



BRIGHT HORIZONS AT  
**Clever Kids Learning  
Center**

## From the Director

The NAEYC re-accreditation visit is now complete! The validator was in the center two days to observe in classrooms and check various forms of paper documentation. The decision of “yes” or “no” to our status will come within 90 days. You will definitely know the results as soon as I know!

## Dates of Closure for 2019

- May 27 – Memorial Day
- July 4 – Independence Day
- Sept. 2 – Labor Day
- Oct. 14 – Columbus Day
- Nov. 11 – Veteran’s Day
- Nov. 28 & 29 – Thanksgiving
- Dec. 25 – Federal Observance of Christmas

## Special Events

Don’t forget Dr. Seuss Birthday is Saturday March, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Snuggle up and read a few of his classic books together!

March 20<sup>th</sup> – 1st day of spring



## Infant 2

Infants learn about the world and themselves through their senses. Exploration of the arts in the infant program is only one example how we expose infants to rich and diverse experiences. Allowing children to explore the paint with their hands and selected tools or brushes, not only nurtures their development but also captures their interest. Some of our children were more adventurous than others, attempting to taste the paint (not to worry, the paint is of course non-toxic!) Just look at the awesome group of young artists!



## Preschool East

Who knew that learning could get so messy? The children in Preschool East have busy rolling up their sleeves, getting their hands dirty and learning through tactile play.



They were able to experiment with making butter, seeing how a liquid could turn into a solid. Then both the children and their parents were able to taste the butter along side with some biscuits (also made by the children) at the parent party in February. The next experiment they tackled was making Oobleck. What is Oobleck, you might ask? Well, it contains only two ingredients and is fascinating to feel and see the matter change. It is one of the children's favorites, give it a try at home!

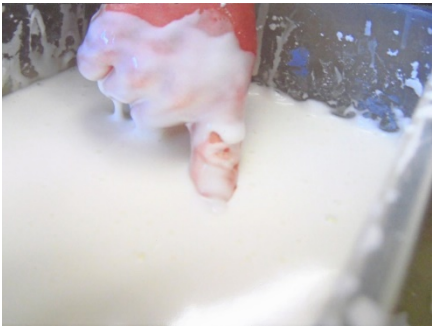
### Oobleck recipe

2 cups cornstarch

1 cup water

Optional- food coloring

1. Start with the water in a bowl (or wading pool!) and add the cornstarch a bit at a time.
2. Keep stirring until it has a goeey consistency. You may want to use your hands.
3. When the oobleck is just right, slowly add food coloring, if you want. This can be a challenge to get it mixed properly.



Helpful guideline - When mixed you should be able to press a handful of Oobleck into a ball in your hand; when you release the pressure the ball should "melt" back into a liquid.

## 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 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> | 9:00-11:00 a.m. or 2:00–5:00 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!



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

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Listen as parents and early childhood educators come together to cull the competing advice, separate fact from fiction, and focus on what does – and doesn't – matter during these early years. Be more confident, have less worry...and let Bright Horizons help make parenting the joy it was meant to be.

## 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

[brighthorizons.com/bhpodcastep1](http://brighthorizons.com/bhpodcastep1)

## Bright Horizons at Clever Kids Learning Center

Building 64 Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO, 80225

303-236-9400 | [www.brighthorizons.com/cleverkids](http://www.brighthorizons.com/cleverkids)

Monday – Friday, 6:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.