

Bright Horizons at Apex

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April 2014



From the Front Desk



Week of the Young Child™
Early Years Are Learning Years®

The Early Years are the Learning Years! Honor children and early childhood teachers who are at the heart of quality early learning during the Week of the Young Child.™

**Our Theme for this week will be
MAKING A MESS!!!**

Monday: Mess with MathCounts
Tuesday: Mess with ArtSmart
Wednesday: Mess with LanguageWorks
Thursday: Mess with ScienceRocks
Friday: Mess with MovementMatters

****Please make sure your child has
extra weather appropriate clothes
during this week!**

IT'S TAX SEASON



***Need a 2013 Statement?
*Do you need a copy of
your monthly tuition
statements?
*Would you like to
manage your contact
informaton?**

**Please log on
Family Information Center
www.brighthorizons.com/familyinfocenter
and Join Today!**

Mark Your Calendar

April 7-11 Week of the Young Child

**April 10 Kindergarten Prep
Science Fair**
(Center Wide Event)

**April 18 Spring Break
Center Closed**

April 22 Earth Day

April 23 & 24 Picture Days
More Details to Come

April 29 Parent Partnership Call

Annual Reminder

May 2014: Teacher and Staff Appreciation Month
**Look out for information from your classroom's
parent representative coming soon!

Are you Well Aware of your Fitness Level?

Want to win cool prizes and be entered into a drawing to win a family vacation to Universal Orlando Resorts all while keeping your family healthy? Join us in the Carolina Parent Fit Family Challenge.



Register your family by visiting
CarolinaParent.com/FitFamilyChallenge

Challenge is April 15-June 9

Connect with Bright Horizons



Classroom Highlights



Great Places for Babies™

Olivia & Griffin are exploring their sense of sight and touch!

They are also enhancing their fine motor skills and testing cause and effect by mixing colors.

How do Infants **LEARN** from Painting?

Infants learn to use their senses to investigate the world around them. **They learned it by** exploring foam paint and other materials that vary in texture, color and patterns. **Infants learn to** be active explorers. **They learned it by** using this painting project to discover color, listening to the sounds their fingers and hands made while painting and touch.



Outdoor Learning

At our center the learning doesn't stop indoors, it continues into the outdoor environments. From sports and games to building and pretending children are able to reach deep into the imaginations and play! Teachers use all playground areas to enhance their lessons plans.

Left: Cash playing basketball.

Top Right: Laura, MacKenzie, Temperance, Cash & Adam "hiding" in a tent.

Bottom Right: Meghan taking care of her baby.

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.

Bright Horizons News



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!