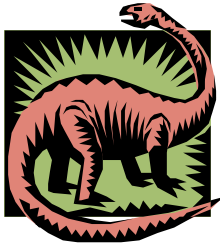


# Discovery Tree (DT) Monthly Newsletter May



## Directors Corner

### Reminders:

**Thank You!** I would like to take some time to thank all of the parents for their support with Week of the Young child. I have some great pictures that I will be printing out and posting to our blog of the children for crazy Hair day and Costume day. We also had a great turn out for our pancake social. The children loved having their families there to enjoy breakfast.

### -Tuition Increase:

As you are aware our State Budget is in crisis and agencies are looking to gain revenue in creative ways. . . DGS has scaled back on services to the Child Dev. Center and has informed DT and the Kid Ease Board that they are no longer providing parking for our staff.

Therefore, it will be DT's responsibility to provide staff parking. . . this serves as 60 day notice of a slight increase in tuition to cover this new expense (\$5.28 p/week p/child) beginning June 1st 2010.

### Earth Day:

Thank you to all of the parents that helped in escorting the children into the building for the Earth Day readings and celebrations.

**Spring Work Day!** Due to a scheduling error our Annual spring work day will be Saturday, May 22th From 8:30-12:00 pm. We will be spending a good portion of time cleaning, working on our outdoor classroom, fixing the shed out on the preschool classroom. We need some volunteers to hand things in the classroom, blowers so that we can clean up the yard and maybe a few shop vac's so that we can have the yard all ready for the children the following Monday. A sign up sheet will be posted on May 3 so that we know how many families to expect to help us clean the school.

**Sunscreen**– we will be posting new sunscreen permission slips in the sign in sheets this month. Please sign the permission slip and provide the school with sunscreen that you would like the teachers to be applying to your child. Remember that the teachers will only be putting the sunscreen on your child after rest time, so please apply sunscreen to your children before they come to school each morning.

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### Important Dates

Tuition Due	5/3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Tuition late	5/4, 11, 18, 25, 6/1
Kid Ease mtg	5/11
Gymnastics	5/3, 17
Piano Man	5/13
School closed	5/31
Spring Clean up Day	5/15
Parent Night out	5/28

### KID EASE:

Please remember to check out the Kid Ease web site located at [www.Kid-Ease.org](http://www.Kid-Ease.org).

There you will find the latest newsletter, calendar, school reminders, upcoming events, menus, tuition, and copies of the meeting minutes from the monthly Kid-Ease parent board meetings. The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 11th at 12 noon in conference room 110. In the Cal EPA headquarters building. If you are not an employee in the building you will need to please check in at the security desk. Thank you and we hope to see you there!

Please look for signs talking about our upcoming book fair that will be held in the Cal EPA building. Information will be posted soon!



### Learning Themes

Our learning themes for the month are Dinosaurs and At the zoo. The color of the month is Purple, The shape of the month is a Rectangle, and the author of the Month is Leo Leoni. They wrote the books "A Color of His Own" "It's Mine". We Will also Continue working on the letters of the week:

Letter L- week	5/3
Letter M- week	5/10
Letter N- week	5/17
Letter T- week	5/24
Letter V- week	5/31

## Infant/Toddler News

The toddlers had a great fun going into the building to read stories for Earth Day. Thank you so much to all of the parent volunteers who went with us to help hold hands and keep us in order. Don't forget to fill out a form for Kid Ease so that you can log in those parent hours!

We have some new friend in the infant Room. Please welcome Peregryn and her Parents, as well as Emily and her parents. On the toddler side we said hello to Alice and Alexandra, and said goodbye to Everett, George and Lukas. We hope that they all enjoy their transitions to the other programs. Hopefully you have all gotten a chance to talk a bit with our new toddler teacher Renisha. If not please take some time to say hello. We are always sad to see our friends go, but are happy to have transitions happening on all sides.

Soon spring will be making way for summer. With warmer weather we will be out more often and for longer periods of time, so keep this in mind and apply sunscreen in the morning. The infants go outdoors as well, so keep that in mind. Right now is a good time as any to clean out your child's cubby. Replace clothes that do not fit or are out of season. You can replace clothing with at least two sets of extras, just in case! Keep in mind our playground flooring can get hot in the sun so please remember to bring your infant and toddler in shoes that are not too flimsy that will give them adequate protection. We will not be going outdoors when the air quality reaches unhealthy for sensitive groups or if its just to dam hot to be comfortable. On these days we will spend the momings outdoors and af- ternoons we will have gross motor activities available indoors.

## Preschool News:

**Pegasus:** Throughout the month of May we are going to focus on science and literacy. We ware going to have fun with science while building a dinosaur scene. We are going to build a mountain with play dough around a 20 ounce drink bottle. Then place small toy dinosaurs on the sides of the mountain. We will add red food color to vinegar then we will add some baking soda and watch the volcano erupt.

For our literacy we will read the book "if you take a mouse to school" and make a dinosaur book patterned after that story. The children will draw the pictures and I will write the children's dictation on the pages. \* If you bring a Dinosaur to school\* We plan on having lots of fun this month.

If you are interested in setting up a time to meet with Dyshay or Becca to have a conference to talk about your child's development. Please let Becca know so that we can arrange times to meet. At this time Furlough Friday's work best for us.

### **The Dragonflies:**

After much deliberation and conversations the two middle small groups have merged together to form one large group, they have all decided that they would like to keep the name of their small group as the Dragonflies.

The month of May the Dragonflies will roam and roar through the playground as we step back in time to learn about the gigantic and Fearsome Dinosaurs that made this planet home long before us. We will get dirty as we excavate bones and explore the lives of these fascinating creatures. From the prehistoric age we will warp through time back to today and study modern zoo animals.

**Blue Dinosaurs:** All of our current transitions are complete! Everyone is doing well and we are looking forward to welcoming our newest Dinosaur, Charlotte in a few weeks. May will be an exciting month for us as we learn about those fabulous prehistoric creatures the DINOSAURS!

We will also continue our garden observations; it's really nice to watch some of our plants grow and flower. Hopefully we will have some strawberries soon

### **Infant/Toddler/Preschool wish**

**list:** Our school is in need of some bubble wrap. An old Iron that you do not care about any more, small picnic tables, play house that you might not use anymore, Tree stumps, glass baby food Jars, plastic shelf units that we could use outdoors for our outdoor classroom, old blankets and throw pillows that you no longer need. We also are in need of some old pots and pans that the children can use outdoors. A pop up tent that is easy to assemble. These are great treasures that can be used in our program. Thank you

