



KID'S TRIBUNE

Apr 2014

Bright Beginnings Child Development Center

Notable Dates:

April 7-11

Week of the Young
Child

April 17

Easter Egg Hunt
3pm

April 18 - April 21

School Closed
Easter Break

April 22

Earth Day

April 29

SEED Parent Seminar
5pm - 6pm

May 23

Trike-A-Thon

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear Parents,

Time to celebrate! Big, Bad Winter is gone and Spring is now here! No more school closings and delays, no more snow or freezing rain, no more heavy coats or long johns! Finally! Outdoor playtime will now be a little longer, which also means that allergies and bug bites may be a little more prevalent, as well. As always, for those who would like for your child to receive insect repellent, or a prescription allergy medicine, please inform the front office staff.

SEED

The date has been set! As mentioned in last month's newsletter, [the SEED \(Social & Emotional Early Development\) program will be hosting a seminar for our parents here at Bright Beginnings, entitled "Setting Limits - Positive Behavior Guidance"](#). The goal of the session is to help parents understand how they can most effectively communicate with their children and to discuss methods for addressing challenging child behavior. [The date of the session will be on April 29th at 5pm in the Discover Arts Academy building.](#) This will be a very insightful and rewarding session - please make plans to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Trike-A-Thon

In just a few weeks, on Friday, May 23rd, Bright Begin-

nings will be hosting its 3rd Annual Trike-A-Thon. For those who are new to our school, the Trike-A-Thon is our version of the Daytona 500 . . . just with trikes! It is the one day of the year when children are allowed to bring their trikes (or tricycles or bikes or scooters) to school to race on the "race track" on our playground. The goal of the Trike-A-Thon is twofold . . . first, we want the children to enjoy racing and showing off their vehicles at school, and second, we hope to raise funds to help improve some aspect of our school. The Trike-A-Thon is always a lot of fun and always a big hit with all of our students! Look for more details in the upcoming weeks.

Food & Phones

As we all know, mornings can be very hectic. We understand that sometimes parents are able to make it to school in time for breakfast, and other times, they just aren't. If you find yourself in a position where you miss breakfast and must feed your child along the way to school, please make sure your child does not still have the food in hand when he or she enters the school. Your child is welcome to finish his or her food in the lobby, but we want to make sure no food goes beyond our doors. The reason we must adhere to this policy is to pro-

tect other children from potential allergic reactions and to avoid any potential conflicts with other children. Thank you for your understanding.

We would also appreciate it if you could make an effort to abide by our "No Cell Phone" policy while in our school. Our desire is for all parents to be focused not only on their child but on all children while on our premises. Cell phones during carpool times present an unnecessary distraction. The more attentive our parents are, the safer we all will be!

New Teacher

With Ms. Mona out on maternity leave and with an increased number of students, we decided to add a new teacher to our staff! Ms. Nicola is a mother of three children and a native of Antigua. She is currently completing her Associates degree in Psychology from Ashworth College and has completed Early Childhood credentials coursework at Wake Technical Community College. Ms. Nicola will be working as an assistant teacher in a number of our classrooms. Please join us in welcoming Ms. Nicola!

Classroom/Themes: Infant / “Animals”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
“Mary Had A Little Lamb”	Demonstrates positive approach to learning	Music	None	Jahir
Talk about different animals	Listens and understands English	Language		
Classroom/Theme: Toddler / “Colorful Rainbow”, “Easter”, “Colors We Like”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Painting with rainbow crayons	Demonstrates fine motor strength and coordination	Physical	Lucas	Jacob
Sort eggs by colors	Uses classification skills	Cognitive		
Talking about the colors of the rainbow	Uses appropriate conversational and other communications skills	Language		
Classroom/Themes: Preschool 1 / “Bunnies”, “Wk of the Young Child”, “Flowers & Spring”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Sorting color flowers	Uses classification skills	Cognitive	Josiah	Lucas Chloe
Counting bunnies	Uses number concepts and operations	Mathematics		
Hop Like A Bunny	Demonstrates traveling skills	Physical		
Classroom/Themes: Preschool 2 / “Balls”, “Springtime”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Celebration of Balls	Use number concepts and operations	Mathematics	Kaeden	Cooper
Poem of Spring	Demonstrates phonological awareness	Language/Literacy		
Life Cycle of The Butterfly	Demonstrates knowledge of the characteristics of living things	Science		
Classroom/Themes: KinderPrep 1/ “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Week of the Young Child Class Banner	Exploring Visual Arts	The Arts	Michelle Ms. Elizabeth	Aubriyanna
Planting flowers in pots	Demonstrates knowledge of living things	Science		
Understanding recycling	Demonstrates positive approaches to learning	Cognitive		

Classrooms (cont'd)

Classroom/Themes: KinderPrep 2 / "Recycle, Reuse, Reduce"				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Planting flowers	Demonstrates knowledge of characteristics of living	Science	None	None
Sorting trash (recycle or not)	Uses classification skills	Cognitive		
Stick letters	Demonstrates knowledge of the alphabet	Literacy		
Classroom/Themes: KinderPrep 3 / "Recycling and Spring"				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Plant different types of seeds	Demonstrates knowledge of living things	Science	Alison Lucinda	None
Recycling graph	Graph different items: Recycle, Reuse, Reduce	Science		
Sorting Trash	Uses appropriate conversational and other communication skills	Language		
Classroom/Themes: KinderPrep 4 / "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle", "Easter"				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Baggy books	Demonstrates knowledge of the alphabet	Literacy	None	Khaleb
Junk patterns	Demonstrates knowledge of patterns	Mathematics		
The Litter Monster	Listens to and understands increasingly complex language	Language		

Feature Article

To some, science can be an intimidating subject. Like math, sometimes people who did not have a positive experience with the subject early in their lives may be turned off by it as they age. On its most basic level, science is simply curiosity. The more we can do to foster a child's curiosity, the more we can stimulate a child's natural appetite for science.

Young children have many questions about the world around them. They ask, "Where did the puddle go?", "What do worms eat?", "How can I make my truck go faster?", "Do fish go to sleep?"

In our classroom, the Discovery area is a place where children explore and investigate to answer their questions. They observe, experiment, measure, solve problems, take things apart, and handle the materials and living things we put out. They predict what will happen as a result of their actions.

In the Discovery area, children do what scientists do. They ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, gather information, construct explanations, and communicate findings. They also learn important scientific concepts as they study plants, animals, magnets, properties of materials, light, shadows, how things work, rainbows, the human body, our senses, how things move and change and more. In additions to learning science content, they learn how to solve problems together and how to communicate with others.

What Can You Do at Home

Young children are curious and love to investigate. You don't need to be an expert to help your child learn about science. Science is all around us, from making bubbles in the bathtub to boiling water on the stove. Your enthusiasm and positive attitude about science will be contagious. Get in the habit of wondering out loud ("I wonder how that ant can carry that big piece of food"; "I wonder why your shadow is sometimes small and sometimes big.").

The questions you ask and comments you make when your child is exploring can extend his or her scientific thinking. Her are some examples:

"What do you think will happen when . . . ?"

"I wonder why . . ."

"How do you think we can find out . . .?"

Look for opportunities to support your child's scientific thinking during everyday activities: playing with toys, taking a bath, helping to make dinner, playing in the backyard, or going on an outing. Remember, you don't need to know all of the answers! It is a good sign if your child is curious, wants to investigate everything, asks lots of questions, and wants more answers. We encourage you to visit our Discovery area with your child.



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