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

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
- Good health
- Parents sharing 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 our program!

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 next learning opportunities 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 your observations of your child. This information equips teachers to better understand your child’s interests, development, and ways they learn best. Your child’s emergency information will be updated for your child’s safety.

Teacher Strategies GOLD is the assessment tool 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 review your Child’s Portfolio at the conference or at home if you would like a closer look at your child’s developmental progress.

What did our Team Accomplish on October 21?

- Carpets cleaned in all classrooms and preschool room toilet fixed
- Two hours Growing Futures approved physical training
- Prepared for parent-teacher conferences
- NDSU Equal Opportunity / Title IX Training

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Child Care & Education Hours

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

Center Closure
Thurs., Nov. 11th – Veteran’s Day
Thurs., Nov. 24th – Thanksgiving Day
Fri., Nov. 25th – Professional Development

Wish List
Chunk Crayons

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Words to Encourage Your Child

- You used your words to help get what you wanted.
- Look how you helped others be safe.
- You did it!
- Terrific teamwork!
- You are safe.
- I’m proud of the way you...
- You had a creative idea!
- Wow, you are brave!
- That’s the way to do it.
- You remembered, thank you!

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November 2022
From the Director, continued…

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?

On Wednesday November 16, 2022, 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 in the main entry to the Center between 7:30 - 9:00 AM and again from 4:00 to 5:30 PM handing out the Family Survey to parents to complete at that time. The results will be tabulated to help our team identify our strengths, need for improvement and to develop program goals. This Survey is anonymous. We ask for 100% parent participation. A summary of the Program Evaluation/Family Survey results are shared with you in the December newsletter.

Teacher Aide Position Open

Rachel Goldberg resigned her position in the Center for Child Development effective October 24, 2022. The Center has re-opened the Teacher Aide position to internal and external applicants. Preferred qualifications are B.S. in Child Development or Early Childhood Education or Related Field or two years of college with years of experience working with children between the ages of 6-weeks-5 years of age. If you know of an excellent teacher candidate who may be interested in this full time and benefitted position, please refer them to Deb Habedank 701-231-8281 or email Debra.habedank@ndsu.edu or search the NDSU Job Board.

Infant Toddler/EML 161 Happenings…

Warm Welcome and Goodbyes

This month we will be saying good-bye to Luna as an infant. She will be starting a new learning adventure in the toddler room. We wish her well and look forward to seeing her on the playground!

Please help us welcome Ronen (7 months), along with parents, Sheyenne and Jordan, and Kyler (2 months), with parents, Brad and Kristen. Welcome to our Bison Family!

Featured Family

The Featured Family sign-up sheet is located next to the sign in and out sheet. The children love to see their family photos and educators love to learn about each child’s family and extended family. Participation is voluntary.

Infant Toddler/EML 161 Happenings…

Welcome to our Bison Family!

Featured Family – Check back next month!

Infant Sleep (children under 12 months)

Children under 12 months of age are not allowed to have blankets, hooded clothing, headbands, bibs, and teething necklaces during sleep in the Center. This safety practice reduces the risk of SIDS, suffocation, entrapment, and strangulation for infants. With the cooler outdoor temperatures and children wearing warmer clothing, please do not send your child with hooded clothing. If your child does come with a hooded outfit, teachers will remove the hooded item before naptime.

Safety First

Please remember that bags and backpacks kept in your child’s cubby should be free of ANY medications, over-the-counter products or substance that could harm or be a choking hazard to children. Our infants and toddlers are curious and love to explore the cubbies. Thank you!

Cooler Temperatures and Outdoor Play

Please remember to have a warm coat, hat, and gloves/mittens at school for your child for outdoor play and exploration! Label all items with your child’s name to prevent clothing mix-ups.
Infant/Toddler, continued…

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Just a reminder that Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held November 1-9, 2022. The sign-up sheet is located on the classroom door for your convenience. If these times do not work for you, please talk with Stacey or Tasha about an alternative time and date. We look forward to meeting with you soon!

Toddler/FLC 113 Happenings…

Parent-Teacher Conferences

November is Parent-Teacher Conferences time and educators are excited to meet with parents! This is a valuable time to set child learning goals for home and the center. As parents you are the child’s primary educator and know your child’s individual strengths and needs best. Together, in partnership, we will provide for your child’s best education and care.

Active Outdoor Play

The children will go outside when temperature are 0 degrees Fahrenheit or above. (Family Handbook page 21) Please have warm clothing available for your child in their cubby so they remain dry, warm, and comfortable while exploring the outdoors.

Toddler Tricks

Supporting your child in successful, independent dressing is helpful when so many clothing pieces need to be put on before going outdoors. It takes time for your child to problem solve when putting on their own snow pants, boots, mittens, and coat. On the same note, allowing children to problem solve when putting on their own shoes is just as important. The excitement, relief, and pride that a child exhibits upon succeeding make all the time and tears worth the effort.

