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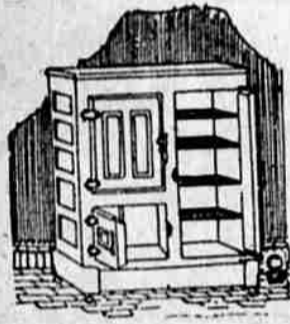
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Parents as Educators

"The Child's First School is the Family."—Froebel.

LESSONS IN MOTHER NATURE'S KINDERGARTEN

By Mary Francis Davis

One of the greatest privileges which a mother can enjoy is awakening and developing a love of nature in her children. This can be done by devoting a small amount of time each day to the concentrated observation of flowers, trees, birds, clouds, snow and other beautiful offerings of nature. Mother Nature herself will outline the yearly program to be followed.

During the winter months, when much time is spent indoors, the hours may be improved by telling stories of animals, birds, ants and bees, and showing pictures of these useful friends. There are many interesting things to be seen outdoors on winter walks. It is easy then, when trees are bare, for children to learn to recognize them by their bark. This is a good time to discover and examine nests which the birds deserted when Jack Frost came to try to the warm southland. When snow comes, catch some hard dry flakes on a slate, and let the children examine the beautiful crystals. Speak of the snow as a soft, white blanket covering the tiny seeds which are down to the ground waiting to grow.

Then comes spring with her helpers, the March winds, the April showers, and the warm sunshine. The children can be outdoors more at this time, and love to romp with the strong March wind, which is sweeping and blowing to grow. Watch for the first wee green shoots as they peep through the ground, followed soon by crocuses, daffodils, bloodroot and the tiny woods flowers. It is a great joy to be able to take children for walks in the woods at this season, but the little city boys and girls need not be denied the fun of seeing the little seeds awake. Try this interesting experiment:

Give each child a sponge, and have him moisten it and place it in a saucer in a sunny window. Then sprinkle it full of ordinary mixed grass seed or, if you keep a canary, and have bird seed, use that. Do not tell the child what will happen, but let him watch for the changes that will come. Bring pussy willow stalks, and branches from other bushes into a warm, sunny room and observe the budding of the flowers and leaves. Lead your little children to think of the April rains as kind helpers, and repeat to them, "Come listen to the pitter patter of the April showers." In these verses we have the thought of the April showers bringing out the sweet buds, and the children to

As the spring and summer birds and flowers come, tell the children their correct names. It is a splendid plan to collect pictures of familiar birds and flowers, and paste them in scrap-books on rainy summer days. These books will help the children to remember their summer friends when Jack Frost and winter come again. As autumn comes on, notice the party dresses of gold and red which the leaves put on, and watch the flowers change. Many seeds are falling from the flowers and trees to the ground.

Then the autumn leaves flutter down and warmly cover the little seeds, which are ready for a long sleep, after their happy summer. Notice that most of the birds have gone, the squirrels have finished gathering their nuts, and are staying in their warm hollow trees, and the little woods animals have found cozy nooks for their long winter naps. Watch for the first signs of frost on the grass and ice on the puddles. Then with the first snowfall, winter has surely come, and our cycle of the seasons is complete.

In addition to the physical benefits gained by spending more time outdoors, children will gain a broader understanding of the processes of nature in these lessons, and more important, a new bond of sympathy and interest will be formed between the mother and her little ones.

"Your true democracy must have leaders; and the better the leaders, the better the democracy. These leaders must be men of the most gracious and sincere manners, the most cultivated imagination, the finest self-sacrifice, the highest ideals. Wherever we need leaders, we need just such men. And such men do not just grow. They must be developed and inspired somewhere."

The kindergarten guides the activities of the little child, inspiring right action through right thought and feeling. It develops in him ideals and principles which later serve to guide him in solving the problems of his adult life.

If you are interested in establishing a kindergarten in your community, write for information and advice to the National Kindergarten association, 8 West Fourth street, New York City.

HAND OCCUPATION WITH AN ENVELOPE

By Jenny B. Merrill, Ph. D.
It will interest mothers to know how much can be done with an envelope and pair of scissors in the way of providing diversion, occupation and even instruction for children. These hints apply to different ages. The first eight may be used with many children of five or six years of age, the rest with children from six to ten.

1. Cut out the stamp neatly from the corner of an envelope, also cut out the post-mark. Explain why there is a post-mark. There may be more than one.

2. Keep stamps after cutting out, using them to make pretty borders and other designs. Mingle stamps of different colors.

3. Draw on the inside of the envelope the train that carries letters to us, or the rural delivery wagon, or the automobile.

4. Cut off one or more clean corners of the envelope in the shape of a triangle. Each triangle may be used as a book-mark by slipping it on the corner of a leaf. Decorate these triangles with simple designs. Older children may paint a flower and younger children may mount a pretty little picture on each triangle.

5. Cut an envelope into pieces using the creases as guides. Cut several and form designs with the pieces. Each piece may be colored with crayons, paint or colored pencils.

6. Fold the envelope so as to form a basket or any other object you choose.

7. Draw a door and windows on a long envelope. Press the corners of the envelope out, so that it appears to be a house. The door and windows may also be cut so as to open and shut. Color the house.

