
Discovery Tree (DT)

Monthly Newsletter April

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Important Dates

Tuition Due	4/5, 12, 19, 26
Tuition late	4/6, 13, 20, 27
Kid Ease mtg	4/13
Gymnastics	4/5, 19
Piano Man	4/18
School closed	4/9
Earth day	4/22
PJ day	4/16
Pancake social	4/16
Wear blue day	4/12
Sport day	4/13
Crazy hair day	4/14
Costume day	4/15

Directors Corner

Reminders:

-Picture day will be on **April 14th for the infant and toddlers and the 15th for preschoolers**. We will also be taking class pictures on the 15th. This time we will be using Debbie Brown as our Photographer. We will be using a spring background. I will post more information within the next few weeks.



-**Staff in-service day** is scheduled for **Friday, April 9th**. The school will be closed this day so that the teachers can get some more training to help better our program. This year some of the topics we will be covering is **Conscience Discipline, Healthy environments, Circle time/Language development, Dt Curriculum** and more.

We have some new faces in our programs. Emily Perry is transferring from our N street location to help out in our preschool program. Emily is a support staff teacher and will be working M-F 8:30-5:30. In the toddler room we have a new teacher. Reneisha will be working M-F 8:30-5:30. She is currently working different shifts throughout the day so

that she can be trained and prepared for everything. Please take some time to say hello and introduce yourselves. It is very difficult to remember each parent and their names. Teachers always seem to have an easier time remembering the children. Thank you for your patience will all of the changes Discovery Tree. Although change is hard the administrative team is looking out for the best interest of the children, families, staff and then the school itself.

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:

Discovery Tree will be participating in a book reading in the EPA Building on April 22nd. We will be looking for volunteers to join the children for a walk into the building:

The toddlers will be going from 10-10:30. The littles will be going from 10:30 -11 am and the Middles and Pre K will be going from 11-11:30. I will be reading one book to each group and then the children will be going back to the school. Please let the teachers know if you will be able to help.

KID EASE:

Please remember to check out the Kid Ease web site located at 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, April 13th 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

Learning Themes

Our learning themes for the month are . The color of the month is Blue, The shape of the month is a Octagon, and the author of the Month is Don and Audrey Wood. They wrote the books "the napping house" & "silly Salley" We Will also Continue working on the letters of the week:

Letter E- week	4/1
Letter F- week	4/5
Letter H- week	4/12
Letter I- week	4/19
Letter K- week	4/26

Infant/Toddler News

Ahhchoo!! Well, it is spring again, isn't it?? With the warmer weather please keep in mind that both infants and toddlers will be spending more time outdoors so please have different types of sweaters and apparel for your child as some days are warmer or cooler than others. We do have clothes that are available to borrow; however, we are limited in the type and sizes. Don't forget to label! We can't always remember whose is whose and I think we all shop the same sales, so please keep in mind that all clothing should be labeled with your child's initials (or full name is better).

If you would like for us to apply sun block on your child please fill out a permission slip and bring a labeled bottle for school use. While sun block use is not mandatory we do encourage all families to bring in sun block to reduce the health issues associated with sun exposure. Thank you to all the infant parents who are labeling their bottles and food with names *and* dates. It helps us so much with all the similar vessels that are used and stored in the refrigerator. Thursdays we like to clean out the refrigerator so please be sure to bring home all items from cold storage if your child does not attend on furlough days.

Speaking of labeling... how do you like the labeling on the diapers? While this is great in keeping track of each child's diapers it tends to be a task that takes some of our focus away from spending time with the children. It would be so helpful if parents can label their child's diapers prior to bringing them in to refill our cabinets. We are not making it mandatory; however, it is incredibly helpful so that we can spend that time directly with your child.

In addition to our themes for April we will be celebrating Week of the Young Child (April 11-17th). In conjunction with the theme "All About Me" we would like for you to bring in pictures of your child and pictures of your family so we can make collages. Write on the back who the people are so that we can label them on the collage.

Last year we tried something similar, but it didn't go so well. We would like 100% participation this year. Some suggestions are pictures of your child doing playing at the park or around the house. Also close friends and family pictures are always nice to have so that we have a stronger home to school relationship bridge. The teachers also plan to make a picture book as well to keep in the class so bring as many pictures as you'd like, so long as they are ones you don't mind being cut and kept here. Thank you so much in advance!

Preschool News:

Pegasus: The Pegasus small group will still continue working on the sound of the week box. Please help your child in finding pictures or objects around the house so that they can learn about objects that start with the letter of the week. This has been an activity that we have done in the past, I am so glad to see it being brought back to the school. We will also be continuing on working on science exploration. Last month we talked a lot about reflections and the differences that we can see by using a mirror under projects. Keep an eye out for much, much more.

The Animals: Last month we enjoyed learning all about flowers. This month we will learn about insects. We will explore the many types of insects, the jobs they do, the different body types and life cycles of bugs around us.

April 11-17th is the week of the young child. The animals and I will be celebrating this event. Please keep your eyes open for special activities that your child will be participating in.

Dragonflies: April showers bring more than just flowers – they also re-

juvenate habitats of countless insects that make their home in flowers and plants. This month the Dragonflies will explore their miniature landscapes while learning about many different insects that live among our feet. In addition to the creepy crawlers our young scientist will explore another species in miniature-themselves, as we celebrate the week of the young child, dedicated to diversity and talents of America's youth.

Blue Dinosaurs: April is going to be such an exciting month for the Blue Dinosaurs... Everett, George and Lukas are all progressing in their transitions to preschool! As we move into warmer, we will begin work in our outside garden, exploring of the insects we find and learning how they help our plants. The Best part of April will be when we begin learning all about ourselves and each other in our "All about Me" theme! We are going to have a blast

Preschool wish list: Preschool is in need of some bubble wrap. An old Iron that you do not care about any more, a hot plate to do crayon melting's, a lettuce spinner, 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. These are great treasures that can be used in our program. Thank you