

Teddy Bear Day Care and Preschool Newsletter Infants/Toddlers/Young Two's



October 2023

October Events

National Fire Prevention Week: October 8–14



NFPA's 2023 campaign is "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention".

Download some printable resources:
<https://www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/Fire-Prevention-Week/About>.

October 9 – Columbus Day

This U.S. holiday commemorates the landing of Christopher Columbus in the Americas in 1492! Read about this



Columbus Day

Tuesday, October 31

In lieu of this year's field trip, we will provide a small pumpkin and goodie bag for your child to take home!



October News

Hard to believe but it's that time again... we are excited for what "fall" has to offer – opportunities for the children to enjoy milder weather, see the colors of the leaves changing, feel the sticky pinecones, smell and taste pumpkin-flavored drinks and treats, and much more! Since the weather is cooler now, we ask that all parents provide a jacket with a zipper for your child and swap your child's change of clothes to include long pants and long sleeve shirts.

The toddlers' and young two-year-old's theme this month is all about "building relationships". Their social relations curriculum is about forming a bond with their primary Caregiver and other adults, as well as peers, and expressing emotions. Parents, please join your child's Caregiver by using this month's "position" words at home – "in", "out", "up", and "down". Their special story this month is "Five Little Pumpkins" – check this out from your local library!

If you would like your child to participate in their classroom Halloween party and "parade", you may send your child's costume in a labeled bag (**no toy weapons**); staff will dress your child in their costume before their party.

Look for a message on Kangarootime about the Halloween Party Sign-Up Sheet for your child's classroom.

Looking Ahead



We will be **closed Fri., November 10th** in observance of [Veteran's Day.](#)

We will be **closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24** for the [Thanksgiving Holiday.](#)



Teddy Bear Day Care and Preschool Newsletter Infants/Toddlers/Young Two's (continued)

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Brain Games for Infants and Toddlers

0 to 3 months: "Where Did It Go?" Hold a brightly colored scarf in front of your infant. Slowly move the scarf around, talk about the color. When they are looking at the scarf, slowly move it to one side. Moving it back and forth encourages them to follow it with their eyes and to try reaching for it. *Brain research says that neurons for vision begin forming during the first few months of life. Experiences that stimulate babies' sight will ensure good visual development.*

6 to 9 months: "Mirror Games" Looking into a mirror is great fun and gives your infant another perspective on who they are. Things to do with your infant in front of a mirror: smile, make faces, silly sounds, animal sounds, and rock back and forth. *Brain research says the neurons for vision begin to connect at birth, so infants need stimulating visual experiences.*

12 to 15 months: "Fill It Up" Find an unbreakable container with a wide opening at the top. Use soft tennis balls or other safe objects* and show your child how to drop the items inside. *Brain research says young children need to develop muscle control and coordination, so they are ready when they are older to do academic tasks such as writing. (*Safe objects are too large to fit inside a toilet paper tube.)*

18 to 21 months: "Big Feet" Bring out some large shoes. Let your toddler put them on and try to walk. This game can be quite a challenge for them. Watch as they try to keep their balance walking from one location to another! *Brain research says understanding how the body moves and where the body is in space helps develop self-awareness and self-control.*

Courtesy of: 125 Brain Games for Babies, 2012, by Jackie Silberg

Spiderweb Fine Motor Fun for Two's

This experience, like the game "Operation", helps build a child's concentration and the small/fine muscles in their hands!

Using a basket with holes on the sides, string white yarn back and forth through the holes on the basket (invite your child to help you!). Go in all different directions so that it looks like a spiderweb. Add some spider rings (a Dollar Store item) to the bottom of the basket. Offer your child some clothespins or large tweezers (another Dollar Store item) and encourage them to pull the spiders out using just the clothespins/tweezers! You may even ask your child to count the spiders they caught!



<https://funlearningforkids.com/spider-web-fine-motor-activity/>

Cooking Corner



Puree cooked pumpkin in a food processor until smooth. Add water, breastmilk or formula as needed to reach the desired texture for your infant. If your infant is ready for finger foods, you could serve them pumpkin that's been cooked and diced.

Crescent Mummy Dogs! Heat oven to 375F. Unroll crescent rolls; separate at perforations, creating 4 rectangles, then press perforations to seal. Cut each rectangle lengthwise into ten pieces; also cut cheese slices into 4 pieces lengthwise. Wrap 4 pieces of dough around each hot dog and one piece of cheese to look like "bandages". Place "mummies" (cheese side down) on baking sheet; spray with cooking spray. Bake 13 to 17 minutes. www.pillsbury.com/recipes/crescent-mummy-dogs/

