



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



November 2025

November Events



November 11

Our centers will be closed Tuesday, November 11 in honor of Veteran's Day.



Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon

Parents are welcome to join us!

Nov. 26, 12:00pm at Merton Court

Nov. 26, 11:30am and 12:00pm at University Mall

November 27-28

Our centers are closed on Thursday, Nov. 27 and Friday, Nov. 28



November News

October was a fun and festive month for our staff and children! We enjoyed celebrating Halloween with your children and dressing them in their costumes! In November, Caregivers are engaging the infants in developmentally-appropriate experiences which may include songs, books, etc. related to the Thanksgiving Holiday. The toddlers and young two's theme is "Developing Social Play". Their curriculum includes responding to the feelings of others, imitating and pretending (creative representation), and exploring art materials. Children will have opportunities to "create" their own turkeys and other "fall" – themed arts and crafts. The children will be introduced to these vocabulary words: family, turkey, Thanksgiving, and feathers. "Turkey Trot" is a fun, interactive song that the children will use during Large Muscle Development time. Do the "Turkey Trot" with your child! Click on: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VxfajHBG9Rg

Nap Time Soothing – Tips for Toddlers

Having a tough time settling your toddler for their nap? Try rubbing their back (lightly in a circle pattern) with no noise in their room for the first 20 minutes. Then you could play low, soothing music to help settle their body into sleep. If your toddler has experienced recent changes to their life, they may need you to hold their hands after a backrub to assure them that you are near. Your touch means security in the midst of change. *"Babies and Toddlers", by Alice Sterling Honig, Ph.D.*







Looking Ahead



We will be closed on Wed., Dec. 24th and be closed Thurs., Dec. 25th in observance of the Christmas holiday.

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Brain Games for Infants and Toddlers

3 to 6 months: "Let's Watch" When infants watch objects and people move, it can bring them feelings of happiness. Windows that are close to trees are wonderful watching places, or sit outside with your infant for an amazing experience of stimulation (watch birds fly, cars moving down the street, and branches of a tree blow in the wind). *Brain research says that loving care and support of an adult provides an infant's brain with positive emotional stimulation.*

18 to 21 months: "Food Fun" Cooking or preparing foods with toddlers can include the experiences of feeling various textures, smelling foods, talking about shapes and sizes ("small" and "large"), and naming colors. *Brain research says by providing warm, responsive care, you strengthen the connections that allow your child to cope with difficult moments.*

21 to 24 months: "Daily Music" Sing throughout the day to your toddler. Make up songs about what you are doing. Smile when you sing, and vary your voice as you sing. Encourage your child to join you. Singing introduces words, rhymes, melody, and many sounds. *Brain research indicates that exposure to music has numerous benefits for a child's development. Music promotes language acquisition, listening skills, memory, and motor skills. Songs introduce new words, often ones that rhyme or repeat, which makes them easy to learn.*

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

Imitation and Pretend Play for Young Two-Year-Olds

Young children learn by imagining and doing. Have you ever watched your child pick up a stone and pretend it's a zooming car, or hop a Lego across the table as if it were a person or a bunny? The process of pretending builds skills in many essential developmental areas, such as: language skills, social and emotional skills, and thinking skills. Try adding some items to your home that can entice your child to expand their imagination: large plastic crates, cardboard blocks, or a large empty box for creating a "home", old clothes, shoes, stuffed animals, and so much more!



www.scholastic.com/parents/kids-activities-and-printables/activities-for-kids/arts-and-craft-ideas/importance-pretend-play.html

Cooking Corner



Baby's Little Pasta Soup:
Bring 1+½ cups of low-sodium chicken broth to a gentle boil and add 2 tbsp. of pastina (uncooked star-shaped pasta – or pasta of your choice). Cook according to the package directions and allow to cool. Add mashed carrots or creamy spinach if desired.



Crispy Potato Cakes:
Stir together ½ c. of finely chopped onion, 2 c. of mashed potatoes, and a pinch of salt/pepper in a bowl. Measure ½ c. of flour into a shallow plate. Use your hands to mold the mixture into 6 patties (about ½ c. for each). Dredge patties in flour and set aside. In a skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Cook the potato cakes in the melted butter, 2 minutes per side, carefully flipping once. Your toddler could help measure ingredients, mold the patties, or dredge the patties through the flour!

Recipes found at www.parenting.com