



## Balls Study

Dear Families,

2/24/21

We have noticed that during gross motor time, the children love to kick, throw, and bounce balls. They are curious about the different kinds of balls, sports involving different types of balls, their materials, what is inside of them and how high they can bounce. As we study balls we will learn concepts and skills in literacy, math, science, social studies, the arts and technology. We will be using our thinking skills to investigate, ask questions, solve problems, make predictions and test our ideas.

This new study gives the children a fascinating perspective on the geometry and physics of balls, while mastering their social skills through games with teamwork and keeping track of turns. Also, the children will focus on physical skills such as controlling a ball to land in a basket or a net. We're sure to "have a ball" bouncing and balancing math, exercise, and socialization skills all in the same study!

Of course, this study also come with literature and new vocabulary for the children. One fun story called, *The Doorbell Rang*, explains the math concept of subtracting through giving away chocolate chip cookies to children. Our vocabulary includes learning the difference between a circle and a sphere. The children will also investigate science facts as they learn the names and some characteristics of the planets and our globe. If possible, we would like your help in gathering a collection of items to investigate. Here is a list of suggestions:

Baseball	Football	Racquet ball
Marbles	Tennis ball	Kickball
Beach ball	Koosh ball	Soccer ball
Cotton balls	Ping-pong balls	Volley ball
Clear plastic balls	Wiffle balls	Badminton Birdies/Balls
Planet Books & Magazines	Sports Books & Magazines	Cookie Recipe Books
Basketball	Golf balls	Prisms

### What You Can Do at Home

Spend time with your child, playing with balls of all shapes, types, sizes. (See list above for ideas) Talk about what the balls are made of, whether they are heavy or light, solid or hollow and big or little. Think aloud with your child to encourage his or her question making skills, for example, "I wonder what's inside of this tennis ball? I wonder how far we can throw the tennis ball?" At the end of our study, we'll have a special even to celebrate what we have learned. Thank you for playing an important role in our learning.



Sincerely,

Classroom #4

Miss Laura and Miss Pat

