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.

The Center for Child Development believes that even young children can make a difference in the community by helping others. The children will experience service first hand and that giving/kindness to others has greater benefits than receiving. Our ultimate goal is to help develop caring adults who give back to the community.

This month we will collaborate with the Great Plains Food Bank to collect canned soups and crackers. The children and their families will shop for and donate the soups and crackers. Foods will be placed in the container located in the front entryway to the Center. On Wednesday February 12, 10:00 AM; an employee from the Great Plains Food Bank will come to the Center to share with the children how their organization helps others. The children will then carry food donations to the van and help load them in. Through this experience, the children will learn:

- The value, pleasure and importance of helping others
- How communities work together to help others in need
- How it might feel if your basic needs were not met
- When we have more than we need, we can share with others
- Where healthy foods comes from such as the ground, trees, cows, chickens etc.
- Together we can make a positive difference for others

Look for a detailed flyer to be placed above your child’s cubby.

Raising a Reader, Raising a Writer Tips for Families by Teresa Byington

Read Together Every Day
Reading to your child opens the world to new ideas, words, and places. It also strengthens the bond between you. Set aside time every day to read together and make it a predictable part of your daily routine. Remember to

- Choose times when you are relaxed and less likely to encounter interruptions. Naptime or bedtime might work well, but be creative and do what fits with your schedule.
- Let your child pick the story to read.
- Pay attention to what your child is interested in as you read. She may be so caught up in the story that she does not want you to stop and ask questions or talk about the pictures just yet (especially the first time through!). On the other hand, she may ask question after question about a character or detail that she is fascinated with. Follow her lead. (cont. on next page)
Raising a Reader…, continued

- Pay attention to what your child is interested in as you read. She may be so caught up in the story that she does not want you to stop and ask questions or talk about the pictures just yet (especially the first time through!). On the other hand, she may ask question after question about a character or detail that she is fascinated with. Follow her lead.
- Let your child touch the book and help you turn the pages as you read to him.
- Point out illustrations and talk about how they relate to the story. “The frog’s tongue must be very sticky to catch so many flies!”
- Share how the story relates to your child’s own world and feelings. “The boy in the story took icama to school for lunch. What food would you like to make for our lunch today?”
- Ask older siblings, other family members, and friends to read to your child.
- Read many different types of books. Reading both fiction and nonfiction books on a similar topic helps your child make connections between stories and the real world. For example, you could read the Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle (1969), and then a nonfiction book about the life cycle of a butterfly with realistic photos and illustrations.
- Explore poems together too—Children love to hear the rhyme of words and to make up their own lines that rhyme.

Soft Pretzels Dough

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 ½ c. flour</td>
<td>1 t. salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 t. sugar</td>
<td>2 ¼ t. instant yeast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 c. water</td>
<td>1 c. boiling water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Topping**

- 1 c. boiling water
- 2 T. baking soda
- Course kosher salt, optional
- 3 T. unsalted butter

1. **To make dough by hand or with mixer:** Place all of the dough ingredients into a bowl, and beat until well combined. Knead the dough, by hand or machine for about five minutes. Flour the dough and put it in a bag for about 30 minutes to rest.
2. **To make dough in a bread machine:** Place all the dough ingredients into the pan of your bread machine, program bread machine to the dough setting for your machine allow dough to proceed through its kneading cycle then cancel the machine flour dough and put in a bag to rest.
3. While the dough is resting, prepare the topping: Combine boiling water and baking soda, stirring until soda is dissolved. Set the mixture aside to cool.
4. Preheat oven to 475 degrees. Prepare baking sheet by spraying it cooking spray or use parchment paper.
5. Divide dough into eight equal pieces
6. Allow the pieces to rest five minutes
7. Roll dough into long thin ropes twist into pretzels then dip them in the soda bath for 2 minutes
8. Transfer to baking sheet
9. Bake for 8 to 9 minutes or until they are golden brown
10. When you remove from the oven, brush the melted butter on the pretzels.

The preschool children enjoyed shaping their pretzel dough and eating their pretzel. They measured the flour using a 1/4 cup and learned how many 1/4 cups equaled 2 1/2 cups. We learned that the yeast, hot water and sugar to see how it expands and changed the dough. The children noticed that the plain dry yeast smelled different from the yeast we put with the water and sugar.

Let’s Bake >>>

### Soft Pretzels Dough

- 2 ½ cups flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 ¼ cups instant yeast
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 cup water
- 1 tsp sugar
- 2 cups boiling water

#### Instructions

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The preschool children enjoyed shaping their pretzel dough and eating their pretzel. They measured the flour using a 1/4 cup and talked about how many 1/4 cups equaled 2 1/2 cups. We learned that there are four - 1/4 cups in one cup so there are eight in two cups then two more in the other half. Cup. Then we learned about the bread machine, how it works and saw how the dough changed from dry ingredients to a dough. The children did an experiment with the yeast, hot water and sugar to see how it expands and changed the dough. The children noticed that the plain dry yeast smelled different from the yeast we put with the water and sugar.

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**Infant/Toddler EML 161 Happenings**

### Room Happenings

The children are adjusting well to a few new adult faces in our room. Ciera, Elizabeth, and Adrianna are our three new Student Assistants.

Some of our children are reaching major developmental milestones and it is so exciting to see. One child is walking now and a few more are taking their first steps. Other children are learning sit up independently, roll over, say first words, some are learning to communicate with signs, and others are starting to eat table foods. Lots of exciting milestones to celebrate with parents!

