



From the Admin Team

Hi everyone!

We are looking forward to spring this month! Hopefully it will really come! This month, we will be busy getting outside more and spending time watching the seasons change. We are excited to try something new this month. We are going to have a Family Potluck at the end of the month. More details will come soon, but we hope you all can join us for a fun dinner and spend some time chatting with the teachers.

This month, we are also busy planning our School Age Summer Camp. If you are interested in signing up your child (ages 6-12) do so soon before we fill up! We also have some great new ideas for our playground this spring. Mrs. Laurie's son is helping us with some fun new items as part of his Eagle Scout project!

We are hiring for infants, preschool, and substitutes/camp counselors for the summer camp as well as a lifeguard, so if you know anyone who is looking for a summer job, please let us know!

Happy Spring!

Heather and Melissa

Important Dates

- March 13 – Librarian visit – PS/KPrep/Kdg
- March 25 – Family Potluck
- April 1 – deadline for School age summer camp early bird registration
- April 1 – new tuition rates begin for all families

Reasons to Celebrate

Happy Anniversary to:

Jacki – 30 Years!!!

Margie – 4 years + many years before!

Thanks to everyone who came out for our Art Smart Show – we had a huge crowd, and it was so nice to see so many Grandparents as well!



Art Smart



Infant

Infants have been all about reading! They love to explore the various books in the classroom, and often hand them to the teachers to be read. The infants have a new way to learn about reading.... some of our big kid friends in Kindergarten have been coming down to read books to us every week! The infants always sit and listen so well and enjoy looking at all the pictures with the other toddlers. We can't wait to see what they'll read to us next!



Toddler

During Science Rocks, the Toddlers learned how to make play dough. This is a great way to introduce the ways properties can change from dry to wet to dough! They explored with their sense of touch while manipulating the play-doh in a variety of ways. They learned to ask questions when exploring materials and discussed their observations and experiences with the teachers.



Preschool

Preschool learned about primary colors during a Science Rocks and Art Smart activity. They painted with red, blue, and yellow and talked about what happens when 2 of those colors mix together. They experimented with many color combinations to see what variety of colors they could create. This activity also helps them with their fine motor skills as they learn to control the movements of the paintbrush to achieve their desired outcome.



Kindergarten Prep

The Kindergarten Prep class geared up and spent some time outside on a snowy morning. While outside, the children learned to use their scientific inquiry skills. They learned this by investigating the properties of snow (using their 5 senses to smell snow, feel snow, etc.). The children also learned to exhibit balance while moving on the ground. They learned this while walking and running through several inches of snow.

Embarrassing Moments: Opportunities to Learn

There are times when our bright, curious children cause us to cringe by their comments or questions. “Is there a baby in that man’s tummy?” “Why is her skin dark?” “Where are his legs?”

In these moments, we often feel embarrassed and helpless. Our sweet young children, who we raise in an atmosphere of respect, acceptance, and kindness, might innocently offend someone ...and we’re speechless.

Young children are curious and still learning about the world; they don’t mean to be hurtful or malicious. Many adults are inclined to explain and have children apologize, but this can embarrass both the children and the recipient. In this situation, it’s best to validate what a child is observing and turn it into a learning opportunity.

Below are a few examples of common questions and helpful responses.

“That man has no legs!”

- ▶ Calmly and matter-of-factly explain that we all have different bodies and abilities. Then when your child asks, “Why doesn’t he have legs?” You might say, “I’m not sure, perhaps he was born that way.” Then you might ask, “How do you think someone would get around if they didn’t have legs?”

“Why is her skin dark?”

- ▶ This is an opportunity to explain that everyone is unique and to talk about different types and colors of hair skin and eyes. When you get home, you might show your children an array of colored apples and cut them open to see that they’re all the same color inside.

“Is there a baby in that man’s tummy?”

- ▶ A simple, honest response is, “Men can’t have babies in their tummies. Only women can.” A child further inquiring, “then why is he so fat?” opens the door for adults to let children know that people come in all sizes and shapes; we all have different body types.

How adults handle situations in the moment matters, but equally important is turning these moments into learning opportunities. After the event, explain to your child that sometimes things we say can unintentionally hurt people’s feelings.

Use your child’s comment as a springboard to discuss diversity, emotions, and the impact of words. Explain that all questions are welcome, but it’s a good idea to check with the adults before commenting to strangers.

You're invited to Our Open House!

April 15-19, 2019 | 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Next month, we will be hosting an Open House Week where new families will be able to discover why Bright Horizons is the perfect place for children to learn, explore, and grow!

Each year, Bright Horizons welcomes new families to our community. And, year after year, we've found that the best way to meet these families is through you.

If you have a friend or family member that might be interested in joining, we would be happy to provide information for you to share with them. Please see your Center Director for details. We hope to see everyone at Open House Week!

About this Podcast



The Work-Life Equation

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Listen and subscribe to the Bright Horizons Work-Life Equation for information on parenting, caregiving, and balancing work with everyday life.

Featured Parenting Podcast Episode

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

Technology is everywhere. As adults, we rely on it constantly. And for kids, it provides great value, as long as it's used in the "right" way. But what does that mean, exactly?

Debbie Hoppy, curriculum director at Bright Horizons, and Rachel Robertson, VP of education and development, share what really matters: interactive experiences and co-exploration, questions that encourage deeper thinking, and opportunities for integrating technology into the real world.

Ep. 1: The Digital Dilemma

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Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

