



THE CENTER PAGE

April 2024 - v. 60, Is. 4

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Center Hours

Regular Hours: M-F, 7:30AM-5:30PM

Center Closure(s)







Check back next month for closures

CCD Helpful Links

Calendar: [CCD Monthly Calendar](#)

Menu: [CCD Monthly Menu](#)

Homepage: [CCD Homepage](#)

	From The Director	1
	From The Director.....	2
	From The Director.....	3
	Infant Toddler.....	3
	Toddler	4
	Preschool	5

Wish List!

Bubbles
Purple Paper



FROM THE DIRECTOR

April Parent-Teacher Conferences

The teachers are excited to meet with you for Parent-Teacher Conferences in April. You will be discussing your child's developmental progress, accomplishments, and challenges both at home and in the classroom. Parents will partner with the teachers to write new developmental learning goals for your child. We value your input and observations of your child! This information helps teachers to better understand your child's interests, development, and ways they learn best. **Parents are asked to complete a Pre-Conference Survey form and submit back to your child's teacher. This information is used to plan the conference based upon your interest and developmental questions.**

Teaching Strategies GOLD is the assessment used by teachers to guide curriculum planning, environment set-up and prepare for parent-teacher conferences. This assessment is research-based and proven to be reliable and valid for assessing children from birth through kindergarten.

A Child Portfolio will be shared with you that includes observations of your child's learning, language samples and creative artwork. If you would like to take the Portfolio home for review, please do so and then return to the teachers.

Spring Family Survey/Program Evaluation

Date/Time: Wed., April 17 at 7:30-9:00 or 4:00-5:30

Location: Main Entry to Center

On Wednesday, April 17 please allow an extra 5-10 minutes to complete a Family Survey/Program Evaluation at drop-off or pick up time. This Survey asks parents how we are doing in meeting your child and family needs. We ask parents for your feedback and a 100% return rate to identify our strengths and design strategies for improvement. This Survey is anonymous and a summary of your feedback will be shared in the May Newsletter.

Mission: Our mission at the Center for Child Development is to serve and act on behalf of the needs, rights, and well-being of all children, their families and university students.

FROM THE DIRECTOR, CONTINUED

Let's Celebrate! Week of the Young Child

Week of the Young Child (WOYC) is April 8-12, 2024. It is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers, and families. The purpose is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. It is also a time to recognize that early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life. The Week of the Young Child is a time to plan how we, as citizens of a community, of a state and of a nation, will better meet the needs of all young children and their families. We are so excited for a weeklong celebration of our youngest learners!

Monday, April 8 – Music Monday

- Music Monday is more than singing and dancing, it is a way to encourage children to be active while developing their literacy skills and having fun with friends!
- The children will be making homemade instruments, drumming with glow sticks, having a guest flute player and Linus's Dad, Joel, will demonstrate playing drums for the children!

Tuesday, April 9 - Tasty Tuesday

- Tasty Tuesday is not just about eating your favorite snacks together. It is also about cooking together and connecting math with literacy skills and science while introducing way to incorporate healthy habits into children's lifestyles.
- The children will prepare Banana Sushi for taste testing.

Wednesday, April 10 – Work Together Wednesday

- When children work together, they experience teamwork and develop their social and early literacy skills.
- Today the children will make a long paper chain for the hallway that connects all classrooms, prepare the surprise breakfast for Parent Appreciation Day and do parachute/ball games.

Thursday, April 11 – Artsy Thursday

- Creative art for children helps develop creativity, social skills, and fine motor muscles with open-ended art projects that let them make choices, use their imaginations, and create with their hands.
- A Parent-Child Tie Dying Event will take place in the preschool room from 3:30-4:30 PM. Teachers will ask parents to bring child size socks to tie dye with their parent. Infants, toddlers and their parents will use fabric markers to decorate their socks instead of using dye.
- **Staff Appreciation Day!**

Friday, April 12 – Family Friday

- Parents and families are children's first teachers. Family Friday focuses on engaging families to support our youngest learners and thank parents for our partnership.
- **Parent Appreciation Day!** Please join your child between 7:30-8:30 AM for a child homemade breakfast to eat together. Following breakfast, a cozy book area will be set-up in each classroom for parents to snuggle with their child and read a book before leaving for work.

