

# A Jump Start to Kindergarten

## Summer Programming for NM PREK K Title

The Children's Garden Child Development Centers  
Las Cruces, New Mexico

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August 19, 2020



# Jump Start to Kindergarten – Summer 2020 Summer Program for NM PREK

- Jump Start to Kindergarten for NM PREK students was one of the programs that was created under the CARES Act.
- Jump Start was created as a provision of the Child Care and Early Childhood Education to support social emotional support of children.
- Jump Start was also created to provide school readiness skills to support PREK Students in their transition from a developmentally learning environment to a more focused learning curriculum of pre-reading, pre-writing and pre-math skills as they move on to Kindergarten.
- Jump Start more importantly was created to provide activities to support the social-emotional development of PREK Children during these COVID-19 days.



# The Children's Garden (TCG) Jump Start to Kinder Program Summer 2020

- TCG applied for and was granted 50 Jump Start Slots for 6 Center Sites.
- Jump Start Program Dates were set from June 9 to July 29, 2020
- Children class time was set for 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, 5 days a week
- Children's end of year rubric scores were referred to determine what was each child's present level of performance and as well as where instruction would begin.
- The curriculum focused on Pre-Reading, Pre-Math. Pre-Writing Skills, Social-Emotional Development and age appropriate school social skills.



# Reaching out to Families that had left the Center due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

- PREK Teaching Staff that had been providing Virtual Learning to our children called each family and shared the information specific to how we were had been selected for the JUMP START Program and the benefits of bringing their child back for a Face to Face learning experience.
- We informed families of how we were following all required Cleaning and Sanitizing set forth by NM Child Care Licensing, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- We assured them that their child was our priority and TCG was making every effort to maintain the safest environment for their children
- PREK Teaching Staff was successful as we were able to get 48 families to agree to return to our 6 program sites.



