

ideas by the Bushel



Here are some activities we picked just for you to honor community helpers on Labor Day!

Oral Language Development

- Don't underestimate the value of a conversation. Call attention to our community helpers as you spend time with your child. Police cars, fire engines, ambulances, sanitation trucks, and more can be seen on the roads everyday. During any given week, your family may have a doctor or dentist appointment or go out to eat at a restaurant. Describe the types of jobs all of these people do and allow time for your child to ask questions and make comments about what they are learning.
- Create different dramatic play areas in your home. Make your kitchen a restaurant where your child can pretend to cook delicious dishes (like a chef) and bring the food to the table for some hungry baby dolls (like a waiter or waitress). Stay in bed and let your little one be a doctor by pretending to check your temperature, put band aids on your boo-boos, and listen to your heartbeat. Bring out your hairbrush and hairclips and let your child pretend to be a hairdresser. The ideas are limitless! While playing, build your child's vocabulary by stating the names of the different materials each community helper uses and asking your child to repeat the names or identify the tools as you name them.
- Make community helper puppets using small paper bags, markers, crayons, or any other materials you have around the house. Make a few ordinary people puppets as well so the community helper can practice providing their service. By having multiple puppets, oral communication is encouraged. How does the firefighter know what to do if the citizen doesn't tell them where the fire is and how it happened?

