

October

2023

Here's What We'll Be Up To...

**Hello Toddler Town Families &
WELCOME October!!!**

October theme is:

OCTOBER FUN!

During the month Of October, we will be
discussing the following:

1. Trees
2. School Bus and Fire Safety
3. Apples
4. Pumpkins

**Here are some Special Dates to
remember:**

**October 9th – Columbus Day &
Indigenous Day
(Center Closed)**

**October 5th World Teacher's Day
October 12th– Farmers Day
October 21st Sweetest Day**

Monthly Observance and Celebrations

- Fire Safety Month
- National Hispanic Heritage month
- National Pizza Month
- Family History Month





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Announcements!

Important Info

WE HAVE OFFICIALLY WELCOMED FALL. The weather will begin to change, as well as the trees. Please dress your child accordingly and please be sure to update your child's cubby bin.

Keep In mind that Students go outside daily as long as it's between 32 and 92 degrees.

If possible, please label your children's belongings.

At Toddler Town Daycare, outside/home food and outside/home toys are not allowed or permitted at our center. Please keep home toys at home or in your vehicle, and, if you want your child to eat food outside our center, please have your child finish it in the car, but do not take it further in the school, or it will be tossed out. Also, cups allowed in the center are only cups that have water or that are empty, if you bring a cup or bottle containing anything else, we will send it back home. Please refer to your Toddler Town Parent policy handbook regarding these rules.

PROCARE ENGAGEMENT PROVIDES ALL THE SOURCES TO BE UP TO DATE WITH EVERYTHING GOING ON IN OUR CENTER. This includes Paying through the app, receiving documents, receiving important updates, communicating with teachers, and so much more. Ask us about ProCare Engagement!



Reminders

Toddler Town Too closes promptly at 5PM. Any time after that, families get charged \$15 every 10 minutes.

Tuition

Please Don't forget that payments must be made on the 1st & 15th of every month. On the first you either pay full tuition, or half of the tuition. If you pay only half on the 1st, you have until the 15th to pay the other half. Late fees will be applied for no payments after the first and to unpaid balances after the 15th .

Payment Reminders for October 2023:

October 2nd , 2023

Payment Option One: Pay in Full
Payment Option Two: Pay Half of Tuition Balance

October 16th , 2023

*All balances must be fully paid in order to avoid any interruption during Drop off. *



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Highlights of the Month Of September 2023!





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Tips and Ideas for Home

Fun Things to Do This Fall in Chicago and Illinois

1. Visit the world's largest corn maze in Illinois

About an hour and a half north of Chicago and just south of the Wisconsin border is [Richardson Adventure Farm](#), home of the world's largest corn maze. This farm is more than a maze. There is a petting zoo, giant slides, bounce pillows, ORB rides (picture yourself inside a giant ball rolling down a hill), a zip line, train, and fudge shop.

Another corn maze in Chicago is [Hardy's Reindeer Ranch](#) in Rantoul (near Champaign) where visitors will find a ten acre corn maze to explore. There's also a pumpkin launching cannon, hay rides, pedal cars, and reindeer tours too. Yes, there are reindeer here! It's definitely a fun day out!

2. Take a fall hike in Illinois

Chicago has an abundance of parks, hiking trails, and Lake Michigan beachfront perfect for exploring on a beautiful fall day. One of our favorite hikes is Starved Rock State Park in Utica, Illinois, especially when the leaves start to change colors.

The park has over 18 canyons carved by snow runoff and natural springs, creating a breathtaking landscape. There are over thirteen miles of well marked trails for families to explore, and it makes for a perfect day trip from Chicago.

In southern Illinois, a visit to Shawnee National Forest to explore Garden of the Gods wilderness area and Cave-in-Rock State Park shouldn't be missed. Cave-in-Rock is a 55 foot wide cave overlooking the Ohio River and it is the perfect spot for hiking, picnics, and fishing.

3. Visit a U pick apple orchard

One of our favorite things to do in the fall is picking apples at one of the local orchards. Finding the best apples is an annual event in our house and one of our favorite places to go is Apple Holler in Wisconsin. The reason we travel so far is because they consistently have a large selection of apples available and after 13 years of visiting, it is officially a tradition.

There are plenty of other apple orchards in Chicago and the suburbs. You can find an apple orchard near you at [PickYourOwn.org](#).



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Tips and Ideas for Home

Fun Things to Do This Fall in Chicago and Illinois

4. Check out one of the awesome fall festivals in Illinois

Fall means festival time in Illinois and there are plenty of things to do in Chicago and around the state all season long. Most Chicago fall events begin in September and continue through the end of October. Some of the favorites include:

The Morton Arboretum

Enjoy fall at the Morton Arboretum with a variety of events. There's a scarecrow trail around Meadow Lake, the Fall Color 5K, and other activities every day in October. Special events include the Fall Cider and Ale Festival, Meet the Beekeeper, Boo Breakfast, Family Jack O'Lantern Hikes, and more!

