**Family Bulletin: Kindergarten Unit**

**Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten**

The main book for this unit is called **Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten** written by Joseph Slate and illustrated by Ashley Wolff. It's the first day of Kindergarten and Miss Bindergarten is hard at work getting the classroom ready for her twenty-six new students. Meanwhile, Adam Krupp wakes up. Brenda Heath brushes her teeth, and Christopher Beaker finds his sneaker. Miss Bindergarten puts the finishing touches on the room just in time, and the students arrive. Now the fun can begin! This rhyming, brightly illustrated book is the perfect way to practice the alphabet and to introduce young children to Kindergarten.

**Target Sound and Letter Symbols**

For this unit, the target sound is one speech sound that is represented by two letters: “ch” as in chip, chocolate, chime, choose, check

**Bringing it Home—The Home and School Connection**

Try these great ideas to bring the Kindergarten theme into your home!

- Create a school prop box. Gather items that can be used to play school and put them in a special box, such as a shoebox or clean laundry detergent box. Items for your school prop box might include paper, pencils, crayons, books, watercolor paints, glue, scissors, a bal, a lunch bag, or index cards with the names of family members and friends written on them. Use the school prop box when you and your child play school together.

- Eat a meal from trays or lunch boxes/bags. Encourage your child to carry his own tray to the table and return the tray to the kitchen after the meal. Or eat a meal from lunch boxes/bags. Show your child what can be thrown away after eating and what should be brought back home.

**Vocabulary:**
- Kindergarten
- Backpack
- Classroom
- Crossing Guard
- Principal
- Jitters
- Attention
- Peeking
- Chuckle
- Sigh
- Stumble
- Slump
- Nonsense
- Check
- Munch
- Recess
- Adventures
- Count
- Leader
- Shrunk

**Other Kindergarten Vocabulary:**
- Cafeteria
- Gym
- P.E.
- Counselor
- Playground
- Librarian

**Rhyming Words**
- See-me
- Eat-treat
- Big-pig
- Town-down
- Shop-stop
- Cup-up
- Smart-art
- Fun-one

Starting School

This unit is designed to help your preschooler become comfortable as they get ready to go to kindergarten. The related and rhyming books for the unit can help ease worries and make the classroom a little more welcoming. Contact your local library to see if any or all of these titles are available.

Related Book: First Day Jitters

Author: Julie Danneberg   Illustrator: Judy Love

This book demonstrates the wide range of emotions some children experience as the first day of school approaches. Children will be able to relate to the text and illustrations that lead to an unexpected and humorous ending.

Rhyming Book: Kindergarten, Here I come!

Author: David Steinberg & Mark Chambers   Illustrator: Mark Chambers

This book consists of poems that describe a kindergartner’s view of the first through the hundredth day of kindergarten. The rhyming text and illustrations provide an introduction to moments during the kindergarten day such as story time, lunch time, recess, show and tell, field trips, math and science, and lining up for activities.

Other books that relate to going to Kindergarten:

Annabelle Swift, Kindergartner by Amy Schwartz

Annabelle’s older sister prepared her for everything on the first day of school—or did she?

Barnaby Goes to School by Wendy Rouillard

Even though he can’t bring his parents or dog along, Barnaby discovers that going to school doesn’t mean he’s alone.

Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes

An unusually named mouse feels she doesn’t fit in until a kindly teacher shows her why it’s great to be different.

Don’t Eat the Teacher by Nick Ward

Nibble away at the first-day jitters with a humorous look at what NOT to do in school.

Molly Rides the School Bus by Julie Brillhart

Bus rides with “big kids” are no big deal with the help of this expressive story.

Penelope at School by Anne Gutman

Join Penelope on a wonderful day at school as she paints, plays, and meets new friends.

Check out this website:

https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/transitioning-to-kindergarten