### Parent Reminders…

- Teachers leave the Center at 5:30 to get home to their families. If you want to visit with the teacher at the end of day about your child, please allow yourself an extra 10-15 minutes to do so. Thank you!
- Label ALL items brought into the classroom especially diapers and wipes.

### Friendship Day

On Friday, February 14, our classroom will be celebrating “Friendship Day”. We encourage everyone to wear red, pink, or purple. Children are welcome to exchange cards with the other children, but it is optional. The older children will be having strawberry applesauce for a special snack.

### Center Illness Policy

As the flu season continues, we want to remind parents to review the Parent Manual on pages 24 and 25 on Exclusion/Return Policies for Children. Along with that, please keep in mind if your child is very irritable, their disposition is different from normal and has cold symptoms, we ask that you think about keeping them home as well. If your child’s symptoms result in a greater need for individual care than the teachers can provide, we will ask that you keep them home for one—on-one care until they feel better.

### Teacher Planning Time

Below is a schedule of when teachers are out of the classroom for lesson planning or time to meet with students and parents:

**Ariel:**
- Monday 8:30-10:30, 3:00-4:15
- Wednesday 8:30-9:30

**Stacey:**
- Tuesday 3:00-4:30, Thursday 4:00-4:30, Friday 9:30-11:30, 3:00-4:30.

Our room meeting is Thurs., from 3:00-4:00. Michele will be in the classroom with the children.
Responsibility Reviews

Starting this month we will be gathering feedback from parents and students for staff responsibility reviews. Please watch for an email from Deb looking for your feedback. Your feedback will be shared in a summary format with the specific teacher. This information helps all staff members write personal goals for improvement and helps us understand our strengths.

Friendship Day

We will celebrate Friendship Day on Friday, February 14th. It is an optional for children to exchange friendship cards. If you are interested in exchanging friendship cards, please put your child’s name only on the cards where it says “From”. The children will personally place their friendship card in their friends’ collection box. Teachers ask each family would bring one (1) whole fruit or one canned fruit (approximately 1 cup) for the children to make a friendship fruit salad in the morning. They will eat their fruit salad for afternoon snack.

Gym Days

The Center for Child Development has reserved the gym at Benson Bunker Field House every Friday from 10:00-11:00. Should you arrive at the Center during that hour, please bring your child over to the Benson Bunker Field House. Sign your child in at our classroom before dropping your child off with us. If the weather is warm enough for the playground, we will choose to go outside and enjoy the fresh air.

Science at Home

Here is a great experience which incorporates some elements of science. Hypothesizing, conducting the experiment, drawing a conclusion and communicating our result. We made “Green Smoothies” one day using strawberry yogurt, bananas, milk and spinach mix. We talked about the colors of the ingredients, hypothesized what color the smoothie would be when mixed, watched the color change as the ingredients blended together, discussed/identified what color evolved and lastly made a chart displaying the ingredients of a “Green Smoothie”. We then strengthened our memory recall skills by discussing the experiment days later.

Read, Read, Read!

A HUGE thank you to our parents for reading to the children during January. The children were so proud to have their parent in the classroom. Thanks for being a part of our story time and contributing to your child’s education!

Welcome Emily!

We are excited to have welcomed Emily Huotari, an MSUM Early Education student, into our classroom as a student teacher this semester. She will work Tuesday and Thursday’s through March. In April, Emily will work Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM-4:00 PM. Emily has experience in early education classrooms including the Center for Child Development Toddler room. Please welcome Emily to our classroom!

Movin’ & Groovin’

February 5 through April 15, 2020, the HNES 257 class will plan, implement and evaluate movement activities for the preschool children Wednesday mornings starting at 9:10. This university course provides students hands-on experience in planning developmentally appropriate motor activities. The children and teachers will walk to FLC room 319 in two groups starting at 9:10 for 20 minutes each group.

Friendship Day

On Friday, February 14, we will celebrate Friendship Day. The teachers will focus their education on what makes a good friend, why we need friends and how we show others they are special to us. The teachers will plan cooperative games for the children and read a book on friendship. In addition, the children will celebrate by:

- **Wearing Pink, Red & Hearts** -- Let your child wear their red, pink or hearts clothing that day.
- **Friendship Fruit Salad** -- Each child will be asked to bring one whole fruit OR a small can of fruit to add to our Friendship Fruit Salad. Any kind of whole fresh fruit or small canned fruit is acceptable (approximately 1 cup serving). We will discuss the different kinds of fruit added to our salad and mix it together to share for pm snack.
- **No Valentine Exchange** – The children WILL NOT be exchanging valentine cards or treats with their friends. We will focus more on actions of friendship, kindness and love.

Upcoming Events! Parents, please join us!

**Fairy Tale Day:** Wed., Feb. 26 at 3:15 PM to re-enact a fairy tale and at 3:30PM to enjoy a fairy tale snack

**Darwin Day:** Fri., Feb. 28 at 10 AM at A. Hill Glenn Building to celebrate Charles Darwin by exploring fossils, reptiles & bones.

**Robin Taking Vacation**

Robin will be on vacation February 18-27th. Monica will continue to open each day and Michele with our awesome students will be working through closing time. Robin’s substitutes will be posted for parents. Please let Monica know if there are any questions or concerns.

Published by the Center for Child Development, Department 3142 Box 6050, NDSU, Fargo, ND 58108, (701) 231-8281, Room 261, E Morrow Lebedeff Hall