NDSU Phone Changes

As the university changes to Zoom phones, we want parents to know that the phone in each classroom will remain as is using the same phone numbers. Teachers' office phones will keep the same phone number along with the Center for Child Development phone number of 231-8281.

A change that has been made is Deb Habedank's phone number will be 701-231-4156. We will all be learning how to use the phone system together. Please remember there are no changes to the phones in the classrooms.

FROM THE DIRECTOR, CONTINUED

Kiddie Days at Shepperd Arena

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 from 10AM-10:30AM

North Dakota State University Saddle and Sirloin Club is once again hosting Kiddie Days! Kiddie Days is an event put on for childcare, preschool, and kindergarten aged children to experience livestock in person, ask questions, and LEARN. Livestock that have been at this event in the past includes: sheep/lambs, piglets, calves, goats, and chicks. It is quite the educational experience, one in which children love. Parents, please join us for this fun event!!! Shepperd Arena is located at 1350 Albrecht Boulevard.



INFANT TODDLER / EML 161 HAPPENINGS

STACEY & ASHLEY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Where is Stacey?

Stacey will be taking vacation Friday April 12th. Ashley will open and Lorrie will close at the end of the day.

Reminders

Please remember to have a light jacket and a hat and gloves for your child at school. We will continue to keep ALL snow gear at school and use as needed.

Please call the classroom when your child is not coming to school. We ask that you call by 9:00. (231-8278) Also, if you know your child will be gone, please let the Teachers know ahead of time as well. This helps us with our staffing for the day and with having accurate meal counts.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

We are excited for parent-teacher conferences this month. If you have not signed up for a time, the sign- up sheet is posted on the door. Teachers appreciate this conversation time with parents and look forward to helping each child achieve their new developmental learning goals in partnership with parents!

Sad Good-Bye

Kaydence, our Student Assistant, will no longer be working in the Infant Room due to her medical needs. We are sad, but hope to see her in the Fall. Her last day with us was March 28th.

FEATURED FAMILY

Jaxson!

Our March Featured Family is Ethan's family! Let's enjoy their family pictures and story!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

Check back next month for Celebrations!

LOVE YOUR VEGGIES!

Babies aren't born liking veggies, but little ones can learn to love veggies through early exposure. Vegetables can play a powerful role in preventing chronic diseases and maintaining a healthy weight through life. Parents and caregivers need to help train young children's taste buds by introducing early and often. The best time to establish these healthy habits is between 4-24 months.

Where to Start:

*As early as 4 months, babies can begin "flavor training"-tasting tiny amounts of various pureed vegetables.

*Find additive free foods that contain 50% vegetables.

*Once your child starts foods, try veggies at least once a day. Studies show that picky eaters are more likely to eat a veggie after 10 times or more after being tasted. The "Yuck" may turn into "Yum".

*Kids are more likely to eat veggies if you share meals around the table as a family. Family mealtimes are beneficial when little ones see the adults or siblings eating the veggies and other healthy foods.

Source: Partner Resources



TODDLER / FLC 113 HAPPENINGS

MARY & ARIEL

ANNOUNCEMENT

Teacher Leave

Mary will be taking annual leave on Thursday, April 4th from 12:30-4:30 and Friday, April 5th 9:00-4:30. Lorrie and Andrea will be covering her hours.

Ariel will be taking Monday, April 8th off from 4:30-5:30 and Friday, April 19th from 12:15-5:30, Lorrie will be working her hours.

Call Classroom When Child is Not Attending

Please call the toddler classroom #231-8285, as soon as possible to let staff know that your child will not be attending for that day or for vacation time. This is important to help staff order the correct number of meals and meet child to adult ratios. If your child is not attending due to health reasons, it is **imperative** that you indicate your child's symptoms. We post illness symptoms so that other families can watch for any health changes in their child.

IS MY CHILD'S APPETITE NORMAL?

While watching your child grow, we may analyze their eating habits. Here are some tips to remember for healthy food choices, eating practices, and overall wellness.

