

Age-Appropriate Play and "Screen Time" for Preschoolers

Hello Toddler Town Too Families!

Need some tips about what kind of play is appropriate for the developmental level of your child? Here are a few quick pointers about what kinds of play to encourage and what to look out for.

Our Teddy Bears are learning to play from adults and their peers. Singing with them and reading books with them can help them to develop positive play habits that will last a lifetime. Our Butterflies need lots of room to explore and to continue developing motor skills; make sure they have opportunities to try using tools and materials without a specific goal in mind.

Our Lions and Dragons have developed a number of skills in their early years and are looking for ways to improve those skills through play. During these years, it is important to encourage them to talk about what they are doing and to make plans about what they want to create and how they want to play. This is also true for our Bears and Koalas, who also need opportunities for longer projects.



The weather outdoors is getting cooler. Make sure your child is dressed for outdoor play.

"Screen time" (time spent with television, computers, video games) is strongly discouraged for children under 3. Even for children aged 3-6, screen time should be limited to an hour a day, and parents should watch with their children to keep them actively engaged and to discuss the material with them.

To learn more about this topic, check out this website:

<http://www.illinoisearlylearning.org/faqs/playage.htm>

TAKE NOTE

- As the weather is getting colder and colder, please make sure to dress your child for the weather and remember to bring warm clothes for your child's cubby. Always be sure that they have a warm jacket so that they can join us for outside play.



Upcoming Dates

- Nov 5th/6th– Child Find Screenings
- Nov 7th– Picture Day
- CLOSED Nov 11th for Veterans Day
- Nov 15– Field Trip to Children's Museum at Navy Pier
- CLOSED Nov 28th and 29th for Thanksgiving

Teddy Bears Class 2-year-olds



One of our Scary Spiders

Last month we introduced the children to Fall Fest and enjoyed many arts and crafts like creating their own spiders and mummies. The children also learned about each other with our take-home "All About Me" project posters. Thanks again parents for turning in the monthly project and for helping us get to know your child through these posters.

We also continued the month learning about colors, shapes, numbers, and the alphabet. To finish the month, the children enjoyed a Fall Fest party where they dressed up in costumes and engaged in dramatic play. Nice costumes and great month!

This month we will continue our Fall Fest and focus on Turkey day!!! We will talk to the children about turkeys, pilgrims, and things we are grateful for. These responses will be recorded and be part of

our weekly graph. In addition, each child will take home a project of a turkey that they can decorate with their family. As we continue to work on the alphabet, each week we will focus on a set of letters. We ask parents to work on the alphabet at home with your child as well.

To begin our month of what we are grateful for, we are thankful for having your child be part of our Teddy Bear classroom!

Butterflies Class 3-year-olds

The Butterflies had such a great time learning all about Apples this October that we are sad to see it go. We had such a great time working on our fine motor skills by lacing apples, finger painting apple trees and by using real apples as stamps! We were also able to work on our mathematics by learning numbers 1-3 and by creating

sequence cards. But do not worry because momentum in the Butterfly class is in full effect and we're getting ready to steamroll into November. For November our new unit is entitled: On the Farm. We will discuss what grows on a farm and the various animals we might see on the farm. The class will also learn a set of vo-

cabulary words in Spanish! Also for this month we will focus on the letters Aa, Bb and Cc, one letter per week.



Apple Lacing

Lions Class 4-year-olds

The month of October was full of fun themes. We had a

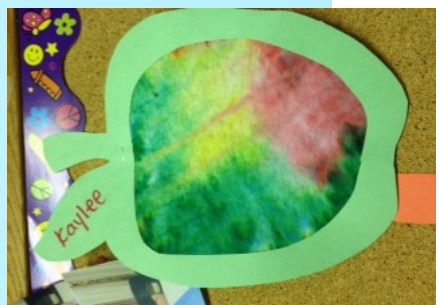
great time learning about the seasons changing from summer to fall, colors, letter A, bugs and celebrating our fall harvest. Some of our popular projects for this month were our Coffee Fil-

ter Apples (left) and our A for Alligator project (right). These themes were so much fun to learn. We learned about all kinds of different creatures, great things that start with the letter A, and what kinds of activities we can do to in fall.

