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.

Regular Hours
7:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Summer Hours
7:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Center Closures
Nov. 11th – Veteran’s Day
Nov. 28th – Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov. 29th – Professional Development

Parent-Teacher Conferences
The teachers are excited to meet with you for Parent-Teacher Conferences this month. You will be discussing your child’s developmental progress, accomplishments, and challenges both at home and in the classroom. You will also partner with the teachers to write new developmental learning goals for your child. We value parent input and observations on your child. This information helps teachers to better understand your child’s interests, development, and ways they learn best.

Teacher 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. Please bring the Child Portfolio home after conferences if you would like a closer look at your child’s developmental progress.

Fall Program Evaluation/Family Survey
Do you feel welcomed in our classrooms?
What is the Center doing right with your child’s education?
What should the Center improve upon?
Are we meeting your child and family needs?

On Wednesday, November 6, please allow an extra 5-10 minutes to complete a Program Evaluation/Family Survey on how we are meeting your child and family needs. Deb Habedank will be stationed in the main entry to the Center between 7:30-9:00 AM and then again from 4:00 to 5:30 PM handing out the survey for parents to complete. The results will be tabulated to help Center staff identify our strengths, need for improvement and to develop program goals. We ask for 100% parent participation please. This survey is anonymous and will be tabulated by a student, then shared with Center staff. A summary of the Program Evaluation/Family Survey results will be shared in the December newsletter.

Director Attending Early Childhood Conference
Deb Habedank will be attending the National Association for the Education of Young Children Early Childhood Conference November 19-23, 2019 in Nashville, TN. Upon returning, she will share conference research, curriculum ideas and updates on the accreditation process with Center staff. Mary Duggan, Head Toddler Teacher, will serve as the Acting Director in my absence.

Words to Encourage Your Child
1. I knew you could do it.
2. Terrific teamwork.
3. You did it!
4. Good remembering!
5. That’s the way to do it.
6. You have such creative ideas.
7. Look how you helped each other.
8. I’m proud of the way you…
9. I love hearing your words.
10. Wow, you were brave!
Let's Bake

Little Chef's
Homemade Low Carb Applesauce by Diabetes Media Foundation

3 to 4 pounds peeled cored and quartered apples (about 9 to 12 apples)  
3 inches of cinnamon stick (we added 2 tsp ground cinnamon also)  
½ tsp salt

Place all ingredients into a large pot. Cover and bring to a boil. Lower heat and simmer for 20-30 minutes. Remove from heat and serve. We put our apples in a crock pot and cooked them for three to four hours.

The children had fun using the hand-crank apple peeler and watching them cut them in slices. We compared the apples on how they looked whole and then sliced. Then we talked about the firmness of the whole apple compared to the soft texture of the applesauce. The children explored the differences in stick and ground cinnamon. They compared the sizes of apples and how some were bigger and others were smaller. The children counted the cinnamon sticks and the tablespoons of lemon juice as each ingredient was added. They especially enjoyed tasting the applesauce for snack!

Screen Time and Children
Our Health Promotion Nursing class has implemented a health intervention at the Center for Child Development. A group of eight students chose to address the issue of screen time among young children. We found that the recommended screen time for children ages 2-5 years is an hour a day, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. This number is often unrealistic, so we found apps that your children can use to make screen time educational and productive. The award winning apps we found are:

- Abby Monkey, a winner of the Parent's Choice Award 2012
- Fish School, the winner of a Parent’s Choice Gold Award and Children’s Technology Review Editor’s Choice Award

In order to test the children’s interest in the games, we observed 15 children play each game. The children were shown the picture of the two apps and then allowed to play for five minutes on each game. The children responded really well to both games, and each child identified their favorite. These two apps are the top two free apps for children ages 3-5. It is highly recommended that parents actively participate in the apps to ensure that you child understands the educational concepts of the game they are playing. It can be hard to monitor children’s screen time, so we hope that this information can help make small changes in habits to promote your child’s education! We will soon be sending out a Post Intervention Parent Survey, so we can collect data on the effectiveness of our screen time intervention. Thank you for your participation!

-NDUS Nursing Students

Parent Cell Phone Use in the Center
When dropping off, picking up or playing with your child during the day, please do not be on your cell phone. When you are in the classroom, the children want 100% of your attention. Teachers want to visit with you about your child’s evening and share about your child’s day. In addition, we have some families who DO NOT WANT their child photographed. To be respectful of other families and their privacy, please do not take picture of the children with your phone. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

We Are THANKFUL For...
- Children eager to learn each day
- Partnerships with parents in their child’s education
- Our Center team and wonderful student assistants
- Parents who visit the classroom and join in on activities
- Children’s smiles and hugs shared with teachers daily
- Children’s curiosity of why, how, what and when
- Season changes, especially with sunny days
- Parents who share what is important for their child to learn, their interests, strengths and needs

This Thanksgiving season we celebrate our children and families! Thanks for choosing to be a part of the Center for Child Development!

Stacey & Ariel

Infant/Toddler EML 161 Happenings

Welcome Families
Please help us welcome our new families to the infant classroom, Reed with parents, Dana and Kyle, and Teeda with parents, Glasidhe and Andrea.

Welcome to our Bison Family!

