



Discovery Tree (DT) Monthly August 2006

Director's Corner

Dear DT Families,
THANK YOU!!!

I would like to thank you all again on behalf of the teachers and I for the incredible support you have given us during the difficult transition that we faced last month. There are books available in the lobby for you to borrow and share with your children, as well as some handouts that we received from the grief counselor when she came to talk



with all of us. My door is always open so if you have any questions please give me a call, or stop by.

NEW FRIENDS

There are many new faces in the programs. Please take the time to talk with the new teachers and get to know who will be taking care of your child/children.



AIR QUALITY & OUTDOOR DISCOVERY

We will be checking daily for temperature changes as well as air quality. If we are unable to be outdoors, we will provide alternative engaging activities for your children to do indoors.

LABEL, LABEL, LABEL!!!

Please remember to label all of your children's belongings when you come into school. Many children have the same clothing or blankets. Teachers try to remember what belongs to each child but it can be very difficult. If you are missing some articles of clothing please check the train counter in the front lobby.



ANNUAL RE-ENROLLMENT FEE

It is that time of year again; the annual re-enrollment fee is due this month. The cost is \$40 for one child and \$80 for a family. The purpose of the re-enrollment fee is to cover your enrollment for September of 2006 - August of 2007. It also covers the annual student accident policy. If you have any questions fell free to give me a call.

LEARNING OR PLAYING???

This month's discovery into Discovery Tree's philosophy of "learning through play," takes us to *Circle Time*.

When children listen to and talk about a story, they learn to love books, remember a sequence and recognize that there is a beginning, middle and an end to books and stories. When children sing as a group, they learn how to participate with others, to hear and repeat rhythms, and extend their memory. Circle time includes things such as Puppets, chart



boards and sets, different types of books, and language games (rhyming, opposites, spelling, bingo, lotto, matching). Such experiences foster the children's social, emotional physical, cognitive, and language development. If you have questions or would like more information about Circle Time or how we implement the DT philosophy of "learning through play," just let me know and I will be happy to discuss it with you further.

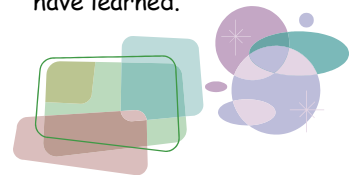
~Becca

Important Dates:

Tuition Due	1st
Share Days	2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th
Kid Ease Board Mtg.	10th 11:30 a.m.
Tuition is Late	11th
Gymnastics	14th & 28th
Multicultural Potluck	24th at 12:00 p.m.
Piano Man	TBA

Learning Themes

Review of all shapes we have learned.



We will also review all the colors we have learned.

Our learning theme for the month is *All Around the World*. We will review different:

- ☺ Cultures;
- ☺ Cuisines;
- ☺ Music;
- ☺ Habitat;
- ☺ Clothes; and
- ☺ Family groups.

Preschool News

LEARNING THEMES

This month the theme is *All Around our World*. We will talk about the different cultures, cuisines, music, habitat, clothes and family groups. This is the time when we start to *review all of the color and shapes* that we have worked on through the year. The letters for the month are *P, Q, R* and *U*. Several parents have volunteered their time to speak to us about other countries. If you have anything to share we would really appreciate it.

POTLUCK

The preschool will be hosting *Multicultural Potluck* on Thursday August 24th at 12:00 p.m. Parents are encouraged to attend. Sign up sheets will be posted in the lobby.

SMALL GROUP TRANSITIONS

During Jennifer's maternity leave, Laurie A. will be taking over the Pre-K small group. She will also be working on the training with Beth to have a smooth take over in the older middle group.

Notices will be going out to the parents soon for any movement in small groups. And thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who have been donating their time in our classroom. It really makes a difference!

Infant and Toddler News

INFANT NEWS

THANK YOU! — We would like to thank those of you who donated toys. We love having fresh activities to discover.

REMINDER — Please remember to label your child's food and bottles with his/her name and the date you brought it in. Thank you.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS — Rachel, Emmett, Jacob are all rolling over. Gavin

D. is attempting to scoot forward. He is already on his hands and knees. Keep up the great work!!!

TODDLER NEWS

We are doing our best to stay cool in this heat. We have been working on fun activities inside during the heat and "spare the air days." We'd love to be able to start water play, unfortunately our ratio drops down to 2:1 if we were to use our pools. So, we will be using a small sprinkler and taking

turns with the preschool to use the hose.

TRANSITIONS — Alec will be going to preschool this month. He is very happy to see his friends over there. We will miss you Alec. Sammy will officially start his transition to the toddler side; he has really enjoyed all of the visiting that he has been able to do.



Kid Ease Parent Board

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

This month marks 5 years since DT opened in the CalEPA building! Kid Ease would like to have a little ice cream social to celebrate. You should see something in the coming week to announce the special day. Happy Anniversary DT!!!

THANKS FOR YOUR PATIENCE

As a part of the lease agreement, the interior walls of the school are painted every five years. We are very lucky to have Thomas Properties move so quickly on this request. Thank you for your patience and HELP (see sign-up sheet for any requested assistance) as we prepare the center for this project.

CONTRACT RENEWAL COMMITTEE

The Committee continues to work with DT administration to finalize the details of the new contract. The contract language has been agreed upon and the

team is just reviewing the proposed tuition schedule. The contract should be signed by the 15th. The DGS lease agreement was signed this week. The agreement is in effect until August 2011. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Marshalle Graham at 341-6270.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

This month's Board meeting will include a discussion item in an effort to finalize the new scholarship fund for the continuing education of our terrific teachers. This program will be implemented in honor of our beloved teacher and friend Julie Kuhn. For more information and/or to participate in this committee, please contact Dave Mehl at 327-1512.

SILENT AUCTION PLANNING

This month's request include donations of (1) children's table/chair set and/or

art easel; (2) unprinted canvas aprons and bags; (3) baskets; and (4) additional gift certificates/unused items. Lastly, the Committee needs volunteers to make wire ribbons for baskets. The goal is to get them made up before September and we will have between 60-100 baskets.

BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held August 10, 2006, at 11:30 a.m. in Training Rm. 2 E&W (CalEPA building). If you are not a CalEPA employee, please check-in at the security desk. The meeting agenda will be provided via the Google Group e-mail list. Additionally, the agenda and July's meeting minutes will be posted on the bulletin board to the left of the sign-in binders. If conference call opportunity becomes available, we will include the information (phone number and conference code) in the meeting agenda. Thanks!