

EXPLORE SPEECH & LANGUAGE AT... Dig and Draw Day

Saturday, June 6th from 9-11am at Ellsworth Park in Downtown Silver Spring



Practice speech and language skills while spending quality time outside at Dig and Draw Day!

TALKING

EXPLORE: Sensory Adjectives
ENRICH: Expressive Vocabulary
ENGAGE: Using the sense of touch to describe



PARENT PROMPT:

- While getting your hands messy planting the butterfly garden, talk with your child about using his/her sense of touch to describe what things feel like, such as temperature words, texture words, and descriptors of the level of softness. Have your child use touch to describe:
 - The dirt (e.g. wet, squishy)
 - The shovel (e.g. hard, cold)
 - The leaves of the plant (e.g. soft, smooth)



WORD PLAY

EXPLORE: Stop Consonant Sounds
ENRICH: Articulation of Individual Sounds for Clear Communication
ENGAGE: Production of the /d/ sound



PARENT PROMPT:

- In keeping with the theme of the day - Dig and Draw - make today a about the letter /d/. Talk to your child about how /d/ is a short sound you make by tapping your tongue to the roof of your mouth right behind your front teeth. Then, make a list of words that have the /d/ sound in them. Can your child identify which words have the /d/ sound in the:
 - Beginning of the word (e.g. Dig, Draw)
 - Middle of the word (e.g. siDeWalk, garDen)
 - End of the word (e.g. buD, weeD)



LISTENING

EXPLORE: Following Directions
ENRICH: Auditory Comprehension
ENGAGE: The ability to follow directions to draw a picture



PARENT PROMPT:

- Play the "Draw My Picture" game with the sidewalk chalk: sit with your back to your child and draw a picture using simple shapes and lines. Then, give your child directions on how to draw a copy of your picture.
- For example, if you drew a house, you could say, "Draw a big pink square in the middle of your paper. Draw a blue triangle on top of the square. Draw a tall orange rectangle inside the square, touching the bottom edge."
- See if your child can:
 - Use the right color
 - Draw shapes the correct size
 - Put shapes in the correct place in the picture



SOCIAL LANGUAGE SKILLS

EXPLORE: Polite Requests
ENRICH: Pragmatic Language
ENGAGE: The ability to ask a peer for something



PARENT PROMPT:

- While planting the butterfly garden, have your child work on asking a for a turn with a garden tool. Practice a script that your child can use needed, such as "Excuse me, can I please use the ____ when you're done with it?" Remind your child to:
 - Initiate the conversation politely
 - Use a complete sentence
 - Maintain good eye contact

