

# Bright Horizons at Argonne Child Development Center

## Connect with Bright Horizons



### The Family Room

On the blog, you'll find parenting tips, advice and tales of work/life challenges – the ordinary and not-so-ordinary moments in the journey of working parenthood.

[blogs.brighthouse.com/familyroom](https://blogs.brighthouse.com/familyroom)



### Facebook

On Bright Horizons' Facebook page, see our curriculum in action, learn about Bright Horizons news & events, and find the latest parenting tips and articles from our bloggers and education experts. Search Facebook for your local center's Facebook page!

[www.facebook.com/brighthouse](https://www.facebook.com/brighthouse)



### Instagram

Connect with @BrightHorizons on Instagram to see some of our favorite photos of center activities, pictures shared with us by our families, as well as tips and advice from our education experts and parent bloggers. [www.instagram.com/brighthouse](https://www.instagram.com/brighthouse)



### Pinterest

On Bright Horizons' Pinterest page, you'll find a whole host of ideas including tips for organizing your home, fun and easy birthday celebration ideas, and activities for growing little learners.

[www.pinterest.com/brighthouse](https://www.pinterest.com/brighthouse)



### Twitter

Bright Horizons (@BrightHorizons) is the official Bright Horizons Family Solutions Twitter handle for company news & working parents/workplace trends. [twitter.com/brighthouse](https://twitter.com/brighthouse)

Follow @BHParenting for parenting & early education news, and live-streams of our parent webinars. [twitter.com/BHParenting](https://twitter.com/BHParenting)

### FROM THE NURSE

[How to Ease Your Child's Separation Anxiety](#)

[Developmental Milestones: 4 to 5 year olds](#)

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.](#)



## Argonne Child Development Center

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# CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

## Infants

**Science Rocks/Our World:** While on outdoor buggy rides the infants get opportunities to observe nature. Teachers pointed out everything in nature that the infants could see. They talked about the sky, grass, trees, etc. Teachers sang “The Wheels on the Bus” “ABC’s” and “The Itsy Bitsy Spider.” The infants build language comprehension skills as they are sung to and spoken to frequently throughout the day. They also learn about the world around them when they have opportunities to explore nature first hand.



## Toddlers

**Art Smart:** The toddlers worked side by side as they painted at the easel. Each had their own brushes and paint cups. They dipped the brushes in their cups and painted on the paper. They moved around and looked at each other’s painting. And they painted on both sides of the easel. We learn to make deliberate markings or drawings by using developmentally appropriate art materials. We learn to strengthen and refine small muscles by practicing small muscle skills like drawing and painting.



## Twos

**Caring Matters:** While on the playground, the Twos interacted with their peers in the sand box. While playing we begin to learn how to begin successful quality relationships with others. The Twos explored the strange texture of sand and used their imagination to create various items while in the sandbox. We learn to use imagination in play, investigate the world through our senses, along with learning to make friends and develop positive relationships by exploring the sandbox together.



## Preschool

**Garden Works/Science Rocks:** The Preschool class began planting vegetables in the playground planters. They planted plant peppers, onions, and lettuce. With some help, they dug holes and pushes seedlings and seeds into the dirt. More items will be added as the spring progresses – such as basil and green beans. We learn to take care of living things when we plant our own garden. We begin to understand the relationship between living and non-living things when we grow and tend to a garden.



## Kindergarten Prep

**STEM:** the Kindergarten Prep class explored what it takes to clean up dirty water. First at the sensory table they worked on removing all the trash Next, they sifted the water trying to remove the dirt, but the water remained dirty even after all the pieces were removed. We went back to the board and brainstormed ways that we could make the water clear again. Next they tries filtering the dirty water through coffee filters, a funnel, and rocks, to see how clean we could make it. We were successful in making the water lighter, but not clear. We learn to independently develop hypotheses, make predictions, plan investigations, and draw conclusions by participating in long term, multi-skill scientific experiments.



# BRIGHT HORIZONS NEWS

## Join us in celebrating our teachers & staff!

The greatest reward a teacher or staff member can receive is knowing that they have made a difference in the lives of children and families. Don't miss the opportunity to celebrate and recognize all of the teachers and staff who make their classrooms a wonderful place for children and families.

Teacher Appreciation Day is May 8<sup>th</sup> but our teachers, support staff, and leadership team work hard all year long to make your child's experience here the very best it can be. Help us celebrate them all month long!

Your thoughts make a difference – and mean a lot to all of us. Take a moment to share any stories, comments, and well wishes for those who touch your family's life each day.

Visit our Teacher & Staff Appreciation Website to leave a special note of appreciation for your child's teacher or exceptional staff member. The website will be open from May 1st through May 31st.

**[appreciation.brighthouse.com](http://appreciation.brighthouse.com)**

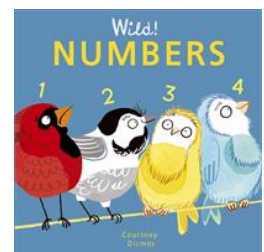


### Book of the Month

**Title:** *Wild Numbers*

**Written and illustrated by:** Courtney Dicmas

A funny and colorfully engaging picture book, perfect for the youngest listeners to learn basic number concepts.



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

# READY FOR SCHOOL NEWS

## Family Fitness Fun

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You've heard the statistics: one in five preschoolers is obese and the childhood obesity rate has tripled in the last 30 years. At Bright Horizons®, we're passionate about children's health and we believe this trend can be reversed. In 2011, Bright Horizons joined the Partnership for a Healthier America (PHA). As part of our PHA commitment, we're updating physical education training materials for teachers to ensure that children get the physical activity they need every day. We're also producing a host of resources for families. Building better health is as simple as becoming more physically active, one step at a time. Below are a few ideas for easy family fitness.

### **Start a habit.**

Children aren't particularly interested in why fitness is so important. They are interested, though, in fun family time. Establishing habits of physical activity in childhood paves the way for healthy adulthood. So, try to plan at least one physical activity on the weekend. Go for a walk, play at the park, or head to a pool. Think about building physical activity into your schedule at least three times during the week. This can be as simple as throwing a ball around before dinner or playing a quick game of hide and seek. It doesn't have to be lengthy or complicated, but you do need to be intentional about it. Write it into your schedule so it becomes a habit.

### **Get mobile.**

One of the simplest ways to get more exercise is by ditching the car. Walk, bike, or rollerblade to school, the store, the library – anywhere you can. Some areas are more “walk friendly” than others, of course, but try to walk as often as possible.

### **Work it out.**

Family chores are another way to get moving. Raking leaves, weeding a garden, mopping the floor – all these activities get the body moving. Turn on some music and make chores a fun family time. Try to be consistent, as well. When children know that the family will spend an hour every Saturday working together, for example, they're less likely to balk and more likely to see it as a predictable part of their family culture.



Education & Development