

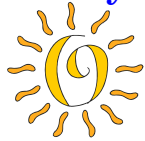
BUILDING BLOCKS CHRONICLE



www.BuildingBlocksSchool.com

Emily's Corner Message From The Director

July 2007



Summer is finally here at Building Blocks!!! What an exciting time of year for all our children.

June seemed to fly by with two more special Building Blocks events. On Thursday, June 14 we celebrated Father's Day with a Hoedown. It was great to see so many Dad's and Grandpa's join us for the festivities. We truly enjoy putting on these special events for our families! Saturday, June 23 was the

first annual Building Blocks Exchange Family Yard Sale! Thank you to all of our families that donated items, time, bake sale treats, and those who helped spread the word! We had a pretty steady flow throughout the day and made a great profit for our first time. All profits from the yard sale will go towards playground renovations beginning with the construction of a sandbox and the delivery of sand this month!!!

Our Creative Arts Summer Camp started on June

18! Ms. Amy Jo will be working alongside the school age children for a summer filled with creativity. We're looking forward to having an Art Fair at the end of the summer to display the children's works of art with a fundraising art auction.

Mark our calendar's for a Building Blocks Family Picnic on Saturday, August 25. More details to come.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments feel free to speak with me anytime!

Ms. Emily

Volume 3, Issue 11

****Dates To Remember****

July 4 ~ Center Closed

July 25 ~ Parent Advisory Council Meeting



****Dates To Remember****

Teaching Children Responsibility



Including children in household chores is one of the best ways to teach responsibility and build self-esteem in young children. Most parents including working moms and single parents, who need as much help as they can get, often end up doing almost everything around the house by themselves because they have less time to oversee their children's early attempts to perform household tasks. In the beginning it takes a great deal of patience to praise and encourage a child who takes a half hour to complete a task that could have been done much better by the parent in five minutes. The long term benefits are more than worth the effort, as children learn to take owner-

ship and pride in doing a task well and contributing to the family.

Parents must stay near to keep a watchful eye and they may have to relax their standards somewhat. It may be tempting to finish the job or redo it, but this sends children the message that they've failed or aren't good enough, which undermines self-esteem and responsibility.

It may take years before your child does household jobs perfectly but there will be years spent learning to care for things and be responsible.

Having children help with household chores helps them and busy parents. It helps children become independent, self-reliant, and confident. It helps busy parents who are faced with increasing demands

on time, energy, and money.

What can your child do?

A young toddler can get the newspaper or pull out a few non-breakable items out of the grocery bag.

At two, your child can empty small waste baskets and pick up toys. They're also old enough to help you clean up the messes they make.

At three, your child can be a real helper. A child this age can sweep, dust, put away clean clothes, and begin making their bed.

By four, a child is ready to begin helping with a wide variety of chores. They can set or clear the table for example.

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General House Keeping Items

Tuition

Tuition is due Fridays by 6:00 p.m. A \$20.00 late fee will be posted on Monday to your account if tuition is not received on time. Notices will be placed in your child's folder when a late fee has been applied to your account. If something comes up and your unable to make a payment on time please notify us. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Summer Shoes

Just another friendly reminder to send your child with athletic type shoes and socks for outdoors.

Schedule Changes and Vacations

Remember to request in writing any changes in your child schedule or vacation time. Please give us two-weeks notice when making requests to accommodate staffing.

Checking In and Checking Out

Please remember to use your four digit code to check-in and check-out your child each and everyday. If you have someone else who routinely picks-up or drops-off we can assign them a code as well.

Monthly Snacks

Just a friendly reminder that the \$10.00 snack fee will be applied to your account

after the 1st of the month.

Food and Drinks

Please write your child's name and date on any foods or beverages brought to the center from home.

Absences

If your child will be absent from the center on a regularly scheduled day please call the center by 9:00 a.m. to notify staff.

In
the
Summer
Sun



Well, I can't believe it's already July. June seemed to fly by. I have been enjoying working 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. I really like being able to communicate with parents and spend more time with the infants. Our infant group has gotten a little smaller.

