

Bright Horizons Del Mar

June 2013



June Birthdays

Daisy	6- 11
Veronica	6 – 13
Chase	6 – 26
Nathan	6 – 3
Hayley R.	6 – 16
Wen Wen	6 – 22
Julia	6 – 18
Ava	6 – 12
Hanna	6 – 14
Brogan	6 - 10

Important Dates

June 6	Yellow, Red, and Orange Rooms Field Trip to the park
June 5	Last Parent Partnership meeting until September
June 7	Ms. Liz's Dance Recital 5:00
June 13	Theatre Night 7:00 for Yellow, Red, and Orange Rooms
June 14	Father's Day Event 4:00 – 6:00
June 14	Date Night
June 17 – 21	Just Camping Out Camp
June 24 – 28	Funny Lunch Camp

Let's Visit

- Space Travelers -
Travel to your new
classroom for a
visit on

June 10th and 11th
9:00 – 10:30

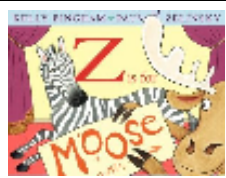
Children will participate in art, games, cooking, and science activities while visiting their new classroom along with their friends. Watch for a photo display of our event.



Book of the Month
Z Is For Moose

By Paul O. Zelinsky

Who would have thought that an ABC book could be hilarious?! Well, this one is. You will actually enjoy reading this to your little ones. Take this romp through the alphabet with magnificent Moose and zealous Zebra, and enjoy the adventure with someone you love.

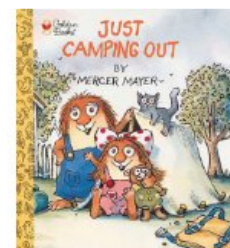


Our first summer camp begins on June 17th. The camp is Just Camping Out and the theme is based on the Mercer Mayer book of the same title. Some of the activities planned are learning to be sun savvy with wrinkled sun prints, what's bugging you which focuses on bug safety and creating camp journals (yes even the twos) to record the summer events. We will be creating Classroom Camp Kites and celebrating Best Friend Day. A special concert is planned to kick off the camp. This will be on Monday, June 17 with Courtney Campbell.

The second camp is Funny Lunch based on the David Catrow book of the same name. Children will participate in lots of cooking projects, (be prepared to taste) and an Iron Chef cook off between classes. Who can create the best "funny lunch?" Watch for more details each week on the easel in the lobby. The lesson plan and list of activities will be posted.



Don't forget to put on the sunscreen!



Classroom Highlights with

Language Works

Language comes in many shapes and forms from interacting with our Kindergarten Prep phonics and pre-reading curriculum, Wiggle Works to listening to storytelling in Mandarin. Children interact with books and writing materials on a daily basis, as well as being read to and reading on their own.



Jackson practiced copying words from the word wall and created a story.



Kendric and Emma illustrated their Soup Books. It included writing parts of the story and making Stone Soup for tasting!



Cal is looking at pictures of space and shares what he saw with Ms. Delmy.



Charlotte and Ms. Maggie demonstrated how to story tell in Mandarin.



Hailey and Elaina read the Wiggle Works book, School Day! to the class.

READY for SCHOOL News

READY for SCHOOL Parent News: Beginning Geometry



Preschoolers develop early concepts of geometry as they manipulate shapes and become increasingly aware of spatial relationships.

Van Hiele's (1986) Levels of Geometric Thinking may help you understand the stages of development you will see in your child:

- Level 0 – Children learn to recognize geometric shapes by viewing them as a whole.
- Level 1 – Children learn individual characteristics of shapes such as “a triangle has three sides.”
- Level 2 – Children learn more complicated relationships between the characteristics of a shape – for instance, they may come to understand that a square is a rectangle because it has all the same properties of a rectangle.

Most preschoolers are operating at level 0. Children in the primary grades are typically at level 1. Providing children with opportunities to explore and experiment with shapes and their properties allows them to move through the stages, but movement is typically slow.

A few suggestions follow for activities and materials to encourage geometric thinking in young children:

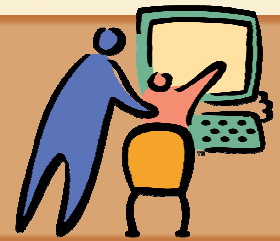
- Block play is great for shape recognition. Children learn much just through their own spontaneous, independent block play. For example, the simple process of matching and sorting similar blocks at clean-up time builds geometric thinking. When you have time, asking open-ended questions may help to spur children's thinking to the next level. Ask questions such as:
 - “How is your block tower different from mine?”
 - “What will happen if I take out the bottom block?”
 - “Can you tell me what I need to do to make my block building look just like yours?”
 - “Can you put 2 blocks together and make another shape?”
 - “We are getting ready to clean up now – how will you remember what you built?”
- Make spatial vocabulary a regular part of the language you model for your child. Acting out stories such as “The Three Billy Goats Gruff,” for example, offers numerous opportunities for children to show their understanding of “under,” “over,” “across,” “near,” “far,” etc.
- Ask shape questions as part of your play together. For example having shape blocks or cardboard or paper shapes available, ask “Have you seen this shape before?” “Where have you seen it?” “Can you find a shape like this in our home?” “Do you think this shape would roll or slide?” “Can we stack these shapes?” “Can you cut this paper to make another shape?” “Can you make a square (circle/triangle) with pipe cleaners/yarn?”

Resources:

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

van Hiele, P. M. (1986). *Structure and Insight: A theory of mathematics education*. Orlando, FL: Academic.

Family Resources



Introducing: Family Resources on BrightHorizons.com!

In addition to providing stimulating and loving environments for children to learn and thrive, at Bright Horizons we are proud to also provide an online community where families can connect with resources and share ideas. To further this effort, we have launched a brand new *Family Resources* area on BrightHorizons.com.



Family Resources has been designed to help you find parenting tips, education articles, learning activities and engage in conversations. It includes:

- **Learning at Home Activities:** A database of learning activities to provide during teachable moments that naturally emerge from everyday life situations, covering key developmental and academic areas including social skills, language acquisition, science, math, learning to read and more.
- **eFamily News Articles:** A weekly article providing advice, strategies, tips, resources and news about current parenting issues you may be facing.
- **Parenting Webinars:** A parenting video series designed for growing families with topics such as potty training, breastfeeding, child nutrition, early learning, and positive discipline.
- **Online Community:** A social network for parents and educators to share ideas, get perspectives and ask questions.
- **Parenting Blog:** Working parents share their everyday challenges to succeed professionally and personally.
- **Parenting Resources for Growing Children:** Parent resources and children's activities designed to help you continue your child's learning and discovery at home. Includes:
 - *Growing Readers*
 - *Growing Learners*
 - *Growing Scientists*
 - *Growing Givers*

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