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## **MARCH 2020**

**Themes:** Dr. Seuss, St Patrick's Day, Spring, Transportation

Letters: Pp, Kk
Numbers: 12, 13
Colors: Green
Shapes: Clover
Science: Rainbows
Social Studies: Ireland

Nursey Rhymes: Rainbow, Rainbow and Old Mac Donald

In celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday we will be having a Spirit week from 3/2-3/6.

Read Across American is March 2 and we will be celebrating the week of 3/2-3/6/20. Each day we will be having different activities. Please see your child's class for more information.

Monday: Wear Stripes
Tuesday: Wacky Hair Day

Wednesday: Wear a Silly Tie or Hair Bow

Thursday: Bring a Dr. Seuss Book
Friday: Wear your pajamas to school

Happy Anniversary to Ms. Joanne and Ms. Martha who have been with Wee Care for 6 years. Your love and patience is appreciated!

Don't forget to like us on Facebook to see all of our activities.... www.facebook.com/weecarepreschoolchulavista





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## Dates to remember:

3/08 Daylight Savings Begins

3/17 St. Patrick's Day

3/19 Spring begins

3/27 Cap and Gown money due for Pre-K and TK

3/31 Cesar Chavez Day































The Land of Make Believe: How and Why to Encourage Pretend Play

By Lauren Lowry

## The Connection Between Pretend Play and Language

Pretend play and language both involve the same underlying ability to represent things symbolically.

Pretend play is also known as "symbolic play" because it involves the use of symbols. When we use symbols, we use something to stand for something else. In the case of pretend play, children may use one object to stand for another, such as pretending a spoon is a hairbrush, or a tablecloth is a cape. This type of symbolic thought is also needed for language, as our words are symbols. Our words stand for our thoughts and ideas. Therefore, pretend play and language both involve the same underlying ability to represent things symbolically (Weitzman and Greenberg, 2002). It's no wonder children start to engage in pretend play around the same time their first words emerge (between 12 to 18 months). Furthermore, children who have language difficulties sometimes also struggle with pretend play.

## Why Encourage Pretend Play?

There are many reasons why parents and caregivers should consider encouraging their child's pretend play skills:

- Your child will gain practice with using symbols. This strengthens the foundation for your child's pretend skills and language skills.
- Pretend play is an excellent way to expose your child to new vocabulary that he may not be exposed to in everyday life, such as "pirate", "sword", "rescue", "castle", or "fairy".
- When you pretend with your child, you will help him learn to play with others. Eventually, your child will start to pretend with other children, where he will learn to take turns and collaborate.
- When children take on a pretend role, they imagine what it is like to be another person. This helps develop their ability to take others' perspectives and develop empathy.
- Pretend play is fun! When you play like a child and let your imagination lead, you and your child will never run out of things to play with or talk about!