- Your child's appetite changes. If they don't finish a meal that's ok. Take the food away when they are finished. They may be ready for a light snack sooner. If your child is full of energy and is growing and seems healthy, they are probably eating enough.
- Your child knows how much to eat. Healthy children usually eat when they are hungry and stop when they are full. As their parent, you decide what foods to offer. Planning regular times to eat is helpful. Let your child pick from foods you offer **and** let them decide how much to eat. Giving your child that right and respect is important.
- Remember, your child is watching you. If you overeat, your child may too; if not now, then later. Your child learns how to eat by watching you.

Source: *Nibbles for Health 18* Nutrition Newsletters for Parent of Young Children, USDA, Food and Nutrition Service

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

Ronen turns 2 on the 17th!
Beckett turns 2 on the 29th!



PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS

ROBIN & HAYLEY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parent Reminder

Please remember to label your child's nap bag with their first name and last initial.

Preschool Events

- April 8-12: Week of the Young Child (see From The Director)
- April 17: Kiddie Days at Shepperd's Arena 10AM, Parents please join us!!
- April 26: Pajama Day with Show and Share

PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS, CONTINUED

Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten

As your child grows, he or she is learning new information each day and you find yourself marveling by how much your child is learning. Before you know it, he or she will be ready to start kindergarten and enter the world of school. So how can you as a parent prepare your child for the new adventure of kindergarten? An important thing about preparing your child for kindergarten is slowly shift your child into it. How is this done? There are things, you as a parent can do to help this process.

An important process that children need when it comes to kindergarten is the ability to socialize with children their age. Involving your child in activities that have children his or her age group is a great way for them to develop social skills. They are learning how to play with others. Summer camps are a good example of this. Encourage your child to play during birthday parties that involve other children. Often children can be hesitant when it comes to playing with others and practicing these games at home can help remove the shyness.

When it comes to literacy, children love being read to. When you read out loud you enhance your child's skills by building your child's vocabulary, print knowledge and left to right progression. Parents can help children prepare for kindergarten by teaching them how to write their name. "For writing their names, let children practice (*first letter uppercase and all the others lowercase*) in sand, a small tray of rice, shaving cream, pudding, (*Yum!*), finger paint, glitter, crayons, write it big with sidewalk chalk, shape play dough into the letters, etc. Have fun!" (Hubbard, 2009). You can also play I-spy with your child. An example of this is if you see a sign somewhere you could say I spy the letter H. Then show your child where the letter is and have your child make the sound of the letter H. Having magnetic letters for your child to play with at eye level on the refrigerator also helps your child expand their knowledge.

To develop math skills, you can have your child help in baking by letting them help you measure out ingredients and encourage them to count and recognize numbers everywhere in their world. Take them shopping with you to point out shapes or numbers there.

To sharpen fine motor skills, try activities such as making a string of Cheerios or Fruit Loops to make necklaces. Puzzles are also another fun activity to help develop motor skills. Other things that children can work on before entering Kindergarten are: write numbers from 0-10 (or higher), learn colors, count objects, draw shapes and learn your home phone number and address.

All children learn at a different pace, but slowly preparing your child for Kindergarten now will help the transition not be so difficult for them. They'll be able to learn and have fun doing it with their favorite teachers – YOU!

Source

Hubbard, M. (2009, November 14th). *Preparing for Kindergarten*. Retrieved from Hubbard's Cupboard:
http://www.hubbardscupboard.org/kindergarten_prep.html

Weather Report

We have a bit of an early spring this year. You may take home all winter items except a head covering and light gloves. If we get heavy snow again, please bring winterwear back for the day. When weather appropriate, bring a light weight jacket for your child to wear in the afternoon outdoors. The children get warm in winter coats, but it's often too cold for just shirts.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

We will be having parent-teacher conferences starting in April and teachers are excited to meet with you! Thanks for taking the time to complete the Pre-Conference Survey for your child's primary teacher. This gives teachers valuable information to help make the most of the conference. If you haven't signed up for a parent-conference conference time, please do so soon. Let your child's primary teacher know if there is scheduling issue.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

Check back next month for Celebrations!