

BRIGHT HORIZONS AT The Smucker Child Development Center

We are excited to celebrating **Week of the Young Child** again during the week of April 4th. The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest early childhood education association. During the Week of the Young Child, we celebrate educating children and creating a positive learning environment.

As part of our celebration, we ask that you decorate a puzzle piece with pictures or drawings that represent your family. Puzzle pieces can be picked up and returned in the lobby.

Another exciting event that will take place on April 28th is **Take Your Child to Work Day**. The classrooms will be making special little people cutouts so you can take your "child" to work. Take a picture with your child's mini me, even if it is at your kitchen table, and if posting to social media use hashtags

#TakeYourChildtoWorkDay and
#BHChallenge.

Look out soon for a new center menu. Most of the menu will remain the same, but some items have been revised based on the feedback from classrooms and families.

Looking forward to April bringing sunshine and fresh air!

Warm regards,
Dina and Nicole

Important Dates

4th-8th Week of the Young Child

22nd- Earth Day

26th- Picture day

Parent Group Meeting
Thursday, April 21st

12:00 to 1:00

Details to come

Reasons to Celebrate

April 3rd- Happy Birthday
Courtney

April 28th- Happy Birthday
Megan

**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

Friends in Room 1 were surprised to find an addition to their classroom, a tent. Friends spent time crawling in and out of the tent and collecting all of their favorite things to add to their new space. They also were introduced to positional vocabulary, such as “in” and “out.” Small changes to the atmosphere, like swapping out new toys weekly and adding to or rearranging items can create new experiences in the existing play space.



Toddler

Books not only promote language, but can also strengthen listening and concentration. Room 4 is exploring the book, From Head to Toe, by Eric Carle. In this book children are encouraged to make certain movements like the animals on the pages. Friends listen and respond all while exercising their large and fine motor skills.



Preschool

Classrooms have been wasting no time reintroducing their sensory tables. Sensory play is an engaging experience at any age and nothing is better than spacing around in some water. As we also introduce family style dining back into the classrooms (children serving themselves) many classrooms have used their sensory table to practice pouring water from pitchers into cups so they are familiar with the process as they begin to pour their own drinks at meal times.



Kindergarten Prep

Our 4 and 5 year olds have been taking advantage of the school aged room to do some special activities to get them ready for kindergarten. During rainbow week, friends conducted science experiments, enjoyed sensory experience, and created art pieces with all the colors of the rainbow.

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.

