From the Director

From the Kitchen to the Classroom

Applesauce Bread - Recipe from Watertown Bed and Breakfast

1 cup sugar
1 cup applesauce
1/3 cup vegetable oil
2 eggs
3 Tablespoons milk
2 cups flour
1 tsp baking soda
½ tsp baking powder
½ tsp cinnamon
¼ tsp nutmeg

Combine first five ingredients in mixing bowl and beat with electric mixer 1 minute. Combine remaining ingredients and add to applesauce mixture beating until smooth. Spoon into greased loaf pan and bake at 350 degrees 40 to 45 minutes. Allow to cool on rack for 10 to 15 minutes, remove and continue to cool on rack.

The preschoolers enjoyed looking at the different ingredients and learning about the varied smells. They liked stirring the batter and were surprised when the sugar was hiding under the applesauce. They thought it was hard to stir the sugar and eggs together, but were interested in seeing how much easier they could stir after they were mixed together.

Year-End Child Care Tax Statement

A child care and education tax statement will be sent electronically by January 31, 2017 to the employee on payroll deduction. Please contact Noah Fischer in the office of Human Resources and Payroll or by email Noah.Fischer@ndsu.edu or call him at 231-8965 if questions.

Kindergarten Transitions: Off to a Great Start

Date: Monday, February 6, 2017
Time: 7:00-8:00 PM
Location: EML Hall room 269

- How can I help my child have a smooth transition to kindergarten?
- How do I register my child for kindergarten?
- What are the expectations for my child in kindergarten?
- What are the best ways to communicate with my child’s teacher?

Please join us on Monday, February 6th to learn about kindergarten transitions. Vicky Wiisanen, an experienced kindergarten teacher from Longfellow Elementary, will answer your questions and share ways we can prepare your child for a smooth transition. All families are welcome to attend!

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.

Center Closed

Monday, February 20 – President’s Day Holiday

Wish List

Heart Stickers
Low Odor Dry Erase Markers (All colors)
Twin Size Fitted Sheets
Four Things Kindergarten Teachers Want You to Know
Kindergarten teachers are passionate about partnering with the families of their students. When families and teachers work together, kids win! Here are four things that kindergarten teachers want you to know.

1. **Parents Play a Critical Role**-Kindergarten teacher’s value you as your child’s first teacher. Welcome your child’s teachers as an important partner in your child’s development. Share what you have discovered about how your child learns and include examples of times when your child has learned something new.

2. **The Value of Families and Teachers Working Together as Partners is Research-Based.** Research tells us that when families are involved, children do better academically and socially. Tell the teacher that you sincerely want to work with them to help your child learn and grow. Ask the teacher to offer specific ideas that will involve you in your child’s learning.

3. **Communication is Key**-Communication with families is such a high priority that kindergarten teachers are willing to use a variety of methods to correspond. Some parents prefer to connect via email or text, while others prefer a phone call or a printed letter in their child’s backpack. Ask the teacher the best way to access information about the classroom and the school. Share with the teacher you preferred method of communication.

4. **Teachers Want to Know What Makes Your Family Unique**-Learning about these qualities and values that make your family unique, improve partnerships. Tell your child’s teacher about unique characteristics of your family. Let the teacher know about family changes at home that may impact your child’s attitude and behaviors at school.

Building bridges between kindergarten teachers and families is an important step in supporting your child’s learning and development.

**Student Involvement in the Center**
- HNES Physical Education-Feb. 1-April 12 these students will be plan and implement preschool physical activities (Movin’ & Grovin’) each Wednesday morning from 9:00-10:00.
- Nursing Health Promotions
- Minnesota State University Moorhead Preschool Practicum
- 3 Field Experience Students

**Featured Family**
Our Featured Family this month is “Jeric”. Check it out!

**Lesson Planning and Office Hours**
These are times when the teachers are out of the room for lesson planning:
Raelyn-- Monday 8:30-10:30, Wednesday 8:30-10:30
Stacey-- Tuesday 8:30-10:30, 3:30-4:30, Thursday 3:30-4:30, Friday 8:30-10:00

Our weekly Room Meeting is held Thursday’s at 8:30-9:15. Michele will be the teacher in the classroom.

**Friendship Day**
We will be celebrating Friendship Day on Tuesday, February 14th. The children are encouraged to wear pink, purple, or red that day. They will decorate cookies for snack and exchange friendship cards. You are welcome to bring seven friendship cards to share. They will decorate friendship boxes earlier in the week at the Center. Stay tuned for more info...

**Friday Fun At the Gym**
This semester the teachers will take the older children to the Benson Bunker Fieldhouse on Friday mornings from 10:00-11:00 for movement and play. The children love to play and interact with the preschoolers!
**Goo Sensory Bags**—A fun “Mess Free” recipe to try at home:

1 cup cornstarch  
1/3 cup sugar  
4 cups cold water  
Food coloring  
Gallon freezer size bags work best  

Stir all ingredients together in a pot over medium heat. Continue to cook stirring frequently. As it thickens, make sure to keep stirring. It will be done when ingredients change from a white liquid to a blueish, clear goo (like Vaseline). Remove from heat and add food coloring. Cool and then add to bags.

