

# Bright Horizons at Argonne Child Development Center

## Family Referral

The highest compliment our families can give us is the referral of family or friends to our center.

Tell your friends about your Bright Horizons® experience and you'll not only share the best in early education. If the family you refer enrolls at **any** Bright Horizons center, they'll enjoy \$50 off of their registration fee & you'll receive a \$200 tuition credit.\* (After 30 days of full time enrollment.)

Referring is easy! Simply fill out [this form](#) and give it to the center director. Let your friend know that you referred them and that they'll be contacted by the center. You can also make your referral online at [www.brighthorizons.com/familyreferral](http://www.brighthorizons.com/familyreferral).

## Embracing Cultural Diversity: Teaching Tolerance and Empathy

As parents, we have a vision for a world where all people are valued and respected, regardless of their race, gender identity, or socioeconomic level. Recent events have reminded us of how far we still have to go. We may feel challenged about how to best help children understand issues of violence, inequality, racism, prejudice, and discrimination. We may wonder how to foster empathy and compassion in our children.

There are no easy answers, but we can begin by remembering the influence we have within our own homes and communities. The commitment to embracing cultural diversity begins in childhood. Parents and extended family members play a significant role in determining the values the next generation will hold. [Read on for a few simple ideas you can incorporate at home.](#)

## Argonne Child Development Center

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[www.brighthorizons.com/argonne](http://www.brighthorizons.com/argonne)

### FROM THE NURSE

[Treating Tick Bites](#)

[Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease](#)

BRIGHT HORIZONS  
**FamilyMatters**  
WEBINAR SERIES

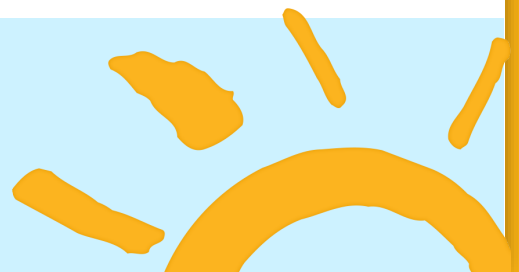
**VIDEO CLASSES & WEBINARS ON  
PARENTING TOPICS**

### **PRODUCT RECALLS FROM CPSC**

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

  
**Bright Horizons**  
Early Education & Preschool

CONNECT WITH BRIGHT HORIZONS



# CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

## Infants

**Science Rocks/Art Smart:** Infants explored finger painting. Yellow and red were added to the paper and the infants explored the varying textures of the paint and paper. While working they experimented with cause and effect, using their actions to cause the color to spread onto the paper. Infants learn how to use their senses to explore the properties of a material by using safe materials with varied textures and colors. They also learn how to experiment with and explore color by painting creatively and messily.



## Toddlers

**Language Works/Caring Matters:** The toddler classroom has incorporated All About Me photo albums into their daily experiences. Each child has a photo album with photos of family members, pets, and memories of past experiences. These albums help to promote language development and self-awareness in the classroom. Children learn to develop a sense of self as both separate from and connected to others when they explore photos of themselves and of family members and friends. Children also increase vocabulary when describing photographs.



## Twos

**STEM:** The two year olds have been exploring sand castles. While in the sandbox the children practiced using team work as they created castles. The Twos practiced using their fine motor muscles as they scooped the sand and transported it into molds. The Twos identified if they wanted to use large or small molds and what shapes they needed to use. The Twos use their senses as they actively explore the texture of the sand. They learn to make comparisons and choose from a group of items that are different sizes and shapes when they have access to many similar items.



## Preschool

**Language Works/Science Rocks:** After viewing the reptile show, Preschool children were asked to complete an entry in their picture journal of what types of animals they saw. While they worked, the children discussed the various types of snakes and lizards that were at the show and described the various specimens for the children who missed the show. When children write and draw about past events, they learn to recall information and learn to use writing to communicate their thoughts and ideas.



