

## Water Safety

A report released by the [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission \(CPSC\)](#) indicates that the number of reported fatal child drowning incidents in swimming pools involving children younger than five—the most vulnerable population—has not increased significantly from last year's reports. However, drowning is still the leading cause of unintentional death among children 1–4 and the second leading cause among children 5–14.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to follow the [CPSC Pool Safely campaign's simple water safety steps](#) that can help prevent drowning tragedies.

1. Never leave a child unattended in or near water.
2. Teach children how to swim.
3. Teach children to stay away from drains.
4. Ensure all pools and spas - both in your backyard and any public pool you may visit - have compliant drain covers.
5. Install proper barriers, covers and alarms on and around your pool and spa.
6. Know how to perform CPR on children and adults.
7. Take the *Pool Safely* Pledge.

Learn more at [PoolSafely.gov](https://www.poolsafely.gov)

## FROM THE NURSE

[Cognitive Development: Two -Year Olds](#)

[Hand and Finger Skills: Two Year Olds](#)

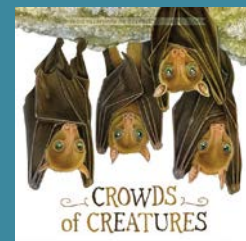
### [PRODUCT RECALLS FROM CPSC](#)

Information regarding recalls issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission  
[Please review your home for these items.](#)

BRIGHT HORIZONS  
**FamilyMatters**  
WEBINAR SERIES

[VIDEO CLASSES & WEBINARS  
ON PARENTING TOPICS](#)

## Growing Readers



**Title:** Crowds of Creatures

Written by Kate Riggs

Illustrated by Fiammetta Dogi

Richly illustrated board book that introduces young listeners to six animals and their unique group names.



## Infants

**Art Smart:** A group of infants explored paint using their senses to investigate the differing colors and the texture of the paint on the paper. They used simple tools – paintbrushes, rollers and foam brushes - to tap the paint on the paper, leaving behind marks.



## Toddlers

**Language Works:** Toddlers worked on their developing small muscle skills and hand eye coordination by using plastic tongs to pick up the small blocks. The toddlers explored the tongs themselves, trying to figure out how to make them “work”. They also counted the blocks and worked on stacking them.



## Twos

**Science Rocks:** The two-year olds went looking for worms while on the playground. A teacher lifted up the small sandboxes to see what they could find underneath. They found a few worms as well as a slug, a spider, pill bugs, and some tiny centipedes.



## Preschool

**Science Rocks:** The Preschool class examined a variety of seeds under the magnifying glass. They noted that some are small, like the carrot seeds; and some are large, like the marigold seeds. When finished examining the seeds, they planted the marigolds outdoors in a large pot.



## Kindergarten Prep

**Science Rocks:** The Kindergarten Prep class participated in a science fair. The children exhibited a few of the experiments and investigations that they have worked on this past school year for their parents – including the *Leak-Proof Bag*, *Coloring Cabbage*, *Exploding Baggies*, and *Dancing Raisins*.

## Introducing the Music Makers Program

In 2018, the Education and Development team at Bright Horizons introduced Music Makers, the musical component of Art Smart, Bright Horizons' visual and performing arts curriculum. At Bright Horizons, we believe that music exposure is an important part of every child's development.

Music is much more than singing. Music matters because it is universal. Every culture has some form of music, and it naturally interests and delights children. Music has a language of its own and is a wonderful outlet for creative energy. Music builds relationships, nurtures developmental skills, and encourages cultural exchanges. Howard Gardner, developer of the concept of multiple intelligences, considers music one of the eight intelligences.

Music Makers offers teachers practical and theoretical information about the value of music and how to present it in the early childhood classroom.

### A dynamic music program will:

- ▶ Teach children the basic properties of music, such as tempo, pitch, and volume.
- ▶ Build children's self-esteem and ability to express feelings.
- ▶ Support peer interaction and social skills knowledge.
- ▶ Develop language and vocabulary.
- ▶ Expose children to cultures and languages.
- ▶ Introduce children to musical instruments.

### In your child's classroom, you might see:

- ▶ Sound areas in the infant and toddler rooms that include musical instruments, wind chimes, or whistles.
- ▶ Musical instruments, songbooks, microphones, and other materials as appropriate for each age group.
- ▶ Explorations of musicians, composers, and musical groups, such as orchestras and quartets.
- ▶ Children singing songs, dancing, playing instruments, creating instruments, or reading books related to music.
- ▶ Children exploring patterns, rhythms, and tones.

Introduce children to musical instruments. The Music Makers curriculum is just one way we keep our promises to nurture and care for the whole child and create joyful places for childhood. Talk with your child's teacher or director to learn more about Music Makers.

## Did You Know?

The Partnership for a Healthier America (PHA) works with private companies to eliminate the problem of childhood obesity, and complements the Let's Move! initiative started by former First Lady Michelle Obama. In 2011, Bright Horizons was the first early care organization to join PHA and in 2017 we renewed our commitment until 2020.

Through this partnership, Bright Horizons is focused on improving our in-center practices and family resources on the topics of nutrition, movement, and gardening. Stay tuned for a new segment in our monthly newsletters that will feature tips and ideas on these topic areas!



## Featured Parenting Podcast Episode

### Teach. Play. Love. Parenting Advice for the Early Years

On this episode: executive function, an important set of organizational skills that will take your child into the future. Listen as Rachel Robertson, education and development vice president, and Ruth Fidino, learning and development director, discuss how you can weave executive function skill-building opportunities into your everyday life, and support your children while helping them learn to do things for themselves.

#### Ep. 3: The Quest for Executive Function

[brighthorizons.com/bhpodcastEp3](http://brighthorizons.com/bhpodcastEp3)

## Bright Horizons at Argonne Child Development Center

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