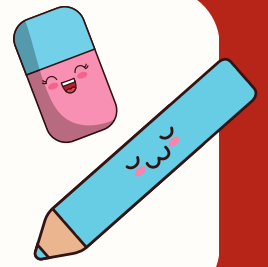


# Pre-K Press

August 2022

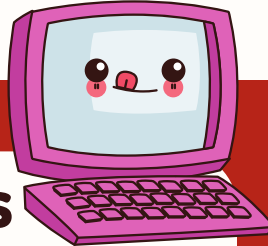


## Back to School - Forget Curriculum

**WHAT?!?** Yes! Hear me out... The beginning of a new school year is exciting, stressful, and overwhelming - for you AND your new students and their families! Starting Pre-K is a BIG DEAL, and we need to take time to breathe and think about this new adventure from the eyes of a new Pre-K student.

*Forget curriculum for the first few weeks and **teach procedures and routines!***

Our new students have been alive for 4 years. Think about that for a minute... **FOUR YEARS!** While some may come from a child care or Head Start background, for many this is their first school experience. They need to be taught everything - explicitly and with multiple chances for practice, practice, practice. Here is a [Routines & Procedures Checklist](#) to remind you of the big and little things that need to be taught. **If you take the first couple of weeks to teach routines and procedures, you will be so glad you did!**



## Prep for Assessments

If you are a CIRCLE Progress Monitoring user, you need to go ahead and do the following:

- Create your account @ [cliengage.org](http://cliengage.org) (if you don't already have one)
- Upload your class roster to CLI Engage by using the [Class Roster Management Feature](#) or the [Single Roster Upload](#). (This may be done by an administrator or PEIMS coordinator. Check with your principal.)

## PD Opportunities

### CIRCLE Progress Monitoring

- Tuesday, September 27th, 9:00-4:00 [#243222](#)

**OR**

- Friday, October 7th, 9:00-4:00 [#243225](#)



# DAP CENTRAL

DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE  
PRACTICES

## Active Learning – HOMES

When many of us think about our own schooling, we remember desks, worksheets, drills, and homework. This may lead to thinking that to prepare students for these learning tasks, they should be introduced earlier and earlier. However, research shows us ***the opposite is true***. "Young children with an opportunity to engage in play-based learning in *intentionally-designed* classrooms with caring educators are **best prepared for long-term success in school and beyond**."\*

As we prepare to welcome a new batch of bright-eyed, excited young learners, take a minute to reflect on the importance of ***active learning*** for your students.

### Use HOMES as a reminder:

**H** - Hands-on. *Are children engaged with materials?*

**O** - Open-ended. *Can children make choices on how to use materials to investigate?*

**M** - Meaningful. *Are materials and experiences connected to children's daily lives?*

**E** - Engaging. *Do experiences allow for creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking?*

**S** - Sensory-Oriented. *Are children's senses engaged in interesting ways?*



\*Foundations Early Learning Center.

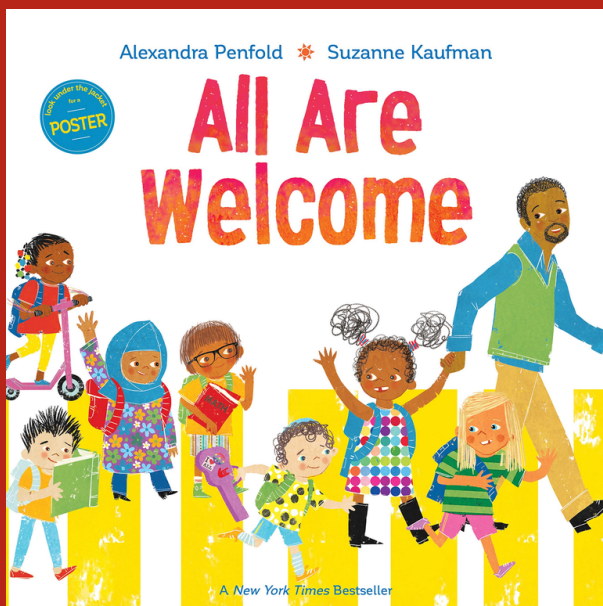
<https://foundationsearlylearningcenter.com/why-foundations/our-approach/>



# PRE-K BOOK NOOK

**The first read alouds of the year - *HOW EXCITING!*** Just remember...

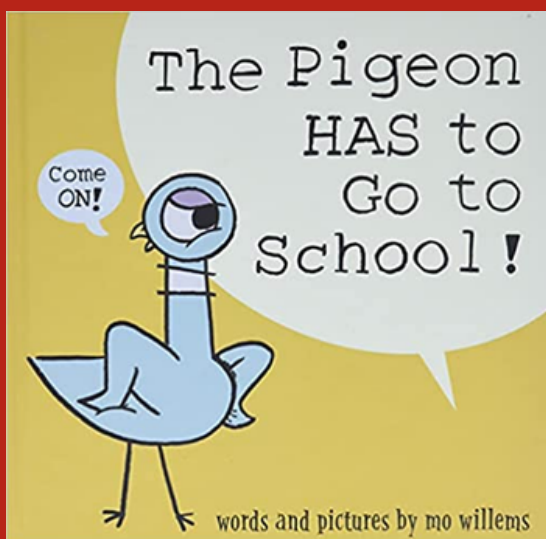
- Our young scholars have a ***very short attention span!*** Choose books that are short, sweet, funny, entertaining, engaging, and include repetitive parts.
- Books don't *have* to be about school. We all love *The Kissing Hand*, and it tells a great story, but it is rather lengthy, making it tough for littles to maintain attention.
- Choose a few solid books and re-read them several times. Encourage the children to be active (aka *talking*) and help you with retelling.



