

District 20 Pre-K Center

Unit of Study

Essential Question: Who am I and who are the people in my life?

Focus Questions:

- What makes me important and unique?
- What feelings do I have and why?
- What makes my class important and unique?
- What makes my family important and unique?

Student Outcomes

- I am unique; there is no one who looks, feels, thinks and acts exactly like I do.
- I feel different ways at different times for different reasons.
- I am part of a family and a classroom community.
- My family is important and unique.
- My classroom is a community. All of the people in my class are important and unique.
- I can help make my classroom a fun, safe and exciting place.

Literacy Activities

Feelings Faces:

Invite children to draw expressive self-portraits. Have them look in the mirror, make an expression and draw what they see.

Read Aloud:

Provide small stuffed animals or dolls and invite children to read to them.

Art Activities

3-D Me:

Provide playdough for children to use to create themselves, family members or a friend. Consider repeating this activity with other materials (i.e. recycled materials, collage materials, yarn, etc.).

Silly Faces:

Provide an assortment of facial features (cut from magazines or make your own from construction paper) for children. Invite them to create silly faces with the cutouts.

Science Activities

Mirrors: Provide mirrors for children to use to look at themselves. Later children may choose to look in the mirror with another child and compare/contrast what they notice about each other. Have children record their observations in their science journals.

Prints: Use an ink pad or a marker to create prints of the children's hands or fingers. Talk with them about their prints.

Music/Movement Activities

Shadow Tracing: Show children where to stand outside to create shadows. Trace their shadows; then invite them to trace the shadows of their family members.

How Do You Feel? Provide different genres of music with various tempos and types of instruments (i.e. reggae, violin concerto, jazz quartet, etc.). Play one song and ask the children how the music makes them feel. Encourage them to dance accordingly.

Math Activities

Name Numbers: Invite children to refer to their name cards and count the number of letters in their names then place the appropriate number card next to the name card.

Measure Me: Help children figure out how many "feet" or "hands" tall they are. Cut out several feet or hands (all the same size) and tape to wall. Have children stand next to the feet/hands and add a post-it to mark each child's height. Have children count how many feet/hands tall they are. Invite them to write the number on the post-it.

Cooking Activities

Graph: Create a graph comparing children's preference for the food just prepare to another food.

My Plate:

Create your favorite cultural dish with your family and share the recipe with a friend.

Vocabulary

unique, special, first name, last name, different, individual, same, alike, skill, interest, prefer, favorite, strength, tall, short, curly, straight, wavy, portrait, self-portrait, angry, silly, scared, afraid, excited, surprised, nervous, gloomy, shy, bored, grumpy, confused, culture, family, mother, father, brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, uncle, aunt, cousin, older, younger, big, small, share, kind, manners, together, community, friends, polite, respect

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