A child may deliver letters to the different members of the family. He should be made to appreciate this duty as letters are often very important. There is an ethical lesson here on responsibility.

9. Learn to open a closed envelope neatly with a paper cutter without injuring the contents. This can sometimes be done by rolling a pencil carefully under the flap.

10. Open out the whole envelope and notice its shape, then try to make one of the same size; first measure the paper to be used, then the envelope in the paper, trace it and then fold carefully.

11. Practice, if old enough, addressing an envelope to a father, a mother, to an aunt, a cousin or a friend. Also mount a stamp in the upper right-hand corner, leaving a white margin around the stamp. Explain the importance of using the correct corner.

12. Write the name of the man whose face is engraved on the one-cent stamp, the two and others if you have stamps of other denominations.

13. Write the names of the colors of these stamps under the men's names. Think why these particular men are honored in this way. Why is Washington's head on a two-cent stamp rather than on a five-cent one?

Even quite young children are attracted by the coming of the postman, and love to pay postman. A little girl of three once said, "This is my letter. Then pretending to read the address, she said, "It says 'Miss Me.'"

Petition for a Kindergarten
Parents whose children are not receiving kindergarten education should request their school authorities to provide it for them. The following petition signed and presented to your school board, will acquaint them with your desire for a kindergarten, and such a petition should be honored.

(To be pasted on a sheet to be signed.)
To the Honorable Board of Education or Board of School Trustees, City or Town..... County..... State.....
We, the undersigned parents or guardians of 25 or more children between the ages of 4 and 6 years, residing within an elementary school district, respectfully petition your honorable board to establish and maintain a kindergarten in..... school, for the instruction of our said children.

Name..... Address.....

The National Kindergarten association, 8 West Fourth street, New York City, will furnish information, advice and literature upon request.

Couldn't Beat It
A real estate agent was showing a prospective buyer over a large estate in the south of England. He was a youngster who had been through the war and had become Americanized. As the car threaded its way through English lanes, he extolled the natural beauties of the place, park, meadows, woods. At last, the car having arrived at a clear space where there were neither trees nor gardens, the enthusiastic agent pointed heavenwards. Waving his arm, he concluded, "And there's a sun for you! Can you beat it?"

A Dress That Suggests Graceful Slenderness



WOMAN'S INSTITUTE Fashion Service

By MARY BROOKS PICKEN
EVERY woman of generous proportions seems to experience a period when she would make tremendous sacrifices for slenderness; then, just as surely, there will come a time when she realizes that health and happiness are more desirable than willowiness. Her pride, however, never permits her to settle into a state of heaviness, even if she must admit to a robustness that is quite genuine.

Stouts, as they are often pictured, are not pleasing, and a self-respecting woman will not admit herself into such a class.

Long lines are essential. A soft, graceful fabric with enough weight in itself not to be in the least flimsy is always desirable. Sleeves, as evidenced here, should never be conspicuously decorated.

A simple, unadorned neck line is, in many instances, to be preferred, for if the neck is not wrinkled with flesh, it usually is attractive. If it is wrinkled, then a collar line would make it seem crowded and overdone. So simplicity is in both instances the safest.

The dress illustrated is navy marquisette over navy and white foulard. Black silk braid emphasizes the panels, and black leather flowers at the waist line give a definite newness that is entirely desirable.

Agents Wanted



The "Easy" Invites Comparison

with any washing machine ever made—irrespective of price, style or capacity. Because the principle upon which the "EASY" operates most nearly approaches the work of human hands.

The vacuum cups force the hot, soapy water by air pressure through the garments and by suction draw it back again, dislodging every last particle of dirt. No rubbing, dragging or tearing.

The beautiful polished copper tank has no corrugated surfaces or corners to catch dirt or disease germs.

The "EASY" has a larger capacity than any other electric washing machine and yet is so

compact that it may be moved through the average doorway.

Made of best materials obtainable—solid copper, brass, aluminum and enameled steel, rust-proof. Electric wringer starts, stops, reverses and swings to any desired position, instantly. Gas heater heats water to any desired temperature.

Every part of the "EASY" is made the best that money and human skill can make it, in one of the largest washing machine factories in the world.

The "EASY" has always been its own best salesman. It asks a chance to sell itself to you, strictly on its merits—without obligation on your part.

Wanted Distributor-Dealer for Eugene and sub-dealers and agents for the five surrounding counties. The "Easy" is made and guaranteed by the largest exclusive Washington Machine Factory in the world, with a capacity of 1000 machines per day.

Write for Distributor and Agent Proposition

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Pumps Black Kid Low Heel Pumps, Factory Price..... \$1.85 Brown Calf Oxfords, low heels, Factory Price..... \$2.85	White Pumps and Oxfords, white, one-strap Pumps..... \$1.85 White Oxfords, military heels..... \$1.95 Sport Oxfords, rubber soles..... \$1.75	Men's Shoes Men's Brown Calf Oxfords, Factory Price..... \$4.85 Men's Black and Brown Calf Lace Shoes..... \$3.85
Hiking Boots Ladies' 16-inch Hi Tops, Factory Price..... \$5.35	SHOE POLISH All Kinds, black and white 5c	Work Shoes Men's All Leather Work Shoes, Factory Price..... \$2.85

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