



Where Love, Learning, & Play go Hand in Hand

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Director's Corner

Dear Children's House families,

Typically during this season our classroom curriculums are focused on springtime and Easter. Together we explore the promise of Easter and the renewal of life during spring. Lesson plans focus on how things grow and change. We learn about flowers, nature, baby animals, seeds and even how our bodies are growing.

Spring brings a new season with warmer weather, blooming gardens and a brightness from what can be a gloomy and cold time of the year. Together, Easter and Spring bring promise, hope, and love. A gentle reminder that through all seasons we are loved, attended to, and soon a new season will bloom with the beauty that only our Creator can create.

The Easter story will continue to be shared and classrooms will continue to be amazed at the new changes. Children will enjoy exploring the wonder of flowers, seeds, rain, baby animals, and will celebrate the love of Jesus. A time for each of us to reflect and be in awe at the beauty that surrounds us after a season. A promise of hope and the reminder that we are loved through all seasons.

Last month we found ourselves in uncertain territory but quickly adjusted to meet the needs of our families in the best ways we could under the new restrictions. To continue learning from home, teachers created weekly curriculum packets and email them to families. Until we can learn together again, we will send home weekly curriculum packets with activities.

Continued.....

April
2020

Children's House staff look forward to seeing our friends again soon.

Judy Vlach,
Director

Information Station

Each week classrooms have been sending home curriculum packets. We have really enjoyed families sending back photos of the children and the activities. Also be sure to follow us on Facebook for new information and other fun activities.

During Easter week, we will travel the Easter story using resurrection eggs. Each day a new egg with a bible story and verse will be posted on Facebook. We hope your family will join us on this journey to Easter.

The Week of the Young Child is April 11-17. Each year we celebrate with special events and a spirit week. While we cannot be together in the same building, we will not let that stop us from celebrating. Be sure to check your emails for information coming about the Week of Young Child activities. Our literacy theme this year will be: Reading can take us Here, there, or anywhere (Dr. Seuss week). Using emails and Facebook, we will connect together for fun-filled theme days and activities.

Classroom News

April Birthdays

Children

Mallory	Pre-K 4	4/2
Hope	Pre-K 4	4/3
Dylan	Infants	4/4
Mason M.	Twos	4/5
Grayson C.	Toddlers	4/17
Carter	Twos	4/18
Jaxson	Toddlers	4/18
Stephano	Pre-K 4	4/29

Staff Anniversaries

Ms. Kayla joined our team in 2015 and each day she can be found helping the Pre-K prepare for Kindergarten. Ms. Kayla is invested in helping children connect lessons and reach new developmental milestones. We are grateful for her service and look forward to many more years!

Ms. Erica celebrates her third year with us. This year she made the move to the toddler room. The toddlers are truly blessed to have Ms. Erica teach them each day. She is always thinking of new ways for the toddlers to explore. We are very grateful for her service and look forward to many more years.

Baby Bunnies

April showers will bring the Baby Bunnies many fun things to explore. Easter, rain, bunnies, and eggs are just a few things we will be discovering this month. Be sure to check our weekly curriculum emails for developmentally appropriate activities and fun themed projects.

We are certainly looking forward to seeing the progress our infants have been making. When we last met our friends: Dylan, Leonard, and Quinn were making their way to their first steps. They are certainly ready to discover this on two feet. Our friends Elliott and Olivia were not far behind the pre-walkers, as they were making their way across the room as well and beginning to pull up on the cruiser shelf. Keeping us all informed is our friend Lucia, who shares many sounds with us including many babbling words. We look forward to her daily report when we return. Julian and Drew are very serious players of peek-a-boo and their big smiles and giggles tell us they love playing. With nicer weather heading our way we are looking forward to spring walks and playground time, when we return.

Happy Easter to you and your family.

Ms. Loretta
Ms. Jo Jo

Busy Bees

It's Spring! A time of hope and joy, and new beginnings! Nature is bursting with fresh sights, smells and sounds after the gray days of winter. It's the perfect time to talk about how everything, especially the Busy Bees class, grows and changes. We will be taking lots of walks and pointing out what is happening with the trees and flowers, and how many birds we can see. Easter is always lots of fun at Children's House and we will plan many fun learning experiences around Easter themes.

Earth Day is April 22, so we will talk about the planet we live on and make art from recycled materials. Our curriculum this month will be focused around the following themes:

Week One: Everything is Growing! We will look at the life cycles of animals, plants.....and Busy Bees! We used to be little, and now we are BIG. We will plant some seeds.....hopefully they will grow some this month!

Week Two: Easter. We will talk about feelings as we hunt for eggs with happy, sad, sleepy etc. faces, do the Bunny Pokey, hop and hop and hop 'til we drop. We will play a felt board game called "Little Chick, little chick, where are you?" and take turns peeking under the eggs until we find him. We will read an age appropriate story from our Toddler Bible.

Week Three: Planet Earth. We will focus on animals, plants and land and water. We will read from one of our Huge picture books about all kinds of life. We will paint with green and blue and make recycled art. There will be pictures on our walls of different land formations-mountains, hills, valleys, rivers etc.

