Dramatic Play: Ice Cream Shop </p>

Here are Bundles of the resources shown in the Curriculum Map:

THEMES

Math & Literacy Bundle

FARM Math & Literacy 20 Printable Activities	OCEAN Math & Literacy 20 Printable Activities	15 THEMES
PLANTS Math & Literacy 7 Printable Activities	FOREST Math & Literacy 13 Printable Activities	
BUGS Math & Literacy 20 Printable Activities	PETS Math & Literacy 20 Printable Activities	
POND Math & Literacy 17 Printable Activities	TRANSPORTATION Math & Literacy 17 Printable Activities	

NURSERY RHYMES GIANT BUNDLE

19 Rhymes Books & Sequencing

PreKinders

GEOBOARDS BUNDLE

WINTER Geoboard Cards	VALENTINE Geoboard Cards	ST. PATRICK'S Geoboard Cards
SPRING Geoboard Cards	EASTER Geoboard Cards	25 sets

WRITING CENTER Bundle

Pre-K

FARM Writing Center	FOREST Writing Center	GARDEN Writing Center	OCEAN Writing Center
DINOSAUR Writing Center	PETS Writing Center	POND Writing Center	SPACE Writing Center
TRANSPORTATION Writing Center	WEATHER Writing Center	WILD ANIMALS Writing Center	WINTER Writing Center
FALL Writing Center	More to Come!		

FAIRY TALES Bundle

Little Red Riding Hood, Three Little Pigs, Jack and the Beanstalk, Three Billy Goats Gruff, Little Red Hen, Goldilocks and The Three Bears, GINGERBREAD Literacy, GINGERBREAD Math Pack, Fairy Tale Sequencing, Fairy Tales True/False Cards

MATH JOURNALS Bundle for School Year

Pre-K

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K	OCTOBER MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K	NOVEMBER MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K
DECEMBER MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K	JANUARY MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K	FEBRUARY MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K
MARCH MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K	APRIL MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K	MAY MATH JOURNALS for Pre-K

WRITING JOURNALS Bundle for School Year

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER Journals for Pre-K	OCTOBER Journals for Pre-K	NOVEMBER Journals for Pre-K
DECEMBER Journals for Pre-K	JANUARY Journals for Pre-K	FEBRUARY Journals for Pre-K
MARCH Journals for Pre-K	APRIL Journals for Pre-K	MAY Journals for Pre-K

LIFE CYCLES BUNDLE

Apple, Butterfly, Sea Turtle Life Cycle, PreKinders

BY: KAREN COX

FALL LIFE CYCLES Bundle

BAT Life Cycle, OWL Life Cycle, SPIDER Life Cycle, PUMPKIN Life Cycle, SUNFLOWER Life Cycle, TURKEY Life Cycle



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