



BRIGHT HORIZONS AT The Smucker Child Development Center

From Center Administration

We have an action packed April ahead, full of fun and excitement! The Week of the Young Child has finally arrived!

The **Week of the Young Child™** is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) to spotlight early learning, young children, their teachers, families, and communities. Please refer to the Week of the Young Child overview to get a break down of the week's activities.

Tours will also be offered to current or perspective families during the Week of the Young Child from 11:00 to 1:00. Feel free to bring over a coworker or direct them our way. At this time our Infant Program is on a waitlist, but we do expect to see openings in our Toddler and Preschool Programs in the fall.

How is our curriculum preparing your child for future success in school? We invite parents to stop by the Project Area Friday April 12th between 4:00-5:30 to speak with an infant, toddler, or preschool teacher. They can provide you with an overview of The World at Their Fingertips Curriculum. This is a great opportunity to find out what's in store for your child as they transition to a new classroom. Stop by and see where your child's academic voyage will take them next.

How can I prepare my child for kindergarten? What is the right age for a child to start kindergarten? Join us on Thursday, April 18, 2019 for a Parent Partnership meeting on Getting Ready for Kindergarten. Amanda Irwin, a Kindergarten teacher from Old Trail School, will be our presenter.

Lastly, we would like to thank you for your contribution to our parent survey. We truly value your feedback and will look to it as a tool to create a more meaningful experience for you and your family.

We are looking forward to all of April's festivities!

Dina, Farrah, and Nicole

Important Dates



3rd- Picture Day

8th-12th- Week of the Young Child

Music Monday

Tasty Tuesday

Work Together Wednesday

Artsy Thursday

Family Friday



9th-12th Usborne Book Fair

18th- Parent Presentation on
Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Reasons to Celebrate

Happy Birthday

Courtney- 3rd

Megan- 28th

Hanna- 30th



Happy Anniversary

Deb 4yr

Hanna 2yr



Infant

Room One engaged their senses by exploring sensory bottles. These bottles contain different materials such as water, pompoms, pipe cleaners and beads. Exploring sensory bottles strengthens hand muscles supports hand eye coordination.



Toddler

The concept of pretend play blossoms in the toddler years. Our toddler classrooms provide multiple opportunities and props for children to explore dramatic play on their own and with one another. Room Four friends gathered at the train table to play with one another while enjoying some items from the dramatic play area.



Preschool

Room 6 used several different water toys and other objects in the sensory table to find out just how powerful water is. This activity also sparked an investigation into cause and effect as our friends took turns pouring the water fast and then slow.



Kindergarten Prep

Room 7 worked together with their teachers to learn about the cycle of life by studying the life stages of butterflies. They used a prop box containing items that relate to the life cycle of moths and butterflies to support their current projection study about growing.

It's all in the Family! Activities to Build Memories

Enjoying family activities is a precious gift to give our children and ourselves. Time with people we love fosters feelings of belonging and intimacy, builds trust, instills a sense of security, and creates lifelong memories. Below are fun, inexpensive activities for all ages:

- ▶ **Gaze at stars:** Explain to children that stars form patterns that we call constellations and then research them online and in books. Go outside on a clear evening and try to identify constellations or have fun making up your own. Draw the formations on paper or lay them out using pipe cleaners and small rocks. With younger children, focus on the shape of the moon.
- ▶ **Visit farmers markets:** An excursion to a farmers market provides an opportunity to smell the scents of fresh produce, enjoy tasty samples of nutritious foods, hear local musicians playing music, and participate in the coming together of the community.
- ▶ **Go for a hike or walk:** Hiking or walking connects family members to nature, as well as each other. On walks, you might take photographs, collect special rocks, leaves, and sticks, or just enjoy the world's natural wonders and time with each other.
- ▶ **Institute a family fitness program:** This could include age/stage-appropriate push-ups, sit-ups, stretching, walking, hopping, skipping, jumping, or jogging. Family members might keep a fitness log, use a pedometer to count steps, or count your heartbeats before and after exercise.
- ▶ **Volunteer:** Have you considered making volunteering part of your family culture? Adults inspire empathy and compassion by volunteering as a family at a soup kitchen, nursing home, homeless shelter, or other local organizations. For activity suggestions browse sites such as Doing Good Together: doinggoodtogether.org.
- ▶ **Build a cozy fort:** You might use branches and wood, blankets and chairs, or a giant carton (from an appliance store), to design a cozy den. After you build this comfy place to congregate, your family can cuddle up to read, snack, tell stories, or play games.

All the activities above enhance relationships because family members enjoy simple activities, share rewarding adventures, and make memories.

Ask About Our Summer Camp Program!

Join us for a Summer of Fun, Friendships, and Exploration

Through Camp Explorations, our summer camp program at **Bright Horizons®**, your child will have the opportunity to enjoy everything summer has to offer. During action-packed days, your child will experiment with science and technology, engage in the creative arts, discover nature, and explore the world. With experienced teachers, a curriculum based on each child's interests, engaging projects and activities, special visitors, and more, summer will be fun and educational at the same time.

Camp Explorations Highlights

- ▶ Programs for two different age groups:
 - Preschool Adventures (ages 3 – 5)
 - School-Age Adventures (ages 6 –12)
- ▶ Age-appropriate, engaging themes that incorporate children's interests
- ▶ Field trips, special guests, and daily fitness activities
- ▶ Flexible weekly schedules with full- and part-time options
- ▶ Health, safety, and security policies that meet or exceed local, state, and national standards

Featured Family Webinar

Working Moms, Natural Leaders

Whether you're a new mom getting ready to return to work, or you've been a working mom for a while, you might be curious about the expectations — or lack thereof — you'll face in the office. Watch this recording of our webinar, as we discuss results from the **Bright Horizons®** Modern Family Index survey and learn what research says about working motherhood.

Family Webinar Recording –

Working Moms, Natural Leaders

brighthorizons.com/webinarWMNL



Bright Horizons at The Smucker Child Development Center

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