Helping Toddlers Develop Self-Care Skills

As the seasons change, children have a wonderful opportunity to work on self-help skills, specifically putting on a jacket using the “up and over” approach as well as changing shoes when we wear boots for outdoor play. The “up and over” approach is when you have your child stand by their collar of your coat and put their arms in their sleeves. Have the child swing their arms “up and over” their head. With younger toddlers, typically one arm will sometimes drop out. Older toddlers are always proud of their accomplishment and independent skills that they learned!

At times it can be challenging to allow your child enough time to dress themselves. Sometimes emotions run high especially in a time crunch. Allowing time for the child to “try first” then have adult help, will pay big dividends in learning self-care skills.

Preschool Happenings…

Colder Temperatures and Warm Clothing

Some parents have already brought snow pants for their child’s warmth and comfort outdoors. Sometimes there is not snow on the ground, but the frosty ground in the morning makes for wet pants and cold legs. Snow pants will help with this. Therefore, it is okay to leave winter gear in your child’s cubby already.

Let’s Celebrate – Maria turns 2 on the 5th!”
Preschool Happenings, continued...

Once the snow arrives and stays, we ask that you keep snow pants, boots, warm coat, hat and waterproof mittens (labeled with child’s name) in your child’s cubby each day for outdoor play. Children do go outside every day when temperatures are 0 degrees or above.

Also, consider the clothes your child is wearing in the classroom each day. Dresses without tights/leggings and half sleeve shirts may not keep your child warm enough. A sweatshirt or light fleece jacket available in your child’s cubby will help them stay comfortable during play.

Carly, Our Student Teacher

During the past 10 weeks we have gotten to know Carly from MSUM as she taught part time in our classroom. Starting November 1st through the remainder of the semester, Carly will be educating children full time. She will be introducing herself to you as the month goes by if she hasn’t already. Carly will be planning and teaching many lessons to the children. She will also do a head teaching week as part of her learning experience. During head teaching, Robin and Hannah will assist Carly as she is “in charge” of the classroom. Feel free to discuss questions with her about your child’s learning and hands on experiences. If you have any questions or concerns about your child and would prefer to talk directly with Robin or Hannah, they are always available.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Teacher will have fall parent - teacher conferences in November. Thank you for taking the time to help us plan for your child’s learning and development by filling out the Pre-Conference Parent Survey form and signing up for a conference time. Teachers LOVE conference time!

Literacy Activities

Consider doing some fun literacy activities with your child this month!

- See how many times you can sing the ABCs before the light turns green when at a stoplight!
- Make placemats or name cards for Thanksgiving dinner.
- Make a list of how many things in your child’s room is his/her favorite color.
- Peggy Parish’s birthday is this month. She writes Amelia Bedelia books. Marc Brown’s birthday is also this month. He writes Arthur books. Check them out at the library!
- Go Vote! Bring your child with to see how it works.
- Remember any nursery rhymes from your childhood? Share them with your child.
- How many giant steps is it from the classroom to your car?

Large Group Time

Parents may wonder what the children do throughout the day. Most of their time is spent in child choice where the children choose the area and activity to participate in within a planned environment. Child choice happens for large periods of time during the morning and in the afternoon. Sometimes, we have our child choice time outside also. However, three times per day, we have a time where all children gather for a specific teacher lead activity during large group time.

Large group time is when a teacher leads the group in a specific activity designed to enhance the children’s learning and individual goals. The structure of group time varies each day including reading a story, singing songs and fingerplays, movement experiences, games, graphing and learning more about each child’s thoughts and wishes. Large group time is scheduled for after breakfast, lunch, and snack, lasting approximately 15 minutes each. The purpose of group is to teach and reinforce specific concepts and the curriculum content, such as math during graphing exercises, language, and memory skills during singing and fingerplays and literacy concepts among others when a book is read to mention only a few. During music time, we want children to experience a variety of music and movement activities such as playing instruments, cultural rhythms, dancing, and yoga.

Along with these specific concepts, children also learn social skills. They learn to successfully participate in group by following directions, focusing on the person speaking or book being read rather than others around him or her, and listening to and respecting the comments of others. They learn conversational skills through answering and responding to questions, and conversational turn taking (waiting to be called on to talk). Large group time is a structured part of our day in which the children are preparing for the academic world of kindergarten and elementary school where more of their time will be spent in structured, teacher lead experiences.

You may see graphs in the room relating to group or hear your child talking about large group time at home, or “reading” a story to you at arrival time. You can know exactly what part of their day they are telling you about!

A Heartfelt Thanks

Robin, Hannah, and Hayley would like to express thanks to all parents for letting us be a part of your child’s life. This month of giving thanks, encourages teachers to reflect on all that your child and family have taught us. We are so thankful you have entrusted our team with your child’s education.