



## ECEC SCHOOL NEWS

March 2022

4836 N. Center Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85256  
480-362-2200

Monthly Newsletter to Early Childhood Education Center Parents, Families, and Community

## I WILL ACHIEVE



### March

**4:** First Friday Chats with Higher Education

**7-11:** Spring Break, no school, ECEC childcare available

**7 & 21:** SRS Ed Board Mtg, 5:15 p.m. via MS Teams

**15:** Kinder Roundup Drive-Thru Event at SRES—3:30-5:30 p.m.

**15:** ECEC Policy Council, 5:30 p.m.

**16:** Cap & Grown Picture Day (For students going into Kindergarten next year.)

**22:** Spring Picture Day

**23:** Early Release Day

### April

**4:** First Friday Chats with Higher Education

**6 & 20:** Early Release

**7 & 21:** SRS Ed Board Mtg, 5:15 p.m. via MS Teams

**15:** Spring Holiday, No School, ECEC Closed

### ECEC CONTACT

Tami Brungard, ECE Leader  
Tami.Brunnard@saltriverschools.org

## MESSAGE FROM TAMI

We will celebrate **Read Across America** and **Dr. Seuss Day** in March. There will be a visit from the *Cat in the Hat* and giving a book to every child.

Exploring books with children **builds language, literacy, cognitive and social skills**. Enjoy spending time interacting with books with your child is one way you can support their learning.

Spread the joy of reading with the titles in this Read Across America booklist <https://www.worldcat.org/profiles/ReadAcrossAmerica/lists/3209938>. We also encourage you to watch with Q&A with author Xelena González <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPFWWCsl3yl>.

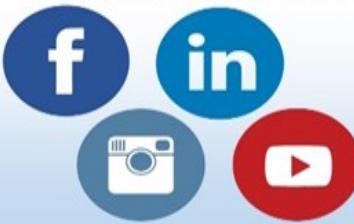
## PROGRAM UPDATES

**Head Start classes** will investigate different concepts during their ball study. At the end of these lessons, students will celebrate with a ball carnival.

**Early Head Start classes** prepared studies to help the infant and toddler children explore social studies and science concepts related to the features and nature of familiar items. They will use skills in literacy, math, technology, and the arts they investigate.

**Message from Teacher Mentors:** While working remotely, Teacher Mentors held professional development trainings for classroom staff. This provided an opportunity for staff to ask questions, collaborate, and gain a better understanding of implementing The Creative Curriculum. We missed the children and are excited to incorporate strategies and techniques that strengthen children's social and emotional skills. Teacher Mentors are adjusting to being back onsite, supporting teachers, and providing resources that will help them implement effective teaching practices.

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**CHALLENGE:  
READ 25 BOOKS  
AS A FAMILY  
BY MAY 4**  
(ORAL STORYTELLING COUNTS!)

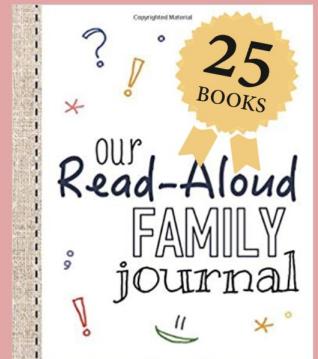
Open to all SRPMIC Families!  
Prizes awarded to families  
who complete the challenge!

Sign up for the  
challenge and get  
your family reading  
journal: email  
[Literacy@saltriverschools.org](mailto:Literacy@saltriverschools.org)  
or call 480-362-2063.

More details about the  
challenge can be found  
at [www.SaltRiverSchools.org](http://www.SaltRiverSchools.org).

# SALT RIVER FAMILY Read-Aloud Challenge

The Salt River Family Read-Aloud Challenge encourages families to read 25 books together now through Wednesday, May 4. Sign up today and we'll give you a read-aloud family journal to record the books and stories your family shares.



**SALT RIVER**  
SCHOOLS

480-362-2063  
[Literacy@saltriverschools.org](mailto:Literacy@saltriverschools.org)  
[SaltRiverSchools.org](http://SaltRiverSchools.org)

## Friday COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics for Ages 5-11, teens, and adults

Available by appointment only. Open to SRPMIC-enrolled children and Community resident children.

To schedule an appointment, call the COVID-19 Hotline at 480-362-2603, press 3. Please leave a voicemail that includes your name and phone number. A staff member will call you back for scheduling.

