

Bright Horizons News

April 2014



From the Director

Saturday “Get Together”

Join us Saturday April 26th for a
Saturday “Get Together”
at Roger Williams Park Playground!
(near the carousel)
We will meet at the playground at 10:00am!
We hope to see you all there!
(all ages and siblings are welcome)

Share Your Bright Horizons Experience With Friends & Save \$200

Year after year, we continue to welcome new families to our center. An interesting fact is that most of these excellent families tend to hear about the center through you – our current Moms and Dads! Because so many are already spreading the word, we wanted to make it easier to reward you for bringing these great families to the center.

Now when you tell a friend about our center you can earn a \$200 tuition credit through our Family Referral Program. Simply invite other families to see all that we have to offer. If your friend enrolls full-time, you will receive a \$200 tuition credit (\$150 credit for part-time). If your friend enrolls they also save \$50 off their registration fee.

You can refer your friends [online through our referral website](#) or you can simply tell them. Just remember that whomever they speak with at Bright Horizons, they need to mention they heard about the center through our Family Referral program. Please ask Jen or Cheryl for more information on the Family Referral Program. We'd love to meet your friends!

Important Dates

April 22nd – 25th: Week Long Open House Event – refer a family to visit the center

April 23rd: Parent Partnership Group Meeting – we will be discussing ideas for our upcoming faculty appreciation month.

April 25th: Tuition is due! – please remember to pay your tuition on time to avoid the \$5.00 per day late fee!

May 2014: Teacher and Staff Appreciation Month
(see page 4 for more information)

From the Nurse

Do You Have A Picky Eater?

Continue to introduce and reinforce new foods over time. It may take many tries before your child is ready to taste a new food...and a lot of tastes before your child likes it. A good starting point is to encourage your child to simply allow a small portion of the new food to sit on his or her plate. Don't force them to try new foods. Also, remember that you are a role model—make sure your child sees you enjoying the food!

Connect with Bright Horizons



Classroom Highlights



Infants



Toddlers



Toddler 3



Movement Matters...

...is the Bright Horizons curriculum component that addresses supporting children's physical development, laying the foundation for positive attitudes towards physical activity and its benefits, preparing children for physical education programs that may later encounter in schools, improving the health and fitness of the children in our care and providing families with information regarding the benefits of exercise, including not just children's physical health, but also heightening awareness relieving stress, building self-esteem and decreasing illness.

Preschool



Going for a walk



Kindergarten Prep



READY for SCHOOL Parent News: Learning to Count

Teaching children to count may seem like an easy task, but there are actually many components to this seemingly simple task which evolve over time. For example:

- The first step in counting is typically “rote counting”, or memorizing the names and order of the numbers. Often children are able to do this before age three; however, this does not mean that children understand the concepts behind the numbers. Numerical concepts follow later.
- To count higher than nine, children need to understand that a new “decade” begins and what that decade is called. In English, the “teen” numbers are the hardest to learn because they have somewhat random names. It would be easier if after ten, you had “oneteen, twoteen, threeteen” instead of “eleven, twelve, thirteen.” This requires children to memorize the numbers and sequence and this takes time. Another challenge is remembering the name of the new decade. We have all heard a child pause after counting to 29 and then say “50!” Car rides and other waiting times are good times to practice counting, but keep it light and fun and change activities when your child loses interest. You want to keep your child interested and motivated to learn to count, not turned off to numbers.
- One-to-one correspondence is another important concept for children to master. This means that a child links each number to an additional object. Initially children may count and skip items or touch more than one item as they say a number name. For practice in one-to-one correspondence, ask children to set the table and count as they put one napkin at each place, one spoon at each place, etc.
- Keeping track of what was counted is another important component to one-to-one correspondence. For correct counting, children have to have a method for remembering which items they already counted and not counting one item multiple times. A child can use the correct number sequence and use one-to-one correspondence, but still get the incorrect answer, if he counts an item more than once. Introduce methods for keeping track such as counting objects into sections of an egg carton, having your child put only one object in each section as she counts. Or use a piece of paper with a line drawn down the middle. Start with all of the objects to the left of the line. Have your child move objects to the right of the line as they are counted.
- Parents sometimes wonder whether using fingers to count is a good skill to teach. For many children, finger counting may be an excellent way for them to practice one-to-one correspondence (one finger per object).
- Reading counting books together may be another low-key way to reinforce counting concepts. There are lots available – a few suggestions are Anno’s Counting Book by Mitsumasa Anno, Teeth, Tails and Tentacles: An Animal Counting Book by Christopher Wormell, Duckie’s Ducklings: A one-to-one counting book by Frances Barry and Corduroy’s Day: A Counting Book by Don Freeman.

Resource: Copley, J. V. (2000). *The Young Child and Mathematics*. Washington, DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

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Join Bright Horizons in Celebrating Earth Day on April 22

Mark your calendars – April 22nd is Earth Day!



We encourage you to celebrate the holiday by making one pledge or one change to be more environmentally conscious this year. We have many suggestions for green projects on our new [Bright Horizons Going Green board](#) on Pinterest. Small changes can lead to a big impact! So remember to bring your reusable bag to the store, plant a flower with your child, or bring in some supplies from home for your center to reuse for an art project.

Interested in learning more about how you can celebrate Earth Day with your child(ren)? Check out our eFamily news article: [Earth Day Activities for Families](#).

However you choose to celebrate, we hope you have a wonderful Earth Day.

Help a Friend Discover Bright Horizons during our Spring Open House Week!



This April we will be hosting an Open House Week for families to learn more about our programs.

If you have a friend or family member that might be interested in joining the Bright Horizons family, we would be happy to provide information for you to share with them! See Center Director for details.

COMING SOON: Teacher and Staff Appreciation Month



Teacher and Staff Appreciation Month is coming!

Each year, we take the month of May to celebrate and recognize staff whose hard work and dedication help us accomplish great things and make Bright Horizons a wonderful place for children and families. Please mark your calendars!