

Again Thank You for your membership subscription.....
I would like Peanut Butter Crunch to be successful in creating a fun and exciting, as well as educational experience for you and your child or children.

Peanut Butter Crunch is a curriculum resource that can 'stand alone' or work as an excellent supplement to your already favorite course of education. I have extensive plans for additions to Peanut Butter Crunch (PBC) in the up coming months and years, but for now it is 4000+ pages and growing.

Suggested usage begins with choosing a weekly unit. Each unit includes themed material – enough for a minimum of 5 days of individual activities, a science activity suggestion, small and/or gross motor recommendations, a social science / skill activity suggestion, introduction to sign language and a foreign language, alphabet, number, shape and color work sheets and a folder type activity. If using PBC as your choice of curriculum for a 5 day program...it is very simple to use. At the end of this you will find a schedule for recommended usage.

Choose a themed activity..... most will only need 15 minutes or less per day to complete while others will need time for glue to dry or encompass several days of creating a book. I suggest breaking the day up into 15 minute or less increments of directed activity to accommodate the attention span of a young child.

During each day, aside from the themed work, incorporate one of the additional activities. Example: Monday – Science, Tuesday – Social Science/Skills, Wednesday – Sign Language Intro, Thursday – Foreign Language Intro and Friday – Muscle Magic Play.....I do not recommend 'squeezing' everything into 2 days.

Additional guided work has been included to reinforce math and reading literacy and to introduce the basics expected when entering

and /or leaving Kindergarten. These include the extra work sheets for the colors, alphabet, numbers and shapes. When utilizing these sheets it may be obvious that there is no particular order of introduction in each of the weekly units. When designing this curriculum it was assumed that an individual teaching leader would choose at random a themed unit and would decide the level that is appropriate for the child or children. If the unit includes a sheet on the number 11 and the child has not been sufficiently introduced to the numbers 0 through 10 then an 11 would not necessarily be appropriate for the child(ren). It is easily replaced using the Extra Curriculum & Resources section of PBC. There are additional sheets that can be substituted for any of the math, shape and alphabet sheets. These additional sources can and should be used to reinforce any area of curriculum deficiencies that need to be reinforced in your particular class room or for your child.

The Science activity is recommended to inspire our up and coming scientist....they may even find a cure for the annoying common cold. Education should be introduced as a Fun and Enjoyable activity....it will surely increase the child's love of learning as they age. Some of the activities may not be typical for many curriculum plans, but I believe that simple introduction to many of the more involved scientific phenomena will lead to more interest and understanding as the child ages. Example – A 4 year old loves how a light will turn on and off with a simple flick of a switch or turn of a knob.....what will they think if they see a lemon (circuit creating) 'turning on' a small light bulb. If including the Science activities please remember to keep all explanations SIMPLE. Rely on the Fun in learning and exploring the world around us as the motivating factor to furthering education.

Social Science / Skills are introduced in this curriculum to educate about the world around us as well. An example could be that one week the talk will be about the great things Benjamin Franklin

accomplished or inspired...even to this day..... and on another week it may be the reinforcement of having ‘manners’. All things will reflect on the importance of the individual..... to the community around them and even the world beyond.

In a world of so much diversity....understanding, tolerance and appreciation of things around us must be a prominent guide in educating not only the ‘old’ but more importantly – the young. To accommodate such an introduction within our realm of education...crossing the boundaries of Social Science, Themed Units and Language have been incorporated in PBC. Examples of this exposure can be seen in the ‘Jumpin’ Jelly Bean’ unit. Introduction to ‘Jelly Beans’ that have been adopted, use a wheel chair and live with Autism are the inspiration for a book within that unit. It is up to the educational leader to decide the extensiveness of the discussion when utilizing this unit.

Another Example of the ‘diversity’ exposure is the recommended usage of some Sign Language words and Foreign Language Introduction. The gains in exposing our young to additional forms of communication has been the basis of many studies with fantastic documentation. I have included a weekly unit using Braille as the basis....my children loved the tactile experience. I even sent some work sheets from this unit in with my older children to use while studying Braille in their Fifth grade class and their classmates even enjoyed these simple activities. Children love to learn....especially if it is introduced as ‘fun’ and not tedious in nature (adults prefer to learn in this fashion as well.....who likes boring?)

I have included some recommendations for ‘physical’ fitness using fine and gross motor activities. Some of these activities are very routine while others were inspired to create those special ‘fun’ moments in a child and adults life. Remember to attempt the activities with the child....no matter how silly they appear. Your involvement is what memories are made of in the mind of a child.

Your involvement will also be of great encouragement for the child that is struggling to accomplish a task that may seem menial to another. A great lesson in appreciation for my own abilities that many take for granted was working with and appreciating the effort that my youngest went through just to sit up and roll over as an infant and toddler (Yes ...he is special more than just being my son that I love).

First and Foremost....Helping children was my inspiration for creating Peanut Butter Crunch.....but helping the educator (Parent to Child Care Provider to the Professional Instructor) was a very close second! Within the PDF pages one will find not just curriculum that will meet if not exceed the standards set by many educational institutions....but pieces to inspire the minds of the young and not be a financial strain for the educator.

What child does not like stopping and looking at new pictures on the wall? Wall Pictures have been included to supplement the educational environment of the young. With many already provided and more to come the ability to change the pictures to suit the season or theme or month is as easy as printing onto cardstock, laminating and cutting out. The wall pictures include the alphabet, numbers, shapes and colors. Many are created as small as 3.5 x 5 inches for use when wall space is at a minimum.

