



BRIGHT HORIZONS AT Clever Kids Learning Center

From the Director

27 families raised a total of \$3,619 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital! That is such amazing support from a small group! Our 14th annual Trike-A-Thon contributed enough to cover the cost of chemotherapy for several days for one young patient. All services are provided at no cost to parents because of families like ours making contributions.

Making summer travel plans? Please let your child's teacher know if your child will be out of the center. That information allows our teachers to go on a vacation, too! Our attendance numbers fluctuate a great deal most summers. Your communication with us lets us plan a little better for coverage in the classrooms.

Our graduation ceremonies sent 25 children off to kindergarten! They are well prepared due to many amazing teachers during their Clever Kids journey. The foundation for their successful entry into formal education starts with the infant, toddler and early preschool teachers they've had over the years. It would be much appreciated if your child would stop in to their classrooms to say "goodbye" before they leave us!

Dates of Closure for 2019

- 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

Splash Days

Splash Days begin June 3rd and end August 9th. The teacher's in each classroom will have details specific to your child's room.

Mondays: Toddler 1 and Infants

Tuesdays: Preschool East

Wednesdays: Preschool North

Thursdays: Preschool West

Fridays: Toddler 2 and Preschool 1



Preschool 1

Spring, oh lovely Springtime!

What better way to transition the season than to discover changes in the weather! In Preschool 1, we've kept quite aware of the vast array of varying weather over the past two months.

We are learning about the sun, clouds, wind, precipitation, temperature, and shadows. We are learning about these things through observation, sensorial activities, hands-on discovery, songs, stories and discussions. Also, we've been aware of the changes in the way we dress each day for outdoor play!

-Ms. Kathy



Infant 1

We learn a lot about ourselves based on our natural curiosity. We want to know why certain things are happening and what exactly is happening. And, infants are prime for feeling a sense of wonder. They play with their feet and hands and they kick and move their legs, all in an attempt to learn about their body. They also get to see other people's bodies and how they move and use their bodies. All of that is found under the "Towards A Better World" aspect of our curriculum. Under the "Sense of Self" portion, we can learn to recognize ourselves and our body parts, we can identify ourselves in photos or in the mirror and we can develop a sense of self as separate from others. We can do this by looking at photos of ourselves, playing recall games (such as "where are your toes?"), and having consistent and regular routines.

-Ms. Kelsey & Ms. Meg



Introducing the Music Makers Program

In 2018, the Education and Development team at Bright Horizons introduced Music Makers, the musical component of Art Smart, Bright Horizons' visual and performing arts curriculum. At Bright Horizons, we believe that music exposure is an important part of every child's development.

Music is much more than singing. Music matters because it is universal. Every culture has some form of music, and it naturally interests and delights children. Music has a language of its own and is a wonderful outlet for creative energy. Music builds relationships, nurtures developmental skills, and encourages cultural exchanges. Howard Gardner, developer of the concept of multiple intelligences, considers music one of the eight intelligences.

Music Makers offers teachers practical and theoretical information about the value of music and how to present it in the early childhood classroom.

A dynamic music program will:

- ▶ Teach children the basic properties of music, such as tempo, pitch, and volume.
- ▶ Build children's self-esteem and ability to express feelings.
- ▶ Support peer interaction and social skills knowledge.
- ▶ Develop language and vocabulary.
- ▶ Expose children to cultures and languages.
- ▶ Introduce children to musical instruments.

In your child's classroom, you might see:

- ▶ Sound areas in the infant and toddler rooms that include musical instruments, wind chimes, or whistles.
- ▶ Musical instruments, songbooks, microphones, and other materials as appropriate for each age group.
- ▶ Explorations of musicians, composers, and musical groups, such as orchestras and quartets.
- ▶ Children singing songs, dancing, playing instruments, creating instruments, or reading books related to music.
- ▶ Children exploring patterns, rhythms, and tones.

Introduce children to musical instruments. The Music Makers curriculum is just one way we keep our promises to nurture and care for the whole child and create joyful places for childhood. Talk with your child's teacher or director to learn more about Music Makers.

Did You Know?

The Partnership for a Healthier America (PHA) works with private companies to eliminate the problem of childhood obesity, and complements the Let's Move! initiative started by former First Lady Michelle Obama. In 2011, Bright Horizons was the first early care organization to join PHA and in 2017 we renewed our commitment until 2020.

Through this partnership, Bright Horizons is focused on improving our in-center practices and family resources on the topics of nutrition, movement, and gardening. Stay tuned for a new segment in our monthly newsletters that will feature tips and ideas on these topic areas!



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

Subscribe to get new episodes!



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

On this episode: executive function, an important set of organizational skills that will take your child into the future. Listen as Rachel Robertson, education and development vice president, and Ruth Fidino, learning and development director, discuss how you can weave executive function skill-building opportunities into your everyday life, and support your children while helping them learn to do things for themselves.

Ep. 3: The Quest for Executive Function

brighthorizons.com/bhpodcastEp3

Bright Horizons at Clever Kids Learning Center

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Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

