

Tiny Scholars Academy

August Curriculum Guide

Theme: Back to Basics: Belonging, Friendship & Discovery

Month:	August
Theme:	Back to Basics: Belonging, Friendship & Discovery
Age Groups:	Infants (6 wks–12 mo) • Toddlers (12–36 mo) • Preschool (3–5 yrs)
Standards:	Rhode Island Early Learning & Development Standards (RIELDS)

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MONTHLY OVERVIEW & LEARNING GOALS — AUGUST

Big Idea: August is a season of new beginnings! Children transition into the new school year with a focus on building community, establishing routines, and awakening curiosity. We celebrate each child's identity and lay the foundation for a year of learning.

Monthly Theme Weeks

Week 1 Welcome to Our Community!

Week 2 All About Me & My Family

Week 3 Making Friends

Week 4 Our Classroom & Rules

Guiding Questions

- Who am I and what makes me special?
- How do we take care of each other and our classroom?
- What are the rules that help us feel safe?
- How do families look different and feel the same?
- What can we discover in our own neighborhood?

■ Infant Room — Monthly Goals

- Build trust and secure attachment with primary caregivers
- Begin learning names of teachers, friends, and classroom objects
- Develop sensory awareness through new environment exploration
- Strengthen motor foundations: reaching, tracking, tummy time
- Respond to and initiate social interaction (smiling, cooing)

■ Toddler Room — Monthly Goals

- Learn names of 5+ classroom friends
- Practice transitioning between activities with support
- Develop vocabulary: family, friend, school, me, mine, share
- Begin parallel play and simple cooperative interactions
- Build independence in self-help routines: shoes, backpack, hand washing

■ Preschool Room — Monthly Goals

• All-domain RIELDS integration through community/identity theme
• Write and recognize own first name
• Identify family members and community helpers (D6)
• Count classroom friends and create people graphs (D4)
• Begin science journals with self-portraits (D5, D9)
• Develop classroom community agreements collaboratively (D1)

INFANT CLASSROOM (6 wks–12 mo) — AUGUST 4-WEEK CURRICULUM

Curriculum Approach: All infant learning is embedded in responsive caregiving routines. Ratios, safe sleep, and RIDOH licensing standards are maintained at all times. Outdoor time occurs daily in the buggy or on a supervised blanket.

Week	Theme	Objectives	Activities	Materials	Assessment
Wk 1 Welcome!	New Beginnings	Secure attachment; sensory exploration; name recognition	Name song at diaper time; soft photo book of room; gentle rocking songs; mirror face-to-face	Name song cards, unbreakable mirrors, soft family photo books	Observe attachment behaviors; note response to name
Wk 2 All About Me	Self Awareness	Visual self-recognition; body part awareness; vocalization	Belly time on family photo mat; 'Head, Shoulders' song; body part naming during care	Family photo mat, soft body part puppets, sensory rattles	Document mirror recognition; note vocalizations during songs
Wk 3 Friends	Social Smiling	Social engagement; reciprocal interaction; parallel play	Side-by-side blanket time; call-and-response coo games; shared sensory basket	Shared sensory basket, colorful ribbons, social story books	Record instances of social smiling; note reach toward others
Wk 4 Routines	Safe & Secure	Routine prediction; cause-effect; object permanence	Peek-a-boo with cloth; consistent diaper song; photo schedule at eye level	Photo schedule cards, peek-a-boo cloths, consistent music cues	Note anticipatory responses; document comfort with routine

TODDLER CLASSROOM (12–36 mo) — AUGUST 4-WEEK CURRICULUM

Curriculum Approach: Movement, language, and sensory learning drive the toddler experience. Centers rotate weekly with the theme. Predictable routines support autonomy and emotional regulation.

Week	Theme	Objectives	Activities	Materials	Assessment
Wk 1 Welcome!	Our School	School vocabulary; separation comfort; gross motor	Welcome tour with teacher; 'This is My School' photo book; playground exploration; name badge art	Photo books, name badges, school maps, exploration baskets	Observe separation anxiety level; note vocabulary used
Wk 2 All About Me	Identity & Family	Self-awareness; family vocabulary; fine motor	Me collage with mirror; family portrait drawing; 'I have two eyes' song; body tracing	Mirrors, collage materials, family photo frames, body tracers	Document self-descriptive language; note family vocab
Wk 3 Friends	Making Friends	Social language; turn-taking; parallel play	Friend bingo; pass-the-bear circle; duplo building together; friendship bracelets	Friend bingo cards, stuffed bear, duplos, bead bracelets	Observe sharing attempts; note peer-directed language
Wk 4 Rules & Roles	Our Community	Rule understanding; community vocab; self-regulation	Classroom jobs board; rule picture sort; 'We Take Care' song; helper hat dramatic play	Job chart, rule sort cards, helper hats, community puppets	Note rule recitation; observe self-regulation strategies

PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM (3–5 yrs) — AUGUST RIELDS-ALIGNED CURRICULUM

Standards Note: All activities are mapped to the 9 Rhode Island ELDS domains. Domain codes (D1–D9) appear in each activity. See the RIELDS Domain Reference in the June Curriculum Guide.

