

Unit 3: Construction

Week 7

Dear Families,

We are continuing our study of construction. This week we are reading **Roxaboxen** by Alice McLerran. You can find this and other books you might enjoy at the library. Some of the vocabulary words for this week are *belong*, *border*, and *trace*.



This week with your child, try a couple of the activities—or you can do them all! You can attach another page for drawing, writing stories, or anything else you'd like to share. Please help your child return this sheet to school at the end of the week. We hope you enjoy learning together.

Gross Motor: Fairy Houses

Collect natural materials such as sticks, bark, rocks, moss, pebbles, and use them to build houses for tiny, imaginary people outside or inside. What could you use to keep out the rain? Does it need stairs? Where will fairies sleep if it's cold out? Play with the fairy house!

Shared Reading (on next page)

- 1. Invite your child to point while you read aloud.
- 2. Cover the poem and say these words: *red*, *get*, *did*, *sit*.
- 3. For each word, ask: What is the first sound, the middle vowel, and the last sound you hear? (sounds, not letter names)

red: r, ê, d get: g, ě, t did: d, ĭ, d sit: s, ĭ, t

Talk about it

We have read the story *Roxaboxen* at school. Ask your child to describe the story and draw a picture of Roxaboxen, the make believe town. Bring the drawing to school to share.

Read together!

at least 20 minutes every day

Play with math ideas: Build with boxes

Collect some boxes (from shoes, cereal, crackers, etc.). Your child might want to build a wall, a castle, a garage, or other structure. (To keep the boxes from falling over, you could fill them with crumpled-up newspaper or tape them together.) Count the number of boxes used for building. Take a picture and bring it to school.

Explore science and engineering: Dump and Fill

Collect different sized boxes or containers and items to fill them (utensils, tops, sticks, pebbles).
Ask: Which containers hold the most? The least? Can you fill the box half full? What happens if you put water in a cardboard box?

Play with sounds to grow a reader

Write each of these on a small piece of paper: **ch**, **sh**, **a**, **i**, **p**, **n**, **m**. Use them to make each word listed below. Have your child tap each sound, then put the sounds together to make a word. Remind your child that **ch** and **sh** are digraphs—two letters that make one sound)—and that a digraph gets one tap.

/ch/-/i/-/p/ --> chip /ch/-/i/-/n/ --> chin /sh/-/i/-/p/ —> ship /m/-/a/-/sh/ —> mash



Use any other paper to make a drawing, write down a story, or share any adventures you have had together. The other children in our classroom community will love to know about them! You can also always send a note to the children or teachers in the classroom.

Family Response	
Child's name	
Who tried the Family Links activities together this week?	
Which activities did you enjoy? Was any activity challenging? Why?	

Shared Reading

The Generous Little Red Hen

There once was a little red hen who wanted to build a nest box in her coop.

- "Who will help me get the wood chips?"
- "Not I," said the cow.
- "Not I," said the horse.
- "Not I," said the sheep.
- "Ok. I will do it myself," said the little red hen. And so she did!
- "Who will help me get the hay?"
- "Not I," said the cow.
- "Not I," said the horse.
- "Not I," said the sheep.
- "Ok. I will do it myself," said the little red hen. And so she did!
- "Who will sit in my cozy nest?"
- "I will," said the cow.
- "I will," said the horse.
- "I will," said the sheep.

And all three animals joined the generous little red hen!