

# News You Can Use

Perry County

Fall 2019



## Upcoming Events

### Crooksville Exempted Village Sites

Oct. 28, 2019—Field trip to pumpkin farm  
 Oct. 29, 2019—2 hr. early out—PT conferences  
 Nov. 27-Dec. 2, 2019—NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving break  
 Dec. 23, 2019-Jan. 3, 2020—NO SCHOOL-Christmas break

### New Lexington Sites

Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2019—Halloween party -Junction City sites  
 Nov. 5, 2019—NO SCHOOL-Teacher Professional Development  
 Nov. 27, 2019—2 hr. early out  
 Nov. 28-Dec. 2, 2019—NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving break  
 Dec. 20, 2019—2 hr. early out  
 Dec. 23, 2019-Jan. 3, 2020—NO SCHOOL-Christmas break

### Northern Local Sites

Nov. 5, 2019—NO SCHOOL—Teacher Professional Development  
 Nov. 28-Dec. 2, 2019—NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving break  
 Dec. 20, 2019—2 hr. early out  
 Dec. 23, 2019-Jan. 3, 2020—NO SCHOOL-Christmas break

### Contact Information

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## Message from the Coordinator

Welcome to school year 2019-2020! Preschool is in full swing, and our students are busy learning and growing. Our mission at Muskingum Valley Preschool is to connect with children and families to create high quality, affordable programs that contribute to kindergarten readiness for all students. To help us achieve our mission, we are beginning our second year with a curriculum called DIG (Develop, Inspire, Grow). DIG guides our teachers in providing appropriate and meaningful learning experiences that will prepare our students for kindergarten. In addition to learning how to be part of a group and how to be a good friend, they are gaining knowledge in language and literacy, math, science, and social studies.

To stay up-to-date on classroom activities and events, I invite you to sign up for Class Dojo. This communication tool is also a great way to communicate with our classroom teachers. For more information, contact your teacher.

I look forward to a great year!

Lisa Gormley  
 MVESC  
 Perry County Supervisor

# Activities to Encourage Speech and Language Development

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association offers these age-appropriate ways that parents can engage their young children to help develop speech and language abilities.

## 2 TO 4 YEARS

- Use good speech that is clear and simple for your child to model.
- Repeat what your child says indicating that you understand. Build and expand on what was said. "Want juice? I have juice. I have apple juice. Do you want apple juice?"
- Use baby talk only if needed to convey the message and when accompanied by the adult word. "It is time for din-din. We will have dinner now."
- Make a scrapbook of favorite or familiar things by cutting out pictures. Group them into categories, such as things to ride on, things to eat, things for dessert, fruits, things to play with. Create silly pictures by mixing and matching pictures. Glue a picture of a dog behind the wheel of a car. Talk about what is wrong with the picture and ways to "fix" it. Count items pictured in the book.
- Help your child understand and ask questions. Play the yes-no game. Ask questions such as, "Are you a boy?" "Are you Marty?" "Can a pig fly?" Encourage your child to make up questions and try to fool you.
- Ask questions that require a choice. "Do you want an apple or an orange?" "Do you want to wear your red or blue shirt?"
- Expand vocabulary. Name body parts, and identify what you do with them. "This is my nose. I can smell flowers, brownies, popcorn, and soap."
- Sing simple songs and recite nursery rhymes to show the rhythm and pattern of speech.
- Place familiar objects in a container. Have your child remove the object and tell you what it is called and how to use it. "This is my ball. I bounce it. I play with it."
- Use photographs of familiar people and places, and retell what happened or make up a new story.

## 4 TO 6 YEARS

- When your child starts a conversation, give your full attention whenever possible.
- Make sure you have your child's attention before you speak.
- Acknowledge, encourage, and praise all attempts to speak. Show you understand the word or phrase by fulfilling the request, if appropriate.
- Pause after speaking. This gives your child a chance to continue the conversation. Continue to build vocabulary. Introduce a new word and offer its definition, or use it in a context that is easily understood. This may be done in an exaggerated, humorous manner. "I think I will drive the vehicle to the store. I am too tired to walk."
- Talk about spatial relationships (first, middle, and last; right and left) and opposites (up and down; on and off).
- Offer a description or clues, and have your child identify what you are describing: "We use it to sweep the floor" (a broom). "It is cold, sweet, and good for dessert. I like strawberry" (ice cream).
- Encourage your child to give directions. Follow his or her directions as he or she explains how to build a tower of blocks.
- Play games with your child, such as "house." Exchange roles in the family, with you pretending to be the child. Talk about the different rooms and furnishings in the house.
- Take advantage of daily activities. For example, while in the kitchen, encourage your child to name the utensils needed. Discuss the foods on the menu, their color, texture, and taste. Where does the food come from? Which foods do you like? Which do you dislike? Who will clean up? Emphasize the use of prepositions by asking him or her to put the napkin on the table, in your lap, or under the spoon. Identify who the napkin belongs to: "It is my napkin." "It is Daddy's." "It is John's."
- While shopping for groceries, discuss what you will buy, how many you need, and what you will make. Discuss the size (large or small), shape (long, round, square), and weight (heavy or light) of the packages.





## Muskingum Valley Preschool - Northern Local Site

### Sheridan Middle School Preschool — Mrs. Bidwell/Mrs. Norman



This month we are learning about healthy eating and exercise. We are talking about healthy food choices and trying fruits and vegetables, many of which kids had not tried before. We made homemade granola bars for a healthy treat. Our classes participated in the Little General Health Walk. Each lap the children completed earned them a hole punch on their shoe necklace. The classes also had some families participate in the event. We made prints with apples, bananas and black berries and completed a silly fruit craft. It was an exciting way of being hands on with learning, eating, cooking, exercising and having fun.



### Thornville Preschool Mrs. Robertson

### Somerset Elementary Preschool Mrs. Powell/Mrs. Gordon

Apple tasting with red, green, and yellow apples.



We visited VanBuren Acres for some fall fun! Kids enjoyed slides, mazes, jump pillows, corn boxes, pig races, farm animals and more!



Graphing what our favorite apple was.



Dear Parents,

Imagine if there was a simple, inexpensive tool that could improve the futures for children in school, at home, and for the rest of their lives. We are currently using such a tool this year, and it is called the PAX Good Behavior Game.



The PAX Good Behavior Game is an evidence-based practice that your child’s teacher will use during regular instruction time to encourage engagement, reduce disruptions, and help children focus on the task at hand. Classrooms that use PAX typically show a 70 percent reduction in disruptions while also increasing time for meaningful instruction and learning.

The increased self-regulation that children learn from using the PAX Good Behavior Game at school improves lifetime outcomes, including increased graduation and college-entrance rates, increased lifetime earnings, decreased risk for drug abuse, and decreased risk for mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. PAX increases the peace, productivity, health, and happiness in every community.

Here’s one example of how PAX is being used in our classrooms:



*Mrs. Robertson’s classroom—If a student demonstrates a PAX behavior such as sharing, being a good friend, listening, etc. the student gets to put a pickle in the pickle jar. When our pickle jar is filled up the class gets a treat!*

**Visit [www.goodbehaviorgame.org](http://www.goodbehaviorgame.org) for more information about PAX as well as implementing PAX strategies at home and in the community!**

## Muskingum Valley Preschool Mission

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