



September 2010 Newsletter for our Infants, Crawlers, and Toddlers

Topic of the Month Child's Play

Children learn by moving, touching, tasting, seeing, smelling, and hearing. Infants don't necessarily "play" in terms of the way we think of play until they are able to walk and move freely. But, they do learn by interacting with parents and others. Infants learn language by listening to it and having it spoken to them. When caregivers talk with and respond to them, infants begin to understand how they can get what they want. Almost everything that infants do gives them feedback. If they cry, they will be fed or their diaper will be changed. If they throw an object on the floor, someone will pick it up. If they shake a rattle, they will hear a sound. Infants learn that they do have "power." They can make things happen. As toddlers are able to crawl and walk, they begin to explore their environments and start to "play."

Play is essential to a child's healthy growth and development. It is the basis for the skills your child will develop and use later in life. Play is how children learn: they learn about and understand the world around them and how they fit into it. When parents observe or join with their children in play, they are given a unique opportunity to see the world from your child's vantage point as your child navigates a world perfectly created to fit his or her needs. Parents who have the opportunity to glimpse into their children's world learn to talk more effectively with their children and are given another way to offer gentle, nurturing guidance. Less verbal children may be able to express their views, experiences, and even frustrations through play, allowing their parents an opportunity to gain a fuller understanding of their perspective.

Reminders



We are closed Monday, September 6th for Labor Day. Enjoy the day! Other dates that we will be closed are: Thursday and Friday, November 25th and 26th for Thanksgiving. December will close Friday the 24th and Friday the 31st for Christmas and New Years. Please take the time to write this down on your calendar now so there is no confusion as the time gets closer.

Noteworthy News

Catalogs have been handed out for our wrapping paper fund raiser. If you have any question, please stop by the office. Remember Sell Sell Sell

Our staff will be attending a Mother Goose workshop entitled Mother Goose Cares about Social Studies. Each staff person attains 24 workshop hours. Three staff members will be taking the class for college credit. This Mother Goose workshop is a free, college-level program designed for early childhood professionals. It explores social studies concepts such as personal development, families, friendship and communities.

As you may have noticed has not been in the kitchen these past couple of weeks. Daphne will be taking an indefinite medical leave of absence. Billie Jean who works in our Infant room daughter, Stephanie Secoy, will be working along with Tammy in the kitchen for the time being. If anyone is interested in sending Daphne a card or food please let myself or Jane know.



Our Golf Tournament is Wednesday, September 15th at the Equinox and there is still room if you would like to gather a team together.

Wish List

As usual we are always looking for board books. The little ones love to mouth and chew them and that is so developmentally appropriate but they do tend to get used quite quickly. If you have any lying around please feel free to bring them in.