## Kindergarten Prep

**Science Rocks/Toward a Better World:** John from World Of Reptiles came to visit the center this past month. He brought along some of his reptile friends and introduced us to them. We saw a red tailed boa, a Tegu, an African Spirit Tortoise, an African Bull Frog, an Iguana, and another snake. John explained what each animal likes to eat and do and children had the opportunity to touch the animals. Children learn to identify and differentiate the characteristics of animals by seeing them up close and hearing more about them.



# BRIGHT HORIZONS NEWS

## A Message from Stephen Kramer, Bright Horizons CEO

Bright Horizons Families—

Two weeks ago I wrote to you after my visit to McAllen, Texas to see how the Bright Horizons family could provide support in the face of the heartbreaking crisis unfolding at our southern border. Since then we raised \$25,000 through the generosity of our employees and parents in our centers, and mobilized a Bright Space in record time. I'm thrilled to announce that the Humanitarian Respite Center Restoring Dignity Bright Space officially opened last Thursday.

The new space provides a warm welcome for the hundreds of babies, young children, and teens who come through the facility each week. While their parents get legal advice, clothing and supplies, these children now have a place to play, read, interact with caring volunteers and to just be children.

I had some idea of what this Bright Space could be and the joy it could bring to so many children who really need it. The reality is better than anything I could have imagined. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your incredible generosity and support. This Bright Space would not be possible with it.

With gratitude,  
*Stephen*

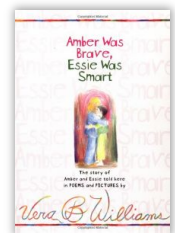


### Book of the Month

**Title:** Amber Was Brave, Essie Was Smart

**Written & illustrated by:** Vera B Williams

The story of two sisters, the affectionate bond between them and the poignancy of small moments in time that together tell a much bigger story of survival and love.



[Check out more Books of Excellence from the Bright Horizons Growing Readers Library.](#)

# READY FOR SCHOOL NEWS

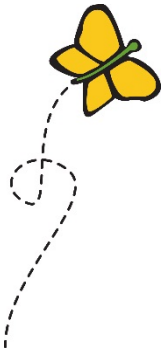
## Is Your Child Begging for a Pet? Alternatives to Dogs and Cats

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Thoughts of snuggling with kittens and tumbling with puppies make many of us want to bring home a zoo. But then we face reality. How long will the pet be alone every day? Can we afford the cost of food and care? Can the adults in the family deal with one more thing?

All pets require attention and care; however, some pets need less maintenance than cats, dogs, or rabbits. Before considering bringing a pet into your home, learn about its habitat and needs. Also consider the ages, abilities, interests, and schedules of family members.

**Below are a few ideas for lower maintenance (not no maintenance) pets:**



- Birds are social and live predominantly in cages. Many species talk and sing!
- Geckos and lizards are low-maintenance and interesting, but they may not be a good pet for young children because they eat live crickets and require very gentle handling.
- Fish are fun to learn about, watch, and name. Tanks come with lids, which protect them from toddlers.
- Hamsters and gerbils can be cuddly, playful, and amusing; however, they often have short lifespans.

If your child is asking for a pet, explain the reasons you need to say “no.” Starting by discussing what’s involved in caring for a pet teaches children valuable lessons about planning and being purposeful. Also, there are positive aspects to learning how to deal with disappointment.

In homes where children grow up happily without pets, family animal lovers can still experience the joy of bonding with and caring for animals by volunteering at a local human society, pet sitting for friends and family, or walking dogs for neighbors.

## Bright Horizons Teachers Can Get Their Degree for Free!

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Our teachers provide a great education to your children every day and they deserve that same gift in return. We are proud to offer our teachers the best benefits in our industry so they can build a career with Bright Horizons while they continue their education.

On July 11 we launched the **Bright Horizons Early Education Degree Achievement Plan**. Through this new benefit, all full-time employees in Bright Horizons centers and schools are now eligible to earn their associate and bachelor’s degrees in early childhood education completely free with no-out of pocket costs.

Employees are eligible to start on their first day of employment with Bright Horizons. Hundreds of teachers have already signed up to start the program this fall.