



# THE CENTER PAGE

MAY 2026 - V. 62, Is. 5

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### Center Hours

Regular hours: M-F, 7:30-5:30

Summer hours: M-F, 7-4:30 (May 18<sup>th</sup>)

### Center Closure(s)

Fri, May 15 – Cleaning & Maintenance

Mon, May 25 – Memorial Day Holiday

### CCD Helpful Links

Calendar: [CCD Monthly Calendar](#)

Menu: [CCD Monthly Menu](#)

Homepage: [CCD Homepage](#)

Amazon: <https://a.co/dhdjbx>

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### Wish List!

(See Amazon Wish List above)

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Educator Spotlight- Hayley Boatright

Hayley was recently honored by NDSU for celebrating 5 years here at the Center for Child Development! We are so grateful for all that she does as part of our team. Hayley brings a lot of joy to the preschool room and to the Center as a whole. Please join us in congratulating her on 5 years!

### Munchin' with Mama

**Date:** Friday, May 8

**Time:** 3:00-4:00 PM

Please join us for a special snack with your child in their classroom. A mom, grandma, aunt or friend is welcome to attend!

### Planning a Family Vacation?

Summers are for family vacations, longer weekends at the lake, and travel. If your child will be absent from the Center, please let your child's teacher know in advance so we can maintain accurate meal counts and plan our curriculum accordingly. Have a SAFE and FUN summer!

### Teachers and Hours for Summer

Infant Room	Toddler Room	Preschool Room
Stacey 7-3:30	Mary 7-3:30	Robin 7-3:30
Taylor 8-4:30	Ariel 8-4:30	Hayley 8-4:30
Hailey	Saeeda	Laura

**Mission:** Our mission at the Center for Child Development is to promote high-quality learning for each and every child, support families and educate university students.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR, *CONTINUED*

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### Summer Curriculum

- May 18-29** Health, Wellness, and Safety
- June 1-5** Let's Go to the Beach!
- June 8-19** Let's Explore Nature!
- June 22-26** Construction/Transportation/Big Wheels
- June 29-July 3** Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday America!
- July 6-17** Sports Variety Pack
- July 20-24** Let's Travel!
- July 27-31** All About Animals
- Aug 3-7** STEM
- Aug 10-14** Teacher's Choice

\*Gardening and outdoor water play will take place throughout the summer.



## INFANT TODDLER / EML 161 HAPPENINGS

Stacey & Taylor

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Big Milestones in our classroom

Our kids are keeping us busy and learning so many new things, so it seems like it's going to be a busy summer!

Some of the new milestones we are seeing are:

- \*Rolling over
- \*Sitting up on their own
- \*Feeding them self
- \*Learning to crawl and pull self-up to stand
- \*Learning more sign language
- \*Making new sounds
- \*Running and climbing are getting mastered
- \*Learning LOTS of new words, and some children are putting 2-3 words together
- \*Learning to share and help others

### Good-bye to our Students

We will be saying good-bye to our work-study and field experience students this month. Their last week with us will be Finals Week! Talene will be graduating and we wish her the best in her future!

### FEATURED FAMILY

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*Check back next month!*

### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

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*Elizabeth turns 2 on the 8th!*

## INFANT TODDLER, CONTINUED

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### Benefits of Sign Language

Introducing American Sign Language (ASL) to infants as early as 6 months can be a simple and meaningful way to support early communication. At this age, babies are often able to use their hands intentionally before they are able to clearly form words. Teaching basic signs like “more,” “all done,” “milk,” or “help” gives infants a way to express their needs, which can reduce frustration for both the child and caregiver. In the infant room, we try to model and consistently use these signs during daily routines such as feeding, playtime, and transitions to help children start making these connections.

Using ASL with infants also supports overall language development rather than delaying it. Research shows that babies who are exposed to sign language often develop strong communication skills because they are learning that gestures and words both carry meaning. Signing can strengthen the connection between caregiver and child by encouraging more interaction, eye contact, and responsiveness. It also helps build confidence in infants as they begin to understand that they can communicate their wants and needs successfully.

