

**BRIGHT HORIZONS AT
The USAA Child
Development Center**

From the Director

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you to YOU, our wonderful families, for the fight and support you gave us last month! We truly appreciate everything you have done for us and look forward to continuing to watch your little ones grow.



Important Dates

April 4-8 Week of the Young Child

April 4th = **Music Monday** – bring an instrument to our “class bands”

April 5th = **Tasty Tuesday** – bring an item to add to a “friendship salad”

April 6th = **Work Wednesday** – dress like mom or dad or a teacher

April 7th = **Artsy Thursday** – Bring a favorite book to create art about

April 8th = **Family Friday** – PJ and family photo day

April 17th = Easter

April 22nd = Earth Day

Reasons to Celebrate

4/4: Hudson turns 1!

4/15: Aspen turns 5!

4/21: Liam turns 3!

**Health & Safety at
Bright Horizons**

Our enhanced COVID-19 protocols ensure health and safety practices in every center align with the CDC and state and local municipalities. Learn more about what we are doing to keep children, families, and staff safe.

brighthorizons.com/health-safety



Infant

During independent exploration time, Jackson took out the multicolored stacker. He noticed the bumps in the stacking rings, placing one on top of the other. When the young toddlers participate in **“My Growing Body”** activities, they learn to use their hands and fingers to explore and interact with the environment. When the young toddlers participate in **“How I Learn”** activities, they learn to maintain focus and sustain attention.



Toddler

During small group time, Everette and Avery explored the colored sensory boxes. Inside the boxes, they found several items inside each box that shared the same color. Avery pulled out a lemon and a banana. When Ms. Rosie asked Avery what she found, she said, “a banana!” Everette said, “apple.” Ms. Rosie replied to Everette, “Yes, Everette. That’s a red apple that you found in the red box.” When the toddlers participate in **“My Growing Brain”** activities, they observe, explore, and describe their environment to gain an understanding of people, places, and things.



Transition

During small group exploration, Kaiden and Anastasia built with the magna-tiles. They each took a different approach as they created their structures. Anastasia stacked the magna-tiles on top of each other while Kaiden made smaller structures with the shapes. Kaiden quickly learned that the slightest bump to the tiles would cause them to fall apart. When the two year olds participate in **“How I Learn”** activities, they learn to demonstrate persistence in their actions and behaviors.



Preschool

During center exploration, Presley, Amelia, and Ellanor played together in the dramatic play center. They decided they would go to Starbucks and make their own coffee. Presley found the coffee mugs, Ellanor poured the coffee, and Amelia squeezed out the whipped cream. Once they made their own coffee, they began taking orders for some of their friends. When the preschoolers participate in **“My Feelings and Relationships”** activities, they develop positive relationships with other children. When the preschoolers participate in **“How I Learn”** activities, they demonstrate the use of creativity and imagination in learning and play.



Kindergarten - Prep

During large group time, the Kindergarten Prep children played a letter game using their own names. Ms. Mary wrote each child’s name on the white board and left some letters out. As the children filled in the letters, Olivia wrote the letter in the space. When the KP children participate in **“How I Communicate”** activities, they demonstrate knowledge of print and the alphabet.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Check out the community events available this month! Please double check times and prices online!

Monday, April 2, 2022: Reading Rocks, ages 2-6 years, Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center, Free. Listen to stories read aloud and a hands-on craft activity. 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Saturday, April 16, 2022: Easter Egg Hunt, Reigning Hope Therapy Services, Free. Register online. 11:00am – 1:00pm. Easter egg hunt and additional activities available.

Saturday, April 23, 2022: 3rd Annual Indoor Colorado Springs Family Fest, Colorado Springs Event Center, Children are free; Parents are \$5.00 online or \$7.00 at the door. 11:00am – 5:00pm. Activities for the whole family.

Tips for Building Fine and Gross Motor Skills in Children

As parents, we hear a lot about nurturing children's social-emotional and cognitive development, but what about physical development? Although children's physical development tends to unfold in predictable ways, there are things parents can do to encourage motor development.

Offer time and room for play

Children are active by nature. When given space and freedom, they will gain many skills on their own. Give your child the space to move, jump, and run and the opportunity to be independent.

Supply props

Children are inventive and will make props out of the most unlikely things. A pinecone becomes food; a stick is a magic wand. Still, intentionally adding a few props to your child's play can spark more robust, physical activity.

Play family games

Physical games might include tag for older children or chasing games for younger children.

Allow healthy risk

Taking on physical challenges builds confidence. Trying – and sometimes failing – helps children master concepts such as balance, speed, and reasonable caution.

Growing Readers Book of Excellence

This month's Book of Excellence is "Everybody in the Red Brick Building" by Anne Wynter and illustrated by Oge Mora.

Everybody in the red brick building was asleep...until one baby woke with a howl – which sets off a chain reaction of hilarious midnight adventures. Join Teacher Nate as Oge Mora shares her inspiration for making her illustrations come to life.

Click [here](#) to read the current issue.

Discovery Driven Learning Upcoming Webinar

Hands-on, minds-on — that's how children learn best. Hear why learning through play is so important and find out how Discovery Driven Learning™ creates a foundation for early education at Bright Horizons.

Register Today!

April 26, 2022 | 2:30 pm EST

Celebrating Week of the Young Child! April 4th – 8th

Join **Bright Horizons**® as we mark this year's National Association for the Education of Young Children® (NAEYC) Week of the Young Child, April 4th – 8th, 2022.

This fun-filled week celebrates early learning, young children, and their teachers, families, and communities. Each day has an exciting theme, and our Bright Horizons education experts have pulled together a series of at-home activities you can do with your child.

Check out our family-friendly activities at: brighthouse.com/week-of-the-young-child.