# Jumpstart Curriculum

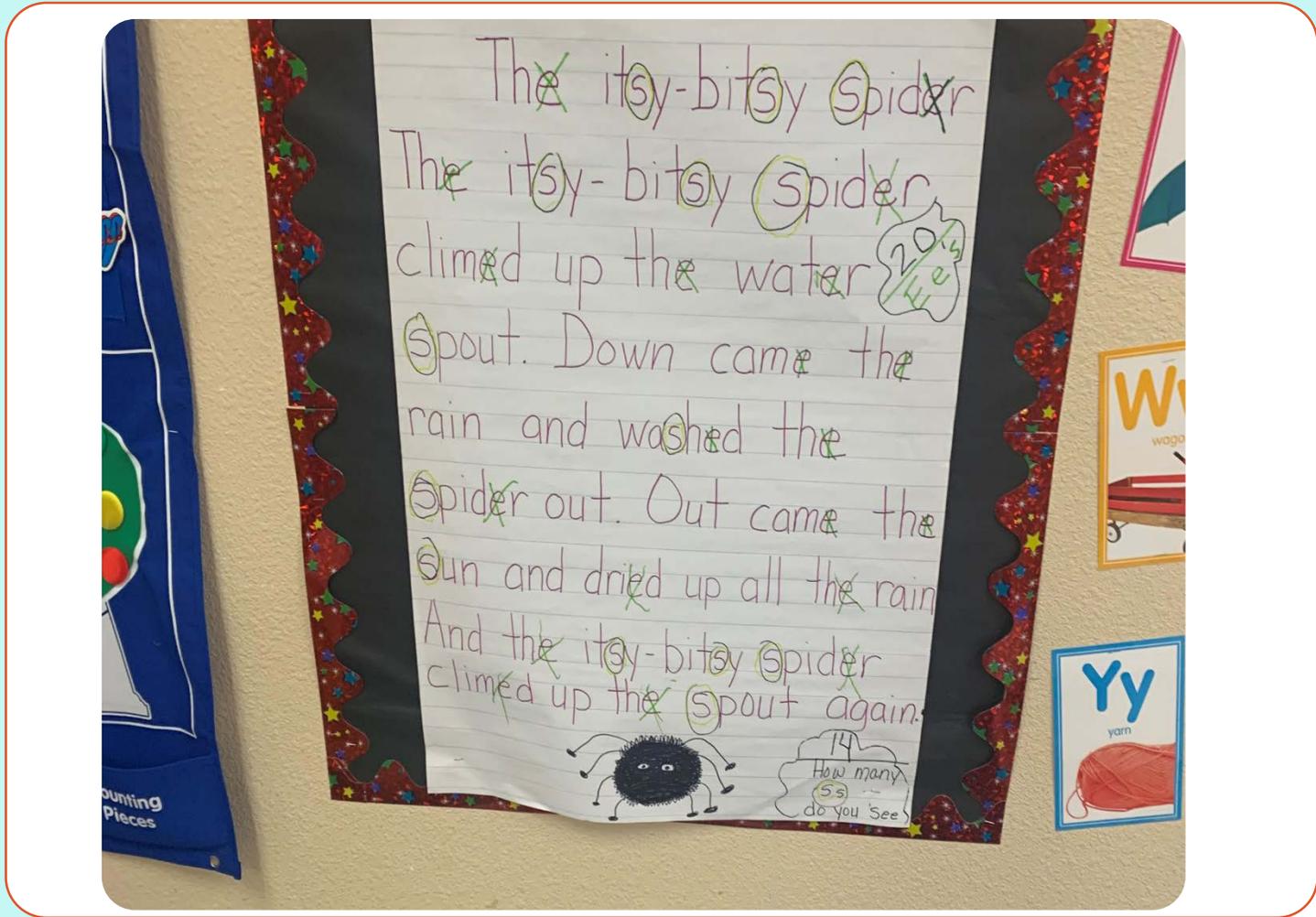
## Pre Reading/Literacy Skills Taught

- Children increased their knowledge of phonological awareness by reviewing letter sounds, learning what vowels and consonants were. They used a word wall and flash cards as well.
- They used this skill to apply them to weekly sight words that parent's eagerly waited for at the end of each day.
- Children increased their vocabulary as they learned weekly vocabulary words.
- They learned how to read & write new sight words

## Pre Math/Numeracy Skills Taught

- Children increased their knowledge in numeracy and math readiness.
- Children understood numbers, ways of representing numbers, relationships among numbers and number systems.
- They learned the order of numbers 1-30, learned how to extend the number line using negative numbers.
- Technology in the form of HATCH Tablets helped facilitate number counting and recognition of numbers





Learning the  
Capital Letter S &  
the little s. Crossing  
out the vowel e.  
Sonoma Jumpstart

Caption





## Sonoma Word Wall & Bug Prints

Sonoma Jump Start worked in all areas of Literacy.



# Jump Start Curriculum (cont'd)

## Writing & Spelling Skills Taught

- Children were provided weekly sight word and spelling words that they would use and study all week long.
- Children became very involved in reading and writing their spelling words
- Children participated in daily journal writing and it was through their daily and at the end of the program were able to tell the difference between upper and lower case letters.

## Social-Emotional Support

- Children were given different strategies that helped them express their feelings and emotions
- Children learned how to find a “safe spot” in the classroom that would carry over to home.
- Strategies used to calm children were the use of feeling meters, writing in a feeling journal.
- Various games were used to help children understand and live with COVID-19!!!





## What we would look like as Planets!

Children then wrote in their journals why they drew themselves as these planets.



# Jumpstart Curriculum (cont'd)

## Learning Kindergarten Social School Skills

- Educator's introduced school program rules for example:
- Children were learning to raise hands and waited to be called on
- Children were given strategies to learn to cope with behavior, such as breathing to calm themselves or go to the Reflection Center to "regroup"
- Children learned how to work cooperatively within a group setting
- Children were very excited to be in a "big kid school"!



# What were the Pro's and Con's

## PROS

- Jump Start required a paradigm shift on how PREK children were usually taught.
- Specific reading, writing, and math strategies were implemented
- Families and children were excited about the program and filled provided positive feedback on how their child progressed in 6 short weeks.

## CONS

- Even though TCG was following all rules, guidelines and regulations put forth by Licensing/DOH/ECECD & CDC we still had some adults and or children that were exposed or tested positive that caused us to put staff and or classroom educators on 14-day quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure.



# Jump Start Program Feedback from Families

- Parent's were asked for their opinion of the overall Jump Start Program.
- Greyson's Mom writes: *"No changes" Greyson really enjoyed it. Was more involved in reading & writing during the summer. Don't know what you guys did but was awesome? "*
- Alaska's Mom writes: *"No changes!!! Great Program"*
- Hamza's mom writes: *Excellent Program*
- Maddy's Mom writes: *"Super pleased to attend the program!"*
- Over all most parent's felt the program helped prepare their child's for transitioning from our PREK program to a more academic Kindergarten program.





# The Children's Garden Child Development Centers



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