Naperville Oktoberfest: September 30 – October 1

If you're looking for Oktoberfest in Chicago, don't miss this one hosted by Naper Settlement. The event features pumpkin carving, polka bands, pretzel eating competitions and more. It's the perfect excuse to put on your dirndl and lederhosen and celebrate the fall season German style! Prost!

The Great Highwood Pumpkin Festival – October 7-9

The city of Highwood celebrates the 10th annual [Great Highwood Pumpkin Festival](#) with a pumpkin festival to rival all others. This year they support the Make-A-Wish of Illinois and will attempt to beat the Guinness World Record for the most lit jack-o-lanterns in one place!

There are also costume contests, a pumpkin parade, carnival rides, entertainment, and food. Fun times for everyone with the big pumpkin lighting on Sunday night.

Chicago Botanic Garden Fall Fun

The [Chicago Botanic Garden](#) in Glencoe has fabulous fall events. Check their site to see what's happening this fall. There are many other festivals not to be missed around the state, so check out the [Enjoy Illinois](#) page for additional ideas!



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Tips and Ideas for Home

Fun Things to Do This Fall in Chicago and Illinois

5. Take a drive to see the leaves change color

Before heading out for a drive to see changing leaves, check a [fall foliage map](#) so you know you will be guaranteed to see color.

Some of our favorite routes to drive for leaf peeping include the Illinois River Road, Chicago to Lake Geneva, along the shore of Lake Michigan, the Great River Road along the state's western edge, or heading north to [Door County, Wisconsin](#).

If you visit these destinations at the right time, you will not be disappointed by the spectacular hues you will find! And if you're looking to go further afield, don't miss these fabulous [Midwest fall drives](#).

6. Find a pumpkin patch near Chicago

There are pumpkin patches all over the Chicago area, because Illinois grows more pumpkins than any other state. Those on the hunt for good carving pumpkins shouldn't have to drive very far. Check before heading out as some have certain days and times they are open. Here are some of our favorite places to go picking:

Goebbert's in Hampshire, IL – Located northwest of Chicago, this family farm has a fall festival, u pick pumpkin farm, petting farm, and a pumpkin eating dinosaur. Can you say awesome!

Stade's Farm and Market in McHenry, IL – Just south of the Wisconsin border this pumpkin farm has u pick pumpkins and plenty of activities for a day out. There are farm-tractions including a carousel, tractor tire pyramid, and duck races for 8 weeks through the fall, during their Shades of Autumn Festival. Kids will never say they are bored!

Bengtson's Pumpkin Farm in Homer Glen, IL – In addition to gathering pumpkins, the farm has pumpkin fest from September 16th through the end of October. Kids can watch pumpkins fly through the air with a pumpkin launcher, sample the apple donuts, and even mine for gems. This is a full day excursion!

7. Attend a football game



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Koalas (5 Year Old's)

Happy Fall Y'all,

Summer was a wonderful season to bask in the sun's warm light and enjoy our time outdoors. As we said goodbye to Summer and welcomed Fall, we were thrilled to use September as a month of new beginnings! The students were introduced to the Koalas classroom, their new teachers, and friends. We learned about our 5 Senses, the different kinds of families, and the season of Fall! Along with these topics, our students participated in awesome projects! For example, during our 5 senses exploration, the children used their sense of touch to feel inside a brown bag to see what the object might be. September was great and we can't wait to see what will come next month!

October is going to be a spookatstic month! The children will be discovering new and exciting topics, some of these themes will be Fire Safety, The life cycle of trees, apples, and pumpkins. Our pumpkin topic is the most thrilling for the students as they get the chance to explore a pumpkin in many different ways like weighing it and counting how many seeds are inside. Please be on the lookout for our Fall Fest flyer. It will have all the information you need to know about our end of the month party.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact us at 773-622-9433 ext. 27 KOALAS or megan@toddlertownchicago.com, karla@toddlertownchicago.com or

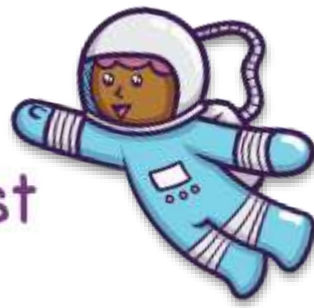
Thank you,
Mrs. Megan and Ms. Karla



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The Explorers (3 to 4 Year Old's)

Hello Families,

Just like the leaves on the trees, September has flown by, and we can't believe Fall is finally here! We had a wonderful month full of new learning experiences and growth opportunities. We took the month as an opportunity to learn about each student as an individual in and out of the classroom, like their favorite color, animal, etc. The Explorers participated in a Family Tree project where they created a family tree to present to the class. We also engaged in topics of the 5 Senses and the beauty of Fall. I am so impressed by the creativity in each Family Tree project, and I am so proud of everyone's hard work! In between all of the projects and themed lessons, the Explorers continued their practice of writing their name through various activities like cutting and pasting the letters of their name in the correct order.