For the month of November, we have some awesome themes planned. Some of

the themes include transportation, zoo animals, Thanksgiving, and the letter B. We will still review past lessons on letter sounds, counting, calendar, and weather. Also, we will be having another adventurous field trip coming up. We will be going to the Children's Museum for a great day of learning.

We can't wait to see what



A Coffee-filter Apple

Dragons Class 4-year-olds

October was full of fun and new things. We practiced writing the letters Ee-Gg, and numbers 5-7. We talked about emotions, fall, and grandparents. We made emotion pumpkins, painted fall pictures, and made a grandparent paper bag puppet.

For the month of November, We will be working on

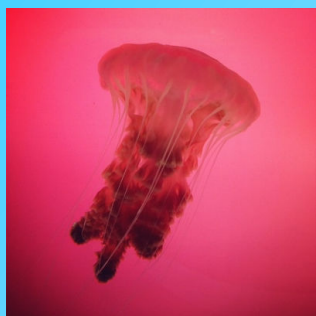
the letters Hh-Kk, and numbers 8-10. Some of the topics will be hibernation, animals that jump and kangaroos.

As you now, Ms Stephanie is now teaching my class. I will miss you all. Thank you for your love and support. I will keep in touch.



Emotion Pumpkin

Bears Class 4 and 5-year-olds



We had a great trip to the Shedd Aquarium!

To recap our month of October, we discussed Dinosaurs, Emotions, Family and Green. We also celebrated Halloween and went on a field trip to the Shedd Aquarium. This month, we will be discussing Health, Imagination, Jungle Animals and Thanksgiving.

We will also be reviewing our numbers from 1-10. We will continue to create fall related projects using fall materials and include them for sensory play in our media table. We will enjoy another field trip and discuss the importance of Thanksgiving. We will

also have fun making igloos out of foam popcorn and experimenting with ice for science. It should be a great month!

Koalas Class 5-year-olds

It's Turkey Time!

It is now time to think of how thankful we are for everything we have and to be generous and kind to others. For the month of November we will be exploring Thanksgiving and everything that goes with it such as Autumn changes, understanding the meaning of the holiday, colorful arts, and much more.

Here's a little recap of what we did in the month of October.

Pumpkins, spiders, bats, ghosts, cats, and an awesome field trip to the Shedd Aquarium were all part of the month. Together we carved a large pumpkin in our class which the children named Wicked Jack. They explored their sensory skills when carving the pumpkin by having to take out the insides of it. Some children felt like it was just too gross to attempt while others loved the experience.

For this month, we will also be reviewing our 40 sight words that we have already gone through. Some children still need to practice their letter sounds and words. Repetition and practice each day will ensure that they all memorize and can identify the words we use throughout our classroom daily.

Lets have a great month!!



Wicked Jack

Trip to the Shedd Aquarium



We had a fantastic trip to the Shedd Aquarium this past month! We hope that all the children have some fun and entertaining stories to tell about their experience.

Coming up this month is our trip to the Children's Museum! We are so pleased to be able to offer enjoyable and educational field trips to your children!

Mr. Robert



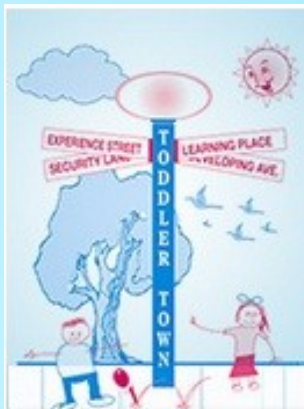
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**"Where your child
always comes
first!"**



Toddler Town Daycare is a state licensed childcare center dedicated to providing safe and happy environment where your child can learn, play and live together while parents go to work or school.

We balance a physical active program with appropriate intellectual challenges.