Families can easily incorporate simple signs at home by starting with one or two consistent words and using them during everyday routines. Repetition and consistency are key, and it's important to always say the word out loud while signing it. Over time, infants may begin to imitate these signs, creating early opportunities for two-way communication. Supporting communication in these early stages lays an important foundation for later language, social development, and positive relationships.

Source: <https://headstart.gov/culture-language/article/teaching-american-sign-language-infants-toddlers>

Happy Mother's Day to all of our WONDERFUL MOMS!!!!



## TODDLER / FLC 113 HAPPENINGS

Mary & Ariel

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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#### Cute Quotes

During lunch, a child scooped a piece of celery from their soup and exclaimed “a pickle!”

While listening to a book and sitting on the blue couch leaning against the teacher, the child put their feet on the couch, quickly then put them on the floor saying “Oh I'm sorry, I put my feet on the floor!”

#### Staff Changes

Mary will be taking annual leave on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### It's Spring!

Spring is here and it is time for sun protection for our outdoor time. Please bring sunscreen for your child if you have not done so already. Sun hats and sun glasses are important for sun protection as well. Bringing a light jacket for morning outdoor time will be needed as well.

#### Attendance changes

As summer plans are being made, please let staff know as soon as possible of any changes to your child's attendance. We are beginning to work on summer staffing and want to be sure our ratios are supporting our attendance needs.

#### Gardening

The toddler garden will begin being worked on and planted towards the end of May. We are polling the toddlers to learn what their thoughts are on what the garden's contents should be. More information to come!

## TODDLER, CONTINUED

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### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all of our parents who took the time to meet with Mary and Ariel regarding your child's development. Our partnership is so important to your child's continued development.

#### FEATURED FAMILY

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*PUNYA – Check it out!*

#### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

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*Check back next month for Celebrations!*



## PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Robin & Hayley

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### PRESCHOOL EVENTS

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**May 5:** RedHawks game

**May 8:** Mother's Day snack @ 3PM

**May 11:** Show & Share Day

**May 21:** Preschool graduation @ 3PM – more details to come

**May 27:** Bring your bike/helmet to school – we will ride in the courtyard during outside times

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thanks everyone for taking the time from your busy days to meet with your primary teacher last month. We are able to better help your child grow & learn in preschool when we have your valuable input into our teaching.

### Spring has Sprung!

We have officially sent home (or bagged up) snowpants, winter boots, and heavy coats for the season. The playground is dry and the weather is nice enough for lighter coats. Please keep a hat & light gloves here for some cooler mornings. We're so excited to ride trikes & draw with sidewalk chalk outside again!

### Warm weather clothes

We will be looking through your child's box and placing winter clothing above their cubby along with a note asking for summer replacements as the weather warms up. If you could take some time to put replacements in their box, that would be helpful and keep your child comfortable in case spare clothes are needed.

**Spending time outside with your child** (Message in a Backpack for NAEYC, 2009, "What Do We Do and Learn")

Spring has sprung and it is so nice to be able to get outside and enjoy the warmth! Here are a few ideas for you to do with your child:

- Add a short walk to your evening routine-Ask your child to you about his or her day, watch the sunset, listen to sounds of the night, or tell a story about when you were young.
- Play games-Share the games you played as a child. Play board games on a picnic table or blanket. Play with balls, hit balls off tees, or hit a foam ball back and forth using light rackets.
- Enjoy nature all around you-Point out the new leaves on trees, bugs living under a rock, birds flying. Visit a park and bring paper and crayons, containers, and a magnifying glass so you can help your child become a nature investigator.

#### FEATURED FAMILY

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*CAMILO – Check it out!*

#### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

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*Gabe turns 5 on the 7<sup>th</sup>!*