Ethan's mom is a teacher and Madelyn's mom is a counselor, so they're taking the summer off and will be back late August!

I am looking forward to spending the summer with Amelia, Lucas, and

Landon. Lucas and Landon have done so well adjusting and making new friends.

Landon celebrated his first birthday on June 6. He is walking and loves to play outside on the swing and dig in the woodchips.

Lucas is getting very comfortable here and keeps himself busy by crawling from toy to toy. He stands himself up while holding onto objects. His favorite activity is swinging outside!

Amelia is growing so much! Her new words are open, stop it, don't and

shhhh. She puts her finger to her mouth and does shhhh to get the other children to quiet down. She also loves to wave, say goodbye, and blow kisses. Her newest accomplishment is climbing outside. We're helping her climb with her feet and not her knees.

I am looking forward to the rest of the summer. I hope everyone has a wonderful 4th of July and thank you so much to the families that donated to our yard sale.!



Ms. Laura's Infants



I'm sad to say our 50 tadpoles did not make it. We did not realize we were setting up a buffet for our neighborhood raccoon and birds. Ms. Suzanne has brought in her two tadpoles for the children so we can still see their metamorphism.

If you have been reading your child's daily sheet you will see that we have been eating family style meals at lunch. Alex, Kennedy, and Megan and I sit together, pass out milk, plates, and silverware. We usually have three dishes — a main dish, fruit, and vegetable. We began by passing 1 dish at a time and each child usually takes 2 servings with a serving spoon from each dish with little or no help from me. The children have been trying to use their spoons more with encouragement from

Ms. Wendy's Young Toddlers

me. Yeah!

We are starting something new with the toddlers, Water Fun Day, on Tuesday's and Thursday's. Weather and toddler factor permitting. Your child will need a swimsuit, swim shoes, towel, and a swim diaper. Check out the pictures from our first Water Fun Day! What great fun it is to play with your friends in the water on a hot day!

This month we have been having our lunch outside! We have some great pictures of our lunch from June 19th displayed in the baby room.

Parents please try to make sure you have a least 1-2 changes of clothes for you child here at the center and replenish them when we send home soiled clothes. We have a limited supply of clothes and it is hard to fit or find exact sizes.

Summer is here! Happy 4th of July. Be Safe.

Ms. Wendy

P.S. I will be gone the 4th of July week and Ms. Jill, Ms. Laura, and Ms. Emily will be filling in for me.



Ms. Janet's Barely 3's

The Barely 3's are having a blast outside. They look for all sorts of bugs and watch what the bugs are doing. They enjoy digging with the shovels and pretend to be chefs using the dirt and woodchips as food. They are looking forward to water fun days on Tuesday's and Thursday's so

don't forget their swimsuits and towels.

Abbigayle, Alivia, and Genna are very into pretending to be princesses. While Dillon, Alex, and Jacob have fun playing with the cars and climbing all the climbers.

For July we will be focusing on the colors red, white, and blue!

Ms. Janet

Ms. Lesley's Young Preschoolers

It's hard to believe that June is practically over and July is looming ahead.

This month has been packed full of a lot of stuff. The children are grasping the connection of days, weeks, and months and even time on a clock. Most of the children are also doing 25 piece puzzles now, in one month's time, with the exception of those who are our youngest class mates. It is not expected that a 2 1/2 year old going on 3 will do what a 4 year old going on 5 can do. All children are making strides in this area and should be commended for their efforts, which sometimes comes with spoonfuls of frustration.

The first part of June found us talk-

ing about bugs (insects.) We learned about a bug's body which consists of 3 parts (head, middle (thorax) and the end (abdomen). They also learned that an insect has 6 legs.

