



BRIGHT HORIZONS AT RALFIGH CORPORATE CENTER

From the Director



Early Bird Re-Registration

As we move to complete early re-registration, be on the look out for 2019's updated paperwork.

Parent Volunteers

We are looking for parent volunteers to help plan May's Teacher Appreciation Month and our spring Garden Works projects. If you have a few minutes to spare, let us know!

Safety Reminders

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times on our property. Please do not leave children in cars (even older children) or allow children to go ahead of you into the courtyard. We have had a few near misses with children making it out near the cars.

Spring is here

Take a few minutes to swap out your child's extra cold weather clothes with spring clothes.

Important Dates

Dragonfly Nature Program - Apr. 3 Spring Break (SA) - Apr. 15-18 **Center Closed - Apr. 19** Picture Day - May 2

Reasons to Celebrate

Tracey BDay - Apr. 16









What brought you to Bright Horizons? What makes you stay here? I was looking for a summer job because I was working as a teacher assistant and needed to work. Bright Horizons has led me to some really great people and has exposed me to some great opportunities. I am able to give as a teacher.

How long have you worked in the field of Early Childhood Education, what brought you to it, and what is most rewarding about it?

I have been working in the field of Early Childhood Education for close to 20 years. I have always enjoyed working with young children. The most rewarding part about it is knowing that in some way I have contributed to children having a great childhood.

Has being a mother made you a better teacher, or has being a teacher made you a better mother?

That's a great question.-both. I think being a mother has made me more sensitive to the needs of parents, and being a teacher has made me more sensitive to the needs of my own children.

What are your favorite activities to do with children?

I really like to do science experiments, especially those with an immediate reaction. I also enjoy cooking.

What is the best thing that families have ever done for you? Said "thank you".

What is the best advice you can give to someone going into the field of Early Childhood Education?

Keep an open mind and be prepared for hard work-working with children will challenge you physically and mentally!

What's next on the HORIZON for you both professionally and personally? I really would like to expand my knowledge by gaining experience working on an administrative level within Bright Horizons. I believe the opportunity for growth will benefit me personally and professionally.

I AM ERICA MAHONE AND I AM BRIGHT HORIZONS!

School's Out

School Age

Our School Age club came together for a day of games, crafts, sports, and STEM play. It was a day of reunited friends, nature walks, tasty snacks and lots of laughs. Spring break is coming up fast (April 15-18), to sign up for Spring Break camp please stop by the front desk.





Science | Technology | Engineering | Math

Loose parts play is a time honored tradition among children, and goes hand and hand with *STEM* learning. These types of unstructured materials often encourage open ended STEM experiences in science, technology, math, and in this case engineering.

Claire, along with some of her K Prep friends, used a block as a *fulcrum* and a plank to *engineer* a *first class lever*. Using their body weight as the *force* friends jumped higher and harder to make the bowl go higher.





Reading with your child may be one of the most meaningful and memorable ways to spend time imagining and learning together at home. Growing Readers emphasizes the importance of reading aloud to children and cultivating a love of great books.









Choosing a book from our library helps you:

- Select great books for your child, at each age and stage,
- Strengthen your child's educational development,
- Introduce and discuss themes, explore new concepts or guide your child through life's experiences.

Growing Artists at RCC

Art Studio

In addition to friends enlarging some of their earlier work related to book explorations *Trouble with Trolls* and *Imogene's Antlers*, Mr. Patrick also began exploring new methods of mold making and casting using rubber to make a more durable mold and pourable plastic to make the cast of their clay work.



Garden Works at RCC

The tulips are blooming, bees are buzzing, and birds are chirping. Spring is here! Keep an eye out for new things happening in our gardens. If you are interested in getting involved, stop by the front desk.











Center Highlights



Spring is here and that means more daylight, more warm weather, and more rain. All great elements for engaging outdoor play with friends.

Check out some of our center's highlights from the month of March.





Center Highlights









Center Highlights





Soccer Shots is back!

To learn more or enroll for Soccer Shots at RCC visit,

SOCCERSHOTS.ORG/RDU





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



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