Week Four and Five; Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees –We will go on a Nature scavenger hunt and check off what we see on our picture board. We will listen to and play with a set of stuffed Audubon plush birds with authentic recorded calls. We will talk about pattern and make some yellow and black striped Bees. We will look at pictures of different animals and learn to identify them.

Ms. Alison
Ms. Erica

Classroom News

Sunshines

Dear Families,

Happy April! This month, we will be celebrating Spring and Easter!

Our areas of interest will include kites and wind, Easter, rain and clouds, and flowers.

We will explore these themes indoors, through music, art, books, and sensory activities, as well as outside while taking our walks.

I look forward to a wonderful month with the children!!

God Bless You!

Ms. Wendy
Ms. Rae

Shooting Stars

Hello everyone! We are very much missing seeing our Shooting Star friends every day. We want to thank everyone for fulfilling our donation sheets last month. Your help is always greatly appreciated. We are very excited about our April themes:

April 6-10: Easter

April 13-17: Pond Life

April 20-24: Christian Living - Creation

April 27-31: Rain

We are planning an Easter Party on April 10 if the current situation allows. We will have an Easter egg hunt and themed activities following a special snack. Look for a signup sheet on our door. The party will start at 3 p.m. We'd love to see you all there.

Despite circumstances, it has been a wonderful beginning to Spring. We look forward to getting outdoors more and exploring! As the weather warms up, go out and do a scavenger hunt in your backyard for signs of Spring. Plants are starting to poke through the ground. Can you find a worm? Look for shapes in the clouds and listen for sounds of birds chirping.

Shooting Stars continued...

Can you hear any other sounds that remind you of Spring? When you are done, head inside and draw a picture of what you discovered. Bring those in for your teachers to see and we will show them off during Circle Time when we are all back together.

We look forward to reuniting with all our friends. Many blessings to all.

Ms. Amanda
Ms. Toni

Rainbows

"Spring has sprung" is our monthly theme. This new season allows us to observe and discover some wonderful changes. Last month, we explored wind and became windy weather watchers. This month we will discover rain and even measure rainfall in our class rain gauge.

We keep moving down our alphabet with letters W, X, and Y:

April 6-10: Easter

April 13-17: Spring/Letter W

April 20-24: How Things Grow/Letter X

April 27-31: How Things Grow/Letter Y

Attention Moms:

Mark your calendars for the Annual Rainbow Mother's Day Tea on May 8 at 3:15 p.m. The Rainbows will be presenting tea and a play. Grandmas are welcome too. More information will be going home soon.

Happy birthday to Mallory, Hope, and Stephano!

Ms. Kayla
Ms. Rachael

Central Baptist Church Worship Hours

Downtown Springfield:

- 9:15 to 10:15 AM - Sunday School
- 10:15 to 10:45 AM - Fellowship Time
- 10:45 AM – Worship

New Berlin:

- 9:30 AM - Worship
- 10:30 AM - Sunday School

If you are looking for a church home, you are welcome to join us at any of our services.

Wednesday Night Dinners – Suspended until further notice!

Central Baptist Church volunteers prepare a meal the first and third Wednesday nights of each month during the regular school year (September – May) as an opportunity to share with each other around the dinner table.

Children's House families are always welcome at dinner. Dinner is served cafeteria style from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. Carryout meals are also available. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$1.50 for children.

If you plan to order, please let Ann or Mason in the church office know by noon on Tuesday by calling (523-3639 or email ann@CBCchurchfamily.org)



Parenting Article

Top 3 Benefits of Learning through Play

Play is the way children learn, and it changes as they age. In her article on The Center for Parenting Education, Tanya Thibodeau lists what she believes are the top three benefits of learning through play. They are as follows:

1. Communication is developed through play. Children develop speech, language, and listening skills while playing. The more vocabulary children are exposed to, the more they will incorporate into their play. Whether in individual play, or play with other children, they communicate to add purpose to their play.
2. Play improves cognitive development. Children who are engaged in pretend play tend to have more sophisticated levels of interaction with others. If children are deprived of play, their capabilities of problem-solving, social skills, and academic skills could be lessened as well.
3. Play encourages relationship building. Children learn social skills through play.

To learn more about the importance of play, click [here](#).

Couple's Article

4 Relationship Tips from Happy Couples

Although this article by Megan Murray was written for 2018, it stands true for 2020. Writing for The Date Mix, Murray reports that a popular relationship app, Happy Couple, interviewed over 500,00 couples about what their relationship goals were for the year ahead. Four tips that were related were:

1. Being a good listener is the best kind of support. Many want to "fix" things for their partner, but that is not what the other wants.
2. If you are making time for each other, make it quality time. This is harder to do than it sounds when you are a busy couple.
3. Honest communication is more important than shared values. 50% of the couples said honest communication is the key to a lasting relationship, compared to 37% for shared values.
4. Good relationships are about growing as individuals as well. Help each other become better people and partners.

To learn more about what makes a happy couple, click [here](#).

Blessings,
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