I think the most memorable for the kids was probably the sun topic. It seemed to have gotten them not only interested but moving around asking questions too. We learned that the sun was circular star that was made of gas. They understand that it comes up in the morning and gives us light, thus shadows and goes down at night. With this knowledge they also understood that the Earth goes around the sun too. At this time we are looking at fish and our friend Finley is giving them a chance to look at and see just what parts make up a fish. Depending on how they

take to this topic will determine if we visit it again after the week of the 4th of July. During that week we will be looking to the flag and the colors represented there. We will get into a bit of history too. After that it is hard to say what we will be doing as a class since I usually try to see where the children seem to be most interested. It's more fun and exciting that way and usually comes with a lot more questions and understanding when we are finished. Hoping you all have a safe and enjoyable 4th of July.

Ms. Lesley

Ms. Mary's Pre-Kindergartners

Summer Fun is here! Tuesday's and Thursday's are water fun days! The children enjoy playing in our pool and water tables. Please bring water shoes, a towel, and bathing suits. While playing in the pool we explore math and science concepts. Observing water levels and estimating the amount of water it takes to fill a large container using a smaller container while discussing our ideas with others.

This month we have been working

on sentence structure. "I love... Mommy, Daddy, and the Sun." are a few examples. We worked on the beginning and end of sentences.

Michael has been busy writing and illustrating stories then making them into books.

Elizabeth has really made great progress on writing her name.

Mikayla continues to be a great teachers' helper.

David is problem solving tough questions by himself.

Alexa loves to talk about her new baby brother.

The class will be working on an, "I Love You" book this summer. We continue to read the Magic Tree House books before rest time. The children love listening to "Jack and Annie's adventure!"

Happy 4th of July!
Ms. Mary

Ms. Amy Jo's Summer Campers

Summer is finally here and we are going to be busy, busy, busy. This is our first year having a creative arts summer camp and we are bursting with ideas. In June we studied David Hockney and his some projects with his style of art as an example. We also took a trip to the local "waterfall" to paint a watercolor of the beautiful landscape.

Along with our creative arts program, I plan on doing recreational games with the school age children at 1:00 p.m. every afternoon. The children really enjoy having planned board game time after lunch too.

Please remember to send your child to camp in tennis shoes or closed toed sandals that strap on their feet, and socks and or slippers for indoors.

Also, keep in mind that we will be

using messy but creative materials all summer like paints, clays, oils, and other art mediums that could stain clothing.

This summer is promising to be fun and exciting. I can't wait to see what the next few months will bring!

Ms. Amy Jo



Happy Birthday To You!

July Birthday's

Megan ~ July 6

Owen ~ July 12

Quinn. ~ July 13

Song of the Month

Hot Dog Song

5 Little hotdogs frying in a pan (hold up 5 fingers)
The grease got hot and 1 went BAM (clap hands on Bam)

4 Little hot dogs frying in a pan (4 fingers)
The grease got hot and 1 went BAM (clap)

3 Little hot dogs frying in a pan (3 fingers)
The grease got hot and 1 went BAM (clap)

2 Little hot dogs frying in a pan (2 fingers)
The grease got hot and 1 went BAM (clap)

1 Little hot dog frying in a pan (1 fingers)
The grease got hot and 1 went BAM (clap)

No little hot dogs frying in a pan (show fist)
The grease got hot and the pan went BAM (clap)



Tell Your Friends About Us!

We offer children the opportunity to explore new ideas, practice making choices, feel competent and in control, interact with others and fine tune new skills.

We are looking for a few new friends to play with here at Building Blocks. We are very excited about all the great things the children are doing here and looking for friends to share it with. We have enrollment spaces available and if you know of anyone looking for care, please recommend us. We will be more than happy to give you \$150 off one weeks tuition for every referral that



"We are very excited about all the great things the children are doing here and looking for friends to share it with."

signs up for a minimum of 3 part time days. This is a special offer for July and August. Please tell your friends about us. See Ms. Emily for more information.

Water Fun Days

When: Tuesday and Thursday Morning's

Where: Building Blocks Playground

Items Needed: Bathing Suit, Water Shoes, Towel, and

Lots of Energy



SPLASH!

Curriculum Corner

Week of 7/2 Red, White, and Blue

Week of 7/9 Caterpillars

Week of 7/16 Butterflies

Week of 7/23 Spiders

Week of 7/30 Bears