## National Nutrition Month

National Nutrition Month is an annual campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits. This year's theme, "Celebrate a World of Flavors," showcases how flavors from cultures around the world is a tasty way to nourish ourselves and appreciate our diversity. We are all unique with different bodies, goals, backgrounds, and tastes! A Registered Dietitian Nutritionist can help you create healthy habits that celebrate your heritage and introduce you to new foods and flavors.



### March 23 Twitter Chat

Wrap up #NationalNutritionMonth with @foodnutrimag on Twitter! At noon CT on March 23, use the hashtag #NNMchat to join the discussion about healthful cooking, meal prep, recipes and more to reach healthful eating goals.

[Post to timeline](#)

# These simple tips will ready your child for kindergarten success!

*Every child develops at their own pace. These tips are based on Arizona's current academic standards. If you have specific questions about grade-level standards, please contact your child's teacher. Information courtesy of [Expect More Arizona](#).*

**Practice personal skills**, such as buttoning, snapping, zipping, tying, washing hands, and putting things away. Providing opportunities for your child to manage personal life skills will build confidence.

**Create a task chart.** Having simple jobs at home builds responsibility, self-confidence, and a sense of accomplishment.

**ABCs and 123s:** Help your child notice numbers, shapes, letters, and words everywhere you go. Provide opportunities for your child to count, measure and compare.

**Read, read, read!** Reading is a valuable time to bond with your child and prepare them for success. Take time to ask your child questions that allow them to retell the story in their own words.

**Practice language** by singing songs, reciting poems and talking about the world around them.

**Build home skills**, such as cooking and laundry to build fine motor skills, including scooping, pouring, stirring, sorting, and matching.

**Play games**, such as Simon Says to get kiddos to run, jump, and walk in line.

**Schedule a tour at your new school** so your child can see where they will spend their day, including the cafeteria and playground. Ask the principal about their health and safety mitigation strategies.

- Read with your child at least 20 minutes every day. Follow the words on the page with your finger. Ask your child to explain his favorite parts of the story.
- Have your child use a finger to trace a letter while saying the letter's name and sound. Do this on paper, in sand, or on a plate of sugar.
- Write stories with your child. Have your child draw a picture and then tell you a sentence that goes with the picture.
- Have your child count items that can be found around the house. For example, how many light switches are in the house? How many shoes are in your closet? How many forks are in the drawer?
- Ask your child to count groups of objects around the house and identify which group has more, less or an equal number of objects. For example, are there more crayons or markers in the box? Do you have more books or stuffed animals? How many more?



Kinder Roundup | 2022-23 SY Registration Drive-Thru Event | Tues, March 15 | 3:30-5:30PM

## Exceptional Student Services

Over the past few months, the ESS Team has worked to promote connections and maintain services for ECEC students through remote and tele-therapy supports. One popular lesson covered prepositional phrases, which include words such as **on, in, under, next to, behind, close to, over, and off**. We ask young children to “put the flower... over, behind, in, on, beside or next to the table.” These sessions often become silly, especially if the flower is exchanged for a wild cat that is placed into the basket (or on the head!). These simple games help children expand their vocabulary, following directions, and are common concepts that many adults might take for granted.



# Cap & Gown Picture Day

**Wednesday, March 16  
9-10:30 a.m.  
ECEC Cafetorium  
480-241-1854**

**For students going into Kindergarten next year! There are no retakes at the ECEC.**

Schedule:

- Parent Assisted: 9 a.m.
- Turtle/Butterfly: 9:30 a.m.
- Quail/Eagle: 10 a.m.
- Cottontail/Cougar: 10:30 a.m.

Methods of payment (exact amount): Credit card, check, money order, or cash.

There will be no retakes at the ECEC. If your child is absent, you can call All Pro Pictures at 602-882-3813 to schedule an appointment at their studio.

# Spring Pictures

**Tuesday, March 22  
8:30–11:15 a.m.  
480-362-2200  
Blue Background**

Schedule:

- Parent Assisted: 8:30 a.m.
- Hummingbird/Cactus Wren: 9 a.m.
- Piglet/Ladybug: 9:20 a.m.
- Roadrunner/Coyote: 9:40 a.m.
- Frog/Raccoon: 10 a.m.
- Hawk/Bear: 10:20 a.m.
- Cougar/Butterfly: 10:45 a.m.
- Quail/Eagle: 11 a.m.
- Cottontail/Turtle: 11:15 a.m.
- Home-based families: First come, first served

Methods of payment (exact amount): Credit card, check, money order, or cash.

There will be no retakes at the ECEC. If your child is absent, you can call All Pro Pictures at 602-830-5667 to schedule an appointment at their studio.