In the month of October, we will continue our learning through new topics and creative crafts! The children will learn about trees, pumpkins, and apples! We will also have a fun party at the end of the month to celebrate all things Fall during our Fall Fest, like dressing up in fun costumes and having tasty treats. We will have new projects to correlate with the new topics like a tree collage where the children will collect leaves from home and attach them to our class tree trunk!

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact me at 773-622-9433 Ext 25, EXPLORERS or aracely@toddlerstownchicago.com

Thank You,
Ms. Aracely





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The Bumblebees (3-year-olds)

Greetings Families,

We are sad to see Summer go but thrilled to see what Autumn will bring to our classroom this year! Before I get ahead of myself with all the fun new themes we will discuss in October, I would like to thank all the parents who participated in our September activities such as creating the All About Me posters and working together as a team to help our little ones achieve new goals! With all our September activities, the Bumblebees learned about themselves by creating self-portraits using mirrors, construction paper, and crayons/markers. For our 5 Senses week the students really enjoyed putting their listening skills to the test by carefully listening to the sound of a maraca while blindfolded as we encouraged them to follow where they thought the music was coming from.

But the fun is nowhere near over!

In the month of October, the class will be learning about Fire Safety, Apples, Trees, and Pumpkins. We will have exciting activities like exploring the features of a pumpkin, discovering the various kinds of apples, and using toilet paper rolls to create a fire safety craft. We will need plenty of empty toilet paper rolls, so if you have some in your home, please bring them in.

If you have any questions, please call 773-622-9433 ext 24 or nataly@toddlertownchicago.com
Thank you!

Mrs. Nataly



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The Butterflies (3 Year Old's)

Fall is finally here and it's time to fall into learning with some fun new topics and activities! We ended the month of September with fun fall activities; children created trees and used tissue paper to make the falling leaves, as well as collecting fallen leaves to use as stamps and create a "leaf reef". Children had a great month in September and had the opportunity to get to know our new students joining the Butterflies classroom. We had the chance to see who's in our students' lives and who the members of their families are. The Butterflies were excited to display their Family Tree project throughout the classroom. Also, they were able to show the class who they are, what they like, and more about themselves with their All About Me project. When we learned about the Five Senses, hearing, sight, taste, smell, and touch, the students participated in different activities that involved the senses like creating their own playdough, tasting and smelling different flavors/smells and touching different textures.

For October, we will be welcoming all things Fall! The children will be learning about Fire Safety, Apples, Trees, Pumpkins and celebrating Fall during our annual Fall Fest party. With these new topics we will be engaging in new activities and experiences like tasting the various types of apples, exploring pumpkins and so much more!

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact us at 773-622-9433 ext. 23 Butterflies or selena@toddlertownchicago.com or yvonne@toddlertownchicago.com

Thank You,
Ms. Selena and Ms. Yvonne



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Toucans (2 Year Old's)

Hello Toucans Families,

September was full of so many new experiences! We learned all about our Toucans and their families through our "All About Me" and "My Family" weeks. We also taught our Toucans a little more about themselves during our "Five Senses" week. We did activities like an All About Me book, Finger Family painting, and so many experiences to stimulate our different senses through scented play dough and a listening game. Our kiddos grew so much in this past month as we watched some friends transition into the Butterflies Classroom and introduced potty training to others! We also welcomed new friends and their families into our classroom.

Next month we will continue our exploration of Autumn through fun Fall Theme weeks about Apples, Pumpkins, Trees, and ending our month with a Fall Fest! Stay tuned for more information regarding our classroom Spooky Party! Thank you all for your continued support outside of the classroom, and as always please reach out to myself (Ms. Liz) or Ms. Marta at any time!

With the weather being literally hot and cold in Chicago, be sure to dress your student in appropriate weather clothing and shoes and that their extra clothes in class are good for warm or cool weather.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 773-622-9433 ext. 22. Toucans or Marta@toddlertownchicago.com or Liz@toddlertownchicago.com

Thank you,

Ms. Marta and Ms. Liz



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