Parent-Teacher Conferences
A BIG thank you goes out to our families for taking time out of your busy schedules to meet with Ariel and Stacey for parent-teacher conferences. We love to learn more about your child and look forward to working together to help your child accomplish their new developmental goals.

Best Baby Books for 0-2 Years of Age (including classics and newer titles)

1. Goodnight Moon
2. The Runaway Bunny
3. The Very Hungry Caterpillar
4. Brown Bear, brown bear, what do you see?
5. Sally on the Farm
6. I Love you through and through
7. The Pout-Pout Fish
8. Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes
9. Peek A Who? *This is a favorite in our room!
10. Where is Baby’s Belly Button?
11. Dear Zoo
12. Baby Faces *Another favorite!
13. Look At you!
14. First 100 Words
15. Chicka Chicka Boom Boom

Taken from Parenting.com.
Toddler FLC 113 Happenings

Mary, Sarah & Michele

Parent-Teacher Conferences
Parent-teacher conferences will be held November 1-22, 2019. Sarah and Mary look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child’s development and together set new learning goals for your child. Sarah and Mary would like to thank our families for allowing us to be a part of your child’s education and partnership with YOU!

A New Face
Aubrey started in our classroom at the end of October as a Student Assistant. Aubrey’s hours are: Wednesday’s 11:30-12:30, Thursday’s 11:00-12:30 and Friday’s 4:00-5:30. We are excited to work together with Aubrey!

Outdoor Play
Please bring your child’s coat, snow pants, boots, water repellent mittens, hat and neck warmer (no scarves due to choking hazard) as we will be exploring our outdoor environment. LABEL your child’s clothing with their first name. It is quite common for more than one child in our classroom to have identical mittens, hat, etc.

Hand Washing
We educate toddlers diligently on hand washing for 20 seconds. The procedure we have found to work the best for the toddlers is:

- Wet hands with water
- Lathering hands for the full 20 seconds. Turn the water off during lathering, which saves on water usage as well as prevents the soap from washing off the hands.
- Adults should model hand washing and count to 20 or sing a song.
- Turn the water back on to rinse soap off the hands, both front and backs. Make sure hands stay in the water stream rather than in the water in the sink as this is where the “germs are”.
- After turning off the water, completely dry hands, wrists and forearms. This will help prevent dry skin during the winter months.

Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts
During the week of October 21 – 25, 2019, our classroom had a Wolf Trap Institute visiting artist from the Washington, DC area. The Wolf Trap artist provided professional development on how to incorporate learning objective that support children's expression of and engagement in art, music, dance, drama and STEM. The toddlers very much enjoyed seeing and playing out the storyline from the book The Big Red Umbrella using props and creative movement. The toddlers danced with shakers, streamers, practiced making a cloud and sang songs both new (“These Feet Are Made for Walking”) and old (“You Are My Sunshine”). We practiced mathematical, social-emotional, cognitive, and large and small motor concepts each day through the curriculum.
Colder Temperatures and Warmer Clothing
Well it looks like our first snow did not stay. The children had fun playing in the snow but were excited to get back into lighter jackets for outside play. Some parents have already brought in and left snow pants for their child’s comfort. Sometimes there is not snow on the ground, but the frosty ground in the morning makes for wet pants and cool legs. Snow pants will help with this problem. Therefore, it is okay to leave winter gear in your child’s cubby.

Once the snow arrives, we ask that you keep snow pants, boots, warm coat, hat and waterproof mittens (marked with child’s name) in your child’s cubby each day for outdoor play. The children wear these pieces of clothing for warmth outside and to keep our inside clothing dry. They will go outside every day when temperatures are 0 degrees or above.

Please consider the clothes your child is wearing to school each day also. Dresses without tights/leggings and ½ sleeve shirts may not keep your child warm enough. A sweatshirt or light fleece jacket available in your child’s cubby will help keep them comfortable in the classroom and when playing in room 319.

November Curriculum
This month we will be expanding our teaching to explore the world we live in. We will be talking about jobs people do, homes we live in, ways that people get around, etc. We may send home some “homework” for you to do together so watch for that. If you would like us to walk over and explore your place of work, please let the teachers know. The children are always interested in what mom or dad do during the day. We may even take a bus trip to explore different forms of transportation.

Pie for Parents
The preschoolers will make pies for parents close to Thanksgiving and welcome parents to eat with us. Please mark on your calendar Tuesday, November 26 at 3:00 PM for delicious pie with your child.

Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts Reflection
The children and teachers had a fun and educational week with Anne Sidney from the Wolf Trap Art Institute October 21-25. Did you get a chance to observe? The children participated in building a story using a story box with character and scenery props. The story was The Big Red Umbrella. The story’s theme was about inclusion and how we can always make room for more friends. The activities included dance (always pointing out and following the children’s movements), repetitive songs, call and answer opportunities, open-ended questions with problem solving, as well as the children acting out the story. We anxiously waited for the next day to see what surprises Anne had in store for us.

We had many adult observes throughout the week from local organizations and state department heads. The teachers had a debriefing session with Anne after each session. They discussed teaching techniques used, how best to meet the children’s interests and developmental needs, and new ideas using different books, props and movement. Teachers are excited to implement what they have learned to enrich our daily curriculum.