



# Discovery Tree (DT) Monthly December 2006

## Director's Corner

Dear DT Families,

### SILENT AUCTION

Don't forget about the Silent Auction on Dec. 12-14th! The children have been working really hard on items for the auction and we hope to see you all there.



### APPROACHING WINTER

It is Cold and Flu season. Please dress your child warmly for school. Your child will also need at least two changes of clothes. We do play outside when it is wet. Children will be kept

inside during significant down pours but fog, nor sprinkles, nor chilly morning air will keep us from running and playing outside. Please label all of your children's clothing. Jackets and coats many look the same and we have too many children to know whose coat belongs to who.

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULES

The holidays are upon us and I would like to remind you all that if you will be taking time off during this month for holidays that



you please let us know. Mid-month we will be posting a sign-up sheet for the holiday week. Please take the time to fill it out and let us know what your schedule will be. This allows us to adjust staffing accordingly so that DT staff have time off to spend with their families.

### PARENTS' NITE OUT

The second Wednesday of the month (13th) is our Annual Parents' Night Out. This is a time where the teachers stay with your child, feed them, and hang out with them after hours (6-8 pm) so that you can have some free time to enjoy preparing for the holidays. There will be a sign-up sheet posted the first of the month. If you are planning participating, please sign up—we want to make sure that we have enough teachers here. Again, Parents' Nite Out is scheduled for 12/13/06 from 6-8 pm.

### BACK TO BASICS

Piaget has four different stages of cognitive development. The first stage of development is the sensorimotor stage (Infancy). The stage itself has six stages; intelligence is demonstrated

through motor activity without the use of symbols. Knowledge of the world is limited (but developing because it's based on physical interactions and experiences). Children acquire object permanence at about seven months of age (memory). They are remembering who people are that they see daily. Physical development (mobility) children are learning to work their muscles to move around. Some language abilities are developed at the end of this stage. Children are learning to mimic sounds and form words.



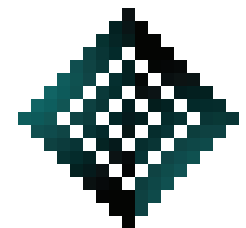
~Becca

## Important Dates:

Tuition Due	4th, 11th, 18th &, 25th
Gymnastics	4th & 18th
Share Days	6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th
Tuition is Late	5th, 12th, 19th & 26th
Parents' Nite Out	13th
Puppet Show	14th
Kid Ease Board Mtg.	14th at 11:30 am
Piano Man	15th
DT Closed	25th

## Learning Themes

The shape of the month is a diamond.



The color of the month is blue.

Our learning themes for the month are *Let it Snow* and *Travel*. We will review :

- letter Y the week of 12/4
- Letter Z the week of 12/11
- letter B the week of 12/18
- letter D the week of 12/25

## Preschool News



### LEARNING THEMES

This month the theme is *let it snow* and *travel*. We will talk about winter weather changes that may happen here and in other parts of the world. Then at the end of the month we will talk about the many different types of travel. We will be learning about the color *blue*. The shape for the month will be *diamond*. The letters for the month are *Y, Z, B* and *D*.

### GIVING THANKS

Thank you to all of the parents who were able to join us for the family feast! We



had a great turn out and lots of fun. It would not have been possible without you parents coming in and giving us a hand. Thank you!!!

### PUPPET SHOW

This month we have a puppet show scheduled to come to the school on December 14<sup>th</sup> the price will be \$3 per child and will be billed to each child's account that attends that day. The H Street School will be joining us for the show, so it should be lots



of fun for all of the children.

### SMALL GROUPS

The children and teachers have been working really hard on the shape and color of the month in the classroom. They also continue to work on their fine motor skills in preparation for writing. Look for notes coming home with your children to find ways to support these activities. The teachers need your partnership to make the connection between school and home with respect to the children's learning and development.

## Infant and Toddler News

### INFANT NEWS

Happy Holidays! It's hard to believe that they year is already coming to an end. We have had quite a few changes this year. Thank you so much for your support and encouragement. We have a new baby starting this month. We would like to welcome Jay Tooker to the DT family. Jay has an older sister Maya, a DT alumni and presently a Kindergartener.

*THANK YOU* — We would like to thank Matthew George for adding on to our CD collection. The infants and especially the teachers are enjoying the new music.

*MOVERS AND SHAKERS* — All that rocking back and forth did a lot of good for Emmett — he is now crawling everywhere. Jacob and Rachel are both pulling themselves up to a standing position. Rachel is even trying to do the splits at times, taking notes from Katelyn who is always doing the splits. Katelyn is



crawling around the classroom and Jack is now taking steps and walking to his teachers. Arwyn is officially a walker and Ike has been rolling over both ways. Great job friends!!!

*REMINDERS* — It is very important that your child's clothing is labeled, especially the socks. We have many jackets with no name and the toddlers are repeatedly taking off their socks. Without names it is very difficult to keep personal belongings with the right child. We have a lost and found basket next to the fish tank with socks in it. Please sort through to see if anything belongs to your child. Also, if you put anything in the refrigerator please make sure to label it with your child's name and the date it was brought in. All unlabeled items will be thrown out at the end of each day. Thank you.



### TODDLER

In the month of December we will be exploring the color blue and the geometric shape diamond. The color and shape will be introduced through art activities, books and songs. Please check out our art display on the bulletin board by the door to the classroom.

*NEW SEASON* — The weather is starting to change and we are exploring science by watching the leaves change color and drop. It is sad to say but the strawberries will be gone until spring. The children are still having fun looking for them everyday.

*THANK YOU* — We would like to thank Marissa Foster for the many books that she donated to our classroom. We are enjoying reading and looking at them.



## Kid Ease Parent Board

### KID EASE PARENT BOARD ELECTIONS

Ballots to vote for the 2007 Kid Ease Board of Directors are attached to your child's sign-in sheet at the "I" Street Discovery Tree School. Each parent/guardian is authorized to vote. Vote for no more than one selection per position. When voting, please place a check mark next to the candidate you are voting for. Please complete your voting and place it in the ballot box located on the counter. All ballots are due no later than 5:00pm on Tuesday, December 12, 2006.

Remember, your involvement and/or continued involvement with Kid Ease is imperative to the continuation of the School. Should

you have any questions understanding the need for Kid Ease or its relationship to Discovery Tree and CAL/EPA, please contact our Board Members (listing can be found at [www.kid-ease.org](http://www.kid-ease.org)) or attend our next Board Meeting on Thursday, December 14, 2006.

### SILENT AUCTION

The Annual Silent Auction is our biggest fundraising event. So, thank you to all of you that have helped to pull it off this year. As the auction approaches, there is more to do. Please check the sign-up sheets to volunteer for the long anticipated event! Set-up will be on the 11th. The actual auction will be on the 12th & 13th and anything remaining will be

made available (clearance) on the 14th. Please be sure to come and get the perfect holiday gifts this season!

### BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held December 14, 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 Octobers meeting minutes will be posted on the bulletin board to the left of the sign-in binders.

~Happy Holidays!!!