Week 1 — Welcome to Our Community! ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy & Language	Read: 'The Kissing Hand' / 'First Day Jitters' Class name book: illustrate and write your name (D2,D3)
Math	Count friends in class; make a people graph by hair color (D4)
Science	Observe schoolyard: make a wonder list — what do you want to learn? (D5,D9)
Art & Drama	Self-portrait: 'This Is Me' mixed media; dramatic play — school office (D7,D1)
SEL	Classroom community agreement chart; emotion check-in corner introduction (D1)

Week 2 — All About Me & My Family ■■■■■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy	Read: 'The Family Book' / 'Chrysanthemum' Write 'My family has ___ people.' (D2,D3)
Math	Measure heights with yarn; compare: taller/shorter; graph results (D4)
Science	Family nature collections: sort objects brought from home by texture/color (D5)
Art	Family portrait with oil pastels; culture share — bring a family object (D7,D6)
SEL/Social Studies	Family structure discussion: all families are different and wonderful (D1,D6)

Week 3 — Making Friends ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy	Read: 'Enemy Pie' / 'Each Kindness' Dictate: 'A good friend is...' (D2,D3)
Math	Friendship patterns: ABAB with two friends' favorite colors (D4)
Science	What makes our fingerprints unique? Ink print investigation (D5,D9)
Art	Collaborative friendship mural — everyone adds a handprint (D7,D1)
Movement	Cooperative movement games: partner tag, mirror movement (D8,D1)

Week 4 — Our Classroom & Rules ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy	Read: 'David Goes to School' / 'Llama Llama Misses Mama' Write classroom rules book (D2,D3)
Math	Classroom survey: favorite center — bar graph (D4)

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Science	Sort classroom materials: what belongs in art? Science? Math? (D5,D9)
Social Studies	Community helpers visit (or dramatic play); map our school (D6)
SEL	Calming corner introduction; problem-solving steps poster (D1,D9)

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM — AUGUST

Week: Welcome to Our Community!

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM | Welcome to Our Community!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: All About Me & My Family

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM | All About Me & My Family

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Making Friends

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM | Making Friends

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Our Classroom & Rules

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — INFANT ROOM Our Classroom & Rules				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM — AUGUST

Week: Welcome to Our Community!

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM Welcome to Our Community!				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: All About Me & My Family

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM All About Me & My Family				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Making Friends

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM Making Friends				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Our Classroom & Rules

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — TODDLER ROOM Our Classroom & Rules				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:

Reflections / Notes:	
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TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM — AUGUST

Week: Welcome to Our Community!

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM Welcome to Our Community!				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: All About Me & My Family

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM All About Me & My Family				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Making Friends

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM Making Friends				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Week: Our Classroom & Rules

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING — PRESCHOOL ROOM Our Classroom & Rules				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Reflections / Notes:				

Tiny Scholars Academy August Family Newsletter

Welcome to August at Tiny Scholars Academy!

This month our theme is **Back to Basics: Belonging, Friendship & Discovery**. August is a season of new beginnings! Children transition into the new school year with a focus on building community, establishing routines, and awakening curiosity. We celebrate each child's identity and lay the foundation for a year of learning. Read on to see what's happening in each classroom and how to keep the learning going at home!

Infant Room: Our youngest learners explore the month's theme through all their senses! Ask your teacher about your baby's weekly sensory experiences.

Toddler Room: Toddlers dive into hands-on science, dramatic play, and language-rich activities. Send your child in clothes ready for messy, magical learning!

Preschool Room: Preschoolers engage with all 9 RIELDS domains through projects, investigation, writing, and creative expression. Portfolio updates go home at month's end.

Important Dates

- Aug 5 — First Day of School — Welcome Celebration
- Aug 9 — Classroom Photo Day
- Aug 14 — Family Meet & Greet Night, 6 PM
- Aug 19 — Community Helpers Visit
- Aug 26 — Friendship Mural Unveiling
- Aug 30 — End-of-Month Portfolio Preview

Learning at Home

- Share a family photo album and talk about each person.
- Practice writing your child's name every day.
- Ask: 'What was the best part of school today?'
- Read a book together before bed each night.
- Visit your local library and get a library card!

NOTE: Sun Safety: Apply sunscreen before drop-off. Send a labeled water bottle daily.

This Month's Theme Weeks:

Week 1:	Welcome to Our Community!
Week 2:	All About Me & My Family
Week 3:	Making Friends
Week 4:	Our Classroom & Rules

With warmth and gratitude,

The Tiny Scholars Academy Team ■