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**Toddler FLC 113 Happenings** by Mary, Hayley, & Michele

**Friendship Day**
On Tuesday, February 14 we will celebrate “Friendship Day”. It is a tradition for the children to exchange individual friendship cards (remember participation is completely optional). Please put only the recipient’s name on the card. This makes distributing cards much easier for the children. We will decorate cookies for snack and drink colored milk. Dress your child in red, pink or purple for this special day.

**Lesson Planning and Office Hours**
Mary and Hayley have regular scheduled spring lesson planning and office hours. If a parent would like to schedule a meeting with us or just ask a question, we have an “open door” policy and are available to you during those times:

- **Mary**  
  M, W, TH, F 3:00-4:30
- **Hayley**  
  T: 8:30-10:00, W: 9:00-10:00, TH: 8:30-10:30

Mary and Hayley will also meet on Friday mornings from 8:30-9:00 for our weekly room meeting. Michele will be the teacher on floor at that time.

**Gym Day at Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse**
The Center for Child Development has reserved the gym at Benson Bunker Fieldhouse every Friday from 10:00-11:00. Should you arrive with your child at the Center during that time, please bring your child over to the Fieldhouse. You can sign your child in our classroom either before or after dropping off your child with us.

**Annual Responsibility Review Feedback**
In February, staff will begin our annual responsibility review process. When you are contacted for feedback, please provide honest feedback. This review process is a wonderful opportunity for teachers to learn about our strengths and weaknesses and then develop professional goals for improvement.

**Science at Home**
The children had a great experience incorporating science elements such as: hypothesizing, experimentation, drawing a conclusion and communicating our result. We made “Green Smoothies” using strawberry yogurt, banana, milk, and spinach/kale mixture. We talked about the colors of the ingredients, hypothesized what color the smoothie would be, watched the color change as the ingredients blended together, discussed/identified what color evolved and lastly made a chart displaying some of the ingredients in the “Green Smoothie”. We then strengthened our memory recall by discussing the experiment days later. This was as much fun and nutritious as it was hands-on science learning!
Welcome Cheyenne! Please welcome her to our classroom!
We are excited to have welcomed Cheyenne Hjelle into our classroom as a student teacher this semester. Cheyenne is a student in the Early Education Department at Minnesota State University Moorhead. She has experience working with children in local childcare and education programs as well as in an elementary school. Cheyenne has begun working Tuesday and Thursday mornings and will continue through March. In April, her hours will be full time five days a week.

Friendship Day
On Tuesday, February 14 we will celebrate Friendship Day. The teachers will focus on what makes a good friend, why we need friends and how we show someone they are our friend. As part of this celebration we will have:

- **SHOW & SHARE DAY**— The children can each bring in a toy or special item to share with friends during our play times. Please help your child keep this day safe and respectful by not bringing weapons or breakable toys.
- **PAJAMA DAY**— The children can wear a pair of warm pajamas & slippers for inside play. Please wear pant and shirt under a nightgown for warmth and easy removal for outside play.
- **NO VALENTINE CARD EXCHANGE**— We will not exchange valentine cards or treats with friends. We will focus more on the actions of friendship.

Field Trip to Ice Skating Rink
On **Tuesday, February 28** we will take the city bus to an outdoor skating rink located on the corner of 10th Street & 12th Avenue North. The children will move on the ice in their boots and snow clothing. We will leave for the bus at 9:25 and will return around 10:35. The children will be outdoors about 30 minutes on the ice. Teachers will bring balls and hockey equipment along for play. Join us if you’re able!

Group Time Learning
We recently read the story **Biggest, Best Snowman** by Marjery Cuyler where the main character isn’t allowed to do anything because everyone in her family says she is too small. She goes into the woods and with the help of her forest friends she shows them just what someone small can do! The children compiled their own list of things they can do even though they are small. Here’s what they had to say.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chase</th>
<th>I can make a snowman.</th>
<th>Evan</th>
<th>I can help my dad.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drake</td>
<td>I can be proud of myself</td>
<td>Anna</td>
<td>I help carry a cup of milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eowyn</td>
<td>I build a snow man with dad.</td>
<td>Suzy</td>
<td>I help mommy make snowman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>I make a pretend snowman.</td>
<td>Eben</td>
<td>I make a big snowman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry</td>
<td>I can read a book by myself.</td>
<td>Piper</td>
<td>I help dad make dinner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desmond</td>
<td>I help dad &amp; mama make dinner.</td>
<td>Gemma</td>
<td>I help doggie eat treats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graham</td>
<td>Help dad make dinner.</td>
<td>Nyla</td>
<td>I read books to my sister.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawn</td>
<td>I help mommy &amp; daddy clean up.</td>
<td>Victor</td>
<td>I carry heavy things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YeoJun</td>
<td>I help play Lego star wars.</td>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>I help daddy clean up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie</td>
<td>Her friends say “she sings”</td>
<td>Christopher</td>
<td>His friends say “He sings the ABCs”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Songs to Sing with Your Child While celebrating Friendship! Here’s to friends, old & new!

**10 Friends**
1, 2, 3 friends
4, 5, 6 friends
7, 8, 9 friends
10 good friends have I.

**Friendship** (Tune “You Are My Sunshine“)
You are a good friend,
A very good friend,
You make me happy,
When we play,
You listen to me,
You help me sometimes,
So don’t take my good friend away!

**In Spanish**
Uno, dos, tres amigos,
Cuatro, cinco, seis amigos,
Siete, ocho, nueve amigos,
Diece amigos son.