## All Are Welcome

Discover a school where all young children have a place, have a space, and are loved and appreciated.

Follow a group of children through a day in their school, where everyone is welcomed with open arms. A school where students from all backgrounds learn from and celebrate each other's traditions. A school that shows the world as we will make it to be.



## The Pigeon HAS to Go to School!

Why does the Pigeon have to go to school? He already knows everything! And what if he doesn't like it? What if the teacher doesn't like him? What if he learns TOO MUCH!?!?

Ask not for whom the school bell rings; it rings for the Pigeon!

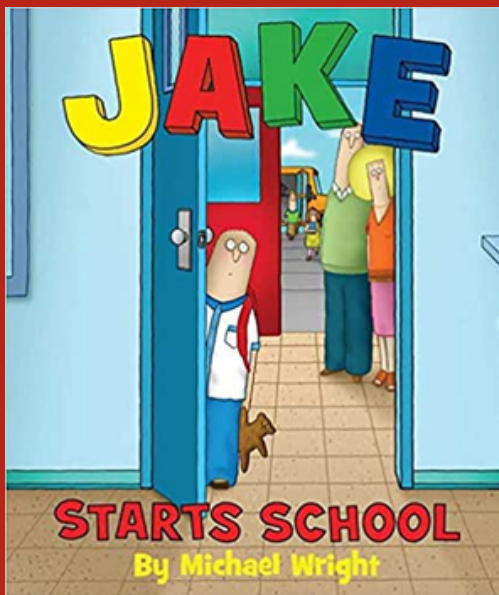


# PRE-K BOOK NOOK



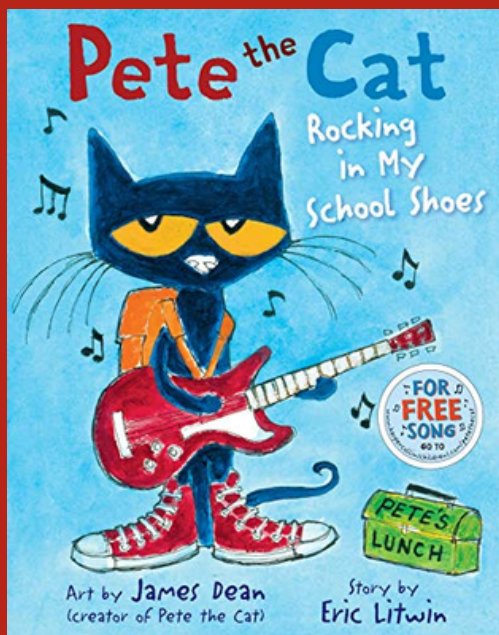
## Our Class is a Family

With its heartfelt message and colorfully whimsical illustrations, “Our Class is a Family” is a book that will help build and strengthen that class community. Kids learn that their classroom is a place where it’s safe to be themselves, it’s okay to make mistakes, and it’s important to be a friend to others.



## Jake Starts School

It's Jake's first day of school. He doesn't want his mom and dad to leave him there, alone. Now, Jake and his parents have to spend the first day of school together. Finger painting. Sharing snacks. Playing on the seesaw. Will Jake ever be able to stay at school on his own? The answer will delight and reassure children and their (anxious) parents!



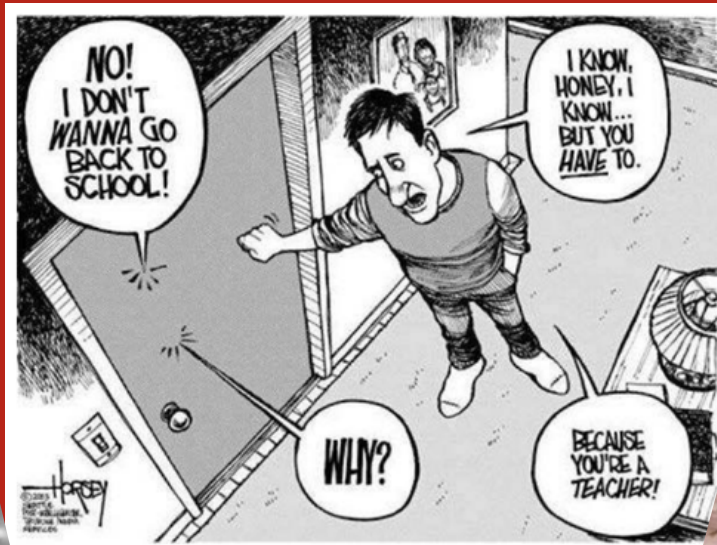
## Pete the Cat Rocking in My School Shoes

Pete the Cat is rocking in his school shoes. Pete discovers the library, the lunch room, the playground, and lots of other cool places at school.

And no matter where he goes, Pete never stops moving and grooving and singing his song... because it’s all good.



# JUST FOR FUN



HAVING EVERYTHING IN MY ROOM ALPHABETICALLY LABELED



IN WALK TWO NEW STUDENTS ON THE FIRST DAY



WHEN YOU DREAD GOING BACK TO SCHOOL, BUT THEN



RD



# ESC 15 ECE TEAM



Carey Peacock

Early Childhood Specialist

Texas Home Learning Pre-K Coordinator

carey.peacock@esc15.net

325-481-4046

Need quick access  
to Pre-K and HQPK  
information? Click  
the pic here!



AJ Braden

Texas School Ready Coordinator

(Child Care and Head Start)

amanda.braden@esc15.net

325-481-4080