Elevating a child's level of interest in education can be as simple as dedicating a space on the wall to colorful and intriguing pictures. The expanding choice of wall pictures also allows for the easy 'switch out'....areas to house the pictures could be lined with 'hook and loop' tape while the additional pieces decorate the backside of the pictures. When wanting to change the set on the wall simply pull off and replace with the new pictures. Another option would be to use a 'felt' board approach and use only the 'hook' part of the tape on the pictures. The felt will lend an additional colorful background to the pictures.

Circle Time (no matter the name) is a very popular approach and recommended to bringing the group together for basic discussions that cross the boundaries of guided curriculum. It usually includes the weather discussion (can include predictions too), Feelings (sad, happy, tired, mad, etc....), The months of the year, days of the week, pattern discussion, past, present and future tense 'days', story time, music.....the list is extensive. PBC includes the creation of feeling puppets, weather graphing, numerous calendar sets designed for use as ABCABC patterning (or less if appropriate for your group)...more items will be added over time – as time allows. Many preschool programs begin the day with this very important cross curriculum activity.

Additions to the basic PBC Unit activities include the calendar pieces and the sheets needed to create a calendar to house the 2x2 inch pieces. The calendars are so easy and economical to create....create a new one for every month...decorate and laminate.

The next section will be dedicated to discussing the additions for the child and class room.

Along with a simple weather chart and feeling chart found in PBC extra activities and resources have been included.

Center Bags are PDF e-books that are color based and printable for creating activities that can be housed in a gallon sized zip lock bag or a shoe box. They are in essence a themed unit....that is reusable. Each unit or 'center' are equivalents of the combination of math and literacy bags. Each center unit consists of a minimum of 6 'laminatable' activities. These activities are diverse in nature. They include puzzles, string cards, I spy activities.....over all – FUN. They are wonderful for creating small center based

classroom activities or send home 'home work' type activities. They can be used for 'busy' time fill in activities too.

A small section of Borders is being developed for adding color and coordination to your room with economics being the basis.

PEWE is my version of a popular program but more economical. PEWE is Picture Exchange Word Exchange. This can be utilized with special needs students or typical students....I have found that all children tend to love the combination of visual and auditory stimulation. The pictures are only 1 x 1.5 inches and will easily fit into a home created PEWE book...and will house more photos than a purchased book (the photos are smaller).

On the Go Series.....is also my creation specifically with the space minded motivated individual. They are folder activities that will fit on a half folder and slide easily into a gallon size zip lock type bag for storage. My youngest child loves the activities and they can go anywhere with him. Great for taking to the doctor's office while waiting or to the IEP meetings...or in the class as a table top center that can be accomodating in a small space with 'full space' educational value.

I have not ran across an educator (any) that does not find value in using the good old fashioned 'file folder' activity. What a WOW...not just for education but for fun. PBC includes unique activities as well as the ones created for the 'News Letter'. They cover many aspects of education and store easily. Create using cardstock paper for the placement pieces and 'typing' paper for the items that will be pasted to the folder. Laminate everything for durability.

Craft Recipes are include for the activities and are usually more economical then purchasing the marketed versions found in your

favorite supercenters. Many are created using typical items found around your home or class room.

Arts & Crafts activities are suggested activities to be fillers or a fun diversion from the typical curriculum.

Over time I am hoping to add a diverse section identified as 'Business'. At the moment of this guide's creation I have only included a day timer page master. It is great as replacement pages for the popular sized day timer....which an educator or any other individual probably finds invaluable ----I know I do.

Finally....the Curriculum Guide was created as a very easy way for the busy educator (home or professional) to accommodate the strict standards created for our very young child or special needs individual. Choose the month...choose your unit...print off the needed pages (collect any needed items) and gooooooo. The wall pictures for each month are based on an activity from that month. It includes the feeling puppets for each month, an additional folder activity aside from the ones included with each unit and a center bag. Extras for adding additional fun to the days have been suggested. At this time the guide has included the 52 weeks of themed activity, but as time progresses and new units have been added – they will need to be interchanged and accessed via the unit page of PBC.

I am truly excited about Peanut Butter Crunch....at this time I know of no other curriculum that is inclusive, affordable and so easily accessed. I hope that you will find this equally true and share the same excitement that I do. This is not the culminating act of almost 2 years of work and research (not including the experiences of my life) – but the beginning of an ever growing resource that I hope will bring not just education for the child and convenience for the educator.....but memories and FUN to everybody's life.

Daily Routine

Arrival - 9 am

Open Center Time (Breakfast)

9 - 9:30 am

Circle Time

9:30 - 10 am

Free Play

10 - 10:30 am

Rest Room; Wash Hands; Snack

10:30 - 11 am

Theme Work

11 - 11:20 am
11:20 - 11:45
or

Indoor "Muscle Magic" Time
Free Play

11 - 11:45 am

Weather Permitting Outdoor Play

11:45 - 12:20 pm

Rest Room; Wash Hands; Snack

12:20 - 12:30 pm

Story Time (calming activity)

12:30 - 2 pm

Nap / Rest Time

2 - 2:30 pm

Wake up; Rest Room; Snack

2:30 - 3 pm

Art / Creativity Time / Science.....

3 - Pick Up

Open Center Time

Preschool Schedule 9am-3pm allows for 120 minutes (inc. Muscle Magic) of Teacher directed activities, 55 minutes of Open time and 95 minutes of Rest Room and Eating time.

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Weekly Planner Sheet

for the Week of _____

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|
| Circle | | | | | |
| Theme | | | | | |
| Muscle Magic | | | | | |
| Creativity Time | ABC Delight | Social Science | Mystical Math | Science Time | Shape Fun |
| Notes | | | | | |