

ZEKE'S FUN AT HOME ACTIVITY CORNER

May 5 2020

Dear Zoo-Friends,

This week's playful lessons will **celebrate National Teacher's Appreciation Day, Cinco de Mayo and National Nurses Day** (Thursday)! We will use our **S.T.R.E.A.M.S.** format.

S.T.R.E.A.M.S.:

Science – all aspects of our physical world

Technology - looking up topics online, viewing pictures and videos

Recreation - movement and fitness – free and structured physical activities

Engineering - little hands building with blocks, Legos®, scissors, stirring, transferring, lacing – anything that uses the hands and fingers

The Arts - literature, art & music

Math – sorting, adding, subtracting, subitizing, measuring, time, comparing sizes/weights, etc.

Social - learning about self, family, community, world

Everyday!

- ✓ **Zoo-phonics:** Signal and sound the “a – z’s” every day. Older children can practice their word list. Signal and sound!
- ✓ **Literature:** Read a wonderful literature book aloud every day! Remember to Signal the first letter in each important word you read. Point to the letters so your child can see them as you say them. Ask and answer questions. Get the children involved in the story.

Tuesday's Lessons: (Zooponia took a day off yesterday to get some things done at the Zoo. She and all the Animals are back!) Today is a packed day because we are celebrating both **National Teacher's Day** and **Cinco de Mayo!** Just spread the activities throughout the day or do some tomorrow.

- 1) **Social:** Today is National Teacher's Day and Cinco de Mayo. What a busy day! This is a great opportunity to talk about what teachers do, from preschool through college. Teachers bring information to us that we don't know. They help us learn so we can think and speak and do! And guess who children's first teachers are? **Their parents!** So, we will celebrate **YOU** the parent, especially in this time of “home-schooling.”
- 2) **Handwriting/Art:** Today, have your child make a card for someone who has taught them, whether it is a Sunday School teacher, a preschool (or kindergarten teacher), or their favorite “stay-at-home teacher!”
- 3) **Social/Multicultural/History:** Today is **Cinco de Mayo!** This holiday is celebrated in both Mexico and the United States by celebrating Mexico's independence from France a long time ago (1862). This day celebrates one battle that Mexico won against France in **Puebla, Mexico**. Their true Independence Day is September 6th. We celebrate Cinco de Mayo in America as a wonderful cultural exchange.
- 4) **Math/Spanish:** Discover how to count in Spanish: uno (1), dos (2), tres (3), cuatro (4), cinco (5), seis (6), siete (7), ocho (8), nueve (9), dias (10)! Match objects to the numbers as you say the English and Spanish number words.
- 5) **Cooking/Music:** Put on some great Mexican music (Try “Cielito Lindo,” such happy **Mariachi** music!) and cook a delicious Mexican meal. Encourage those “little hands” to help prepare the dinner with you. Make **authentic street tacos** for dinner tonight!



INGREDIENTS:

Prepare:

2 tablespoons reduced sodium soy sauce
2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
3 cloves garlic, minced
2 teaspoons chili powder
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon dried oregano

1 1/2 pounds hamburger or skirt steak (cut into small pieces)
Cook!

Place mixture on 12 mini flour tortillas, warmed

On top of the mixture, sprinkle:

3/4 cup diced red onion
1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro leaves
Grated cheese
Squeeze 1 lime, cut into wedges

