Kindergarten Families,

As you see your child has begun to explore their environment around them and as a class we will begin a unit on community. During this unit we will cover what a community is, community helpers, tools community helpers use, how to be a good community helper. This is a glimpse into what we will be doing for the next 6 weeks. The learning experiences are driven by the students and require much research. We are excited to guide your students through this process and we cannot wait to see what they discover.

-Kindergarten Teachers

Transdisciplinary Theme

How We Organize Ourselves

An inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment.

Central Idea

Communities need people to fulfill roles and provide resources.

Look for updates and pictures from our unit on livingtree.com.

For the students assessment they will pick a community helper and fold a piece of paper into 3 columns with headers that say ‘can’, ‘have’, ‘are’. Under each column, the student will write/draw 3 items for each column.

Ms. Jones  Mrs. Patino
Mrs. Lamport  Mrs. Sawyer
Mr. Estrada  Ms. VanKeppel
Sample Books to Read

Community Helpers A-Z by Bobby Kalman
Helpers in my Community by Bobby Kalman
Career Day by Anne Rockwell
Officer Buckles and Gloria by Peggy Rathmann
When I grow up by P.K. Halinan
The Jolly Postman by Allan Ahlberg

Learning Experiences

Students will be visited by the fire department and many other community helpers to discuss their roles in the community.

Give examples of people who are community helpers & leaders and describe how they help us.

Explain why people in a community do different jobs.

Locate and describe places in the school and community.

Identify and describe different kinds of jobs that people do and the tools or equipment used in these jobs.

Recommend ways that people can improve their environment at home, in school, and in the neighborhood.

Sample Websites to Visit

http://pbskids.org/arthur/games/elwoodcity/
http://pbskids.org/arthur/games/elwoodcity/
http://bensguide.gpo.gov/k-2/neighborhood/
http://bensguide.gpo.gov/k-2/neighborhood/
http://teacher.scholastic.com/commclub/
http://www.first-school.ws/theme/commhelpers.htm

Home Connection

When taking a walk around your community or when riding in your car, point out the important buildings where community workers work. For example, the hospital or clinic, the fire station, the police station, the dump or recycling center, and the post office.

Record important phone numbers for the community helpers in your area such as doctor, fire station & police. Go over the list with your child and talk with him/her bout when you might call each helper.