TODDLER TOWN

"Where Your Child Always Come First"

January 2014

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Curious Children and their many, many Questions

Children are naturally very curious about all sorts of things. And their questions can come at busy times or can simply be overwhelming. Not to mention we often don't have all of the answers! Here are some tips about how to deal with your curious child and her/his many, many questions.

Why? Why? Why? But how?

It can be tempting to ignore or reject your child's questions when they become overwhelming. Try to resist using answers like "Because I said so" or responding with "Stop bothering me." Answers like this can make your child feel sad for having expressed their curiosity and can set back their attempts to learn and explore. When you are too busy to handle your child's questioning, try to politely explain your feelings and assure them that you can answer these questions another time. But be sure that you make time later to do so!

Short answers are sufficient and will be your go-to response most of the time, but when you can find the time, questions are a great opportunity to expand your child's learning. Suggest ways that your child might be able to find or discover an answer to their question on their own, whether it be looking it up online or creating an experiment in your home. Ask your child what he/she thinks is the answer to a question and help them understand the virtues and flaws of their thinking.

And don't forget: It's okay to say 'I don't know.' In fact, when it's true, say it! Children need to understand that it is okay not to know. It also gives you an opportunity to learn the answer together!

To read more, check out this website: http://illinoisearlylearning.org/tipsheets/curiouschild.htm

TAKE NOTE

- Please check your email for Teaching Strategies requests.
- Please make sure that we have your most recent contact information.
- Make sure you have weather-appropriate clothing in your child's cubby.

Complete 2014 Food Form to receive your 2013 Tax Statement

Avoid a $15 late-fee, pay on-time!

UPCOMING DATES

- CLOSED January 1st for New Year's Day
- CLOSED January 20th for Martin Luther King Jr Day

Ms. Jackie's Teddy Bears Class 2-year-olds

Winter Fest

The 2014 year has arrived and we are excited to start the year off fresh. But before we tell you what the New Year holds, let's do a recap of last month's work. In December, the children continued their lesson of identifying their alphabets, working on five letters a week. Also the children and their families worked on a take-home project where they had to decorate their Winter Fest ornament that we hung on our classroom "winter fest tree." We got some interesting ornaments! Also, the children learned about Winter Fest and what it entails, such as snow and cultural holidays.

In the month of January 2014, the children will be continuing to work on identifying their alphabets. Also, we will work on a science project involving magnets. The children will learn about what magnets are, how they work, and what objects attract and repel with magnets. As a homework project, the children will be asked to bring in an item they believe will attract to a magnet. Each child will then have the chance to test their items in class to see if their objects attract or repel. This is a great way to get the children engaged as well as exercise their critical thinking skills! Let's get the New Year started!!!

Ms. Claudia's Butterflies Class 3-year-olds

Welcome 2014! We are pleased to see everyone back who took a break over the holiday season. Last month the class discussed the Winter Season. We also worked on the letters E, F and G. The Butterflies were able to create so many wonderful seasonal crafts that I hope everyone enjoyed them. We also worked on a science unit with snow! This month we will continue our focus on the alphabet and many other basics.

January is always a drab cold month and not the most exciting way to start a new year. So for the month of January the Butterflies will take part in a Color Unit. We will add some life to an otherwise long, colorless month. We will recreate warm weather scenes by creating rainbows and mixing water colors. We will also have new focus letters: Hh, Ii, and Jj. Parents, please remember that while we may work on materials here in school, there also needs to be an emphasis on practicing at home. It might be cold outside, but it's going to get warm in our classroom this month!

SNOW!

Ms. Megan's Lions Class 3 and 4-year-olds

A Snow Face

Hello Parents!

The month December was an awesome month! We had a so many great lesson and activities like our winter tree hand prints, polar bear plates and practicing tracing the letter C. This month brought so many fun experiences.

For January there are many themes in store for the Lions class. Some of the lesson plans include studying our 5 senses, letter f and g, and we study the Chinese New Year.

Parents: be sure to check your child's cubby frequently for any messages, take home projects or update on the appropriate clothes needed for your child.

Thank you and Have a Great New Year!

Ms. Megan

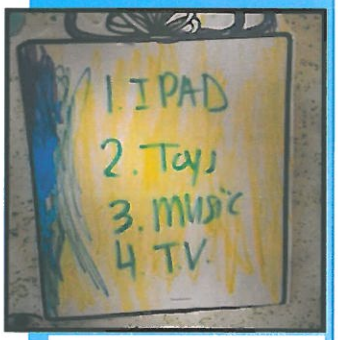
Ms. Stephanie's Dragons Class 3 and 4-year-olds

I'm going on my second month, and I do have to say its getting better and better. The children are best and I really enjoy working here.

The month of December was a fun and busy one. We talked about so many different things such as Christmas, what it means to share, fairness and much more. We had a few movie days and also a holiday party and pajama day. For arts and crafts this month we did snow-men, Christmas trees and presents.

For the month of January I plan on talking about manners such as please and thank you., also we are going to talk about friendship and so much more.

Last and least I want to thank the parents for the lovely Christ-mas gifts and I hope everyone had a great holiday.



Holiday Wish List

Ms. Taga's Bears Class 4 and 5-year-olds

Christmas Tree Painting

Happy New Year!

To recap for the month of December, we touched on the topics of Being Kind, Lizards, and our Winter Celebration and reviewed our num-bers 11 and 12.

For the month of Janu-ary, we will be discussing Winter, Manners, Num-bers and Ocean Animals. and reviewing our num-bers 13-15. We will also be continuing with win-ter related projects using winter related materials, such as cottonballs, foam popcorn, glitter paint and glitter. At this time, we will be creating snowmen using different forms of art including 3-D. In our media table, we'll be continuing with snow play, experiment-ing with science by dye-ing the snow, and using different materials for sensory play.

It should be a fun month!

Ms. Jane's Koalas Class 5-year-olds

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

Welcome to 2014 Everyone!

In the month of December we had tons of fun antici-pating Santa's arrival. Lots of holiday projects were done and we danced and sang too many Christmas songs. Our Holidays Around the World week was a great success.

For the month of January we will be jumping feet first into our Snow unit. There seems to be a lot of snow coming this month so we will be exploring and dis-covering as much as we can. Some of our other units will be Weather and All About Math. Homework will once again be given daily to the students so please be sure to take home AND return their binders daily.

Parents, it is imperative that your child comes to school with the proper clothing for the current weather. Gloves, hats, scarves, and warm coats as well as a sweater are very much needed. We will be going outside to play daily as long as it isn't too cold outside.

New Year New Beginnings

Let's get ready for a great month!

Our Christmas Trees