

Fireflies® Theme Summaries 2018-2019



FunShine Express® follows a four-year rotation of themes and activities. Themes for Buttercups® and Fireflies® are coordinated. Schedule is subject to slight changes.

September

Letters: A, B, C
Numbers: 1-3
Shapes: Circle
Color: Red

Hello and Goodbye: As a new curriculum year begins, children may say goodbye to family members and hello to new and returning friends in their group. Some may continue in the same room and others will transition to a new setting. Activities are planned to help children adjust to new schedules and rules. We'll also focus on names, sharing, and friendships. To add to the fun, we'll celebrate Grandparents Day!

Apples Everywhere: Apples, apples, everywhere apples! Learn all about the different types of apples, how they grow, and different foods to make with them.

October

Letters: D, E, F
Number: 4-6
Shape: Triangle
Color: Orange, Black

Be Safe: This theme includes information and fun activities to teach children how to stay safe. We'll celebrate Fire Prevention Week and help children recognize firefighters and other emergency workers as friends who keep them safe.

Wiggly Wonders: Spin a web of fun with wiggly spiders, hooty owls, bats, pumpkins, and other fall favorites!

November

Letters: G, H, I
Number: 7-8
Shape: Rectangle
Color: Brown

Sleep Tight: Everyone needs sleep. Sleeping helps us grow, feel good, and stay healthy. Bedtime can be fun! The children will share their bedtime routines and learn about things to see in the nighttime sky.

Getting Together: Thanksgiving is a time for gathering and giving thanks with family and friends. They will also enjoy exploring the history of Thanksgiving and symbols of this celebration.

December

Letters: J, K, L
Number: 9-10
Shape: Star
Color: Green

Hats Off to You: This theme includes fun activities and information about all kinds of head coverings—from cowboy hats to baseball caps! The children can also explore hats associated with a variety of community helpers. Even Santa and his elves have their own special hats!

Gingerbread and Jingle Bells: This month is full of holidays, and baking is often a big part of those celebrations. We'll bring the smell and taste of gingerbread along with holiday music and activities with lots of yummy, festive fun!

January

Letters: M, N, O
Number: 11-12
Shape: Octagon
Color: White

Riding Around: This theme will take off as children explore cars, trucks, bikes, airplanes, wagons, and other vehicles for riding around! The children will investigate ways wheels help people and things move from one place to another.

Sparkles and Shivers: Winter is cold and icy in many parts of our country. There are many fun activities to do on frigid, winter days, as long as we bundle up in warm clothes! The children will learn all about snowflakes, frost, and icicles, too.

February

Letters: P, Q, R
Number: 13-14
Shape: Heart
Color: Pink

In the Mail: Valentine's Day is the perfect time to show our friends and family we love them. The children will share their love by doing kind things for each other and making cards and gifts to give to friends and family. Groundhog Day is also part of the fun.

I Am Healthy: We can do many things with our bodies. The children will learn how to stay healthy with proper hygiene, exercise, and nutritious eating. National Children's Dental Health Month and American Heart Month will be highlighted during this healthful theme.

March

Letters: S, T, U
Number: 15–16
Shape: Rhombus
Color: Blue

Silly Fun: We'll explore the wacky world of Dr. Seuss with reading, art, math, and science fun during this silly theme. Encourage children to think outside the box with activities that will let their imaginations run wild!

Changing Weather: Spring is in the air! The children will explore the sometimes unpredictable weather patterns of spring, including wind, rainstorms, and rainbows. Grab your coats and join us outside for activities that are forecast to be some of the children's favorites!

April

Letters: V, W, X
Number: 17–18
Shape: Oval
Color: Yellow

Up and Away: Look high in the sky for this lofty theme. The children will learn how airplanes, balloons, rockets, and kites soar through the air. Everyone will be blown away with the fun activities!

Spring Has Sprung: There are many changes in nature during the spring. The children will enjoy hands-on experiences as they learn how rain prepares the soil for new life, how plants grow from seeds and bulbs, and how baby birds and chicks hatch from their shells.

May

Letters: Y, Z
Number: 19–20
Review: Square
Color: Purple

Baby Animals: Animals have babies just as people do! The children will learn how animals care for their young, where baby animals live, what they eat, and how they learn to live on their own. Cuddle up for some fun during this adorable theme!

When I'm Big: Children are learning and growing quickly at this age, and each milestone is a step toward independence. Celebrate achievements and focus on what's next for each child's development. This theme helps the children discover why it's great to be big!

June

Review Letters, Numbers, Shapes, and Colors

In the Meadow: A meadow is a habitat filled with hidden wonders. Invite the children to join you in learning about plants and wildlife that call a meadow home.

Giddy Up and Go: Yee-haw, cowpokes! It's time for some rip-roarin' fun! The children will "go west" to learn about cowboys, ranch life, horses, rodeos, and everything western. Saddle up!

July

Review Letters, Numbers, Shapes, and Colors

To Market, To Market: Gather the children for a trip to the farmers market or local store, where they will learn about the all kinds of interesting things to buy! The children will pretend to choose products to purchase, pay for them, and use appropriate manners in the checkout lane.

Sports Talk: Introduce your little athletes to this all-star sports theme! They'll learn about many different types of sports and their equipment, game rules, different types of athletes, and sportsmanship.

August

Review Letters, Numbers, Shapes, and Colors

Playground Palooza: Who doesn't love a playground? Enjoy the sizzling days of summer by visiting local parks, discussing playground structures, and enjoying a wide variety of outdoor learning activities.

Cookout Lookout: Summer is at its peak in August. Take advantage of the last few days with barbecues and picnics. Don't be discouraged by a few ants—we'll learn about them too!