

Bright Horizons at Glenlake News

From the Director

The beginning of March marks our annual center anniversary. This year on March 3rd, 2017, we celebrate our 5th year anniversary. We have an awesome staff here at Glenlake and the dedication of each member continues to aid in the success of Bright Horizons at Glenlake. I am very fortunate to celebrate this special occasion with all of our wonderful children, families and staff.

At our last February PIC Meeting, we were fortunate to hear some great tips on raising resilient children from our guest speaker, Dr. Pip Spandorfer, with North Atlanta Pediatrics. *Resilient kids are problem solvers – They face unfamiliar or tough situations and strive to find good solutions.*

The ability to solve problems independently is an essential life skill. As parents, it is easy for us to try to solve problems for our children. However, giving our child enough uninterrupted time to solve a problem independently or with help is an important skill for success in school and life.

We can help children with problems by helping them understand the problem; planning how to solve it; carrying out the plan and reviewing the solution. Children also learn from watching adults' problem-solve. We can model the process as we solve our own problems.

It is not always possible to take all the time needed for our children to solve simple problems, but when we do have that luxury, take *full* advantage of the opportunity. *We are building skills that will last a lifetime.*

Important Dates

FEB 27 thru MAR 3 - Dr. Seuss Week
MAR 1 – Last Day for AOE Nominations
MAR 2 – Read Across America Day
MAR 3 – 5th Year Center Anniversary
MAR 10 – GA Pre-K Lottery Results
MAR 12 – Daylight Saving Time Begins
MAR 13 thru 17 - Parent Door Decorating Contest
MAR 16 – PIC Meeting
MAR 17 – St. Patrick's Day – Wear Green
MAR 20 – Mother Goose in-house Storytelling
MAR 24 – PIC President Election
MAR 30 – 3D Art Show

Reasons to Celebrate



5th Year Center Anniversary March 3
Harper R. March 20
Gray G. March 26
Chandler B. March 27
Aarav S. March 28
Avery R. January 25
Liam D. March 31
Leonardo S. March 31

Bright Horizons at Glenlake

One Glenlake Pkwy. Atlanta, GA 30328
470.558.1180 | Glenlake@brighthouse.com
Monday-Friday 7:00 am – 6:15 pm

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Seedlings

For the month of February, Seedlings 1 worked on their fine and gross motor skills. Our Seedlings used their senses to explore their environments as well as a variety of materials. They also enjoyed learning new words from our weekly Spanish class. In Seedlings 2 we celebrated Valentine's Day by exploring colors with paint, play-dough, and creating heart shapes. We also focused on baby sign language learning mommy, daddy, I love you, and much more. Daily, we did our Circle Time singing with music and rhythm. Going to the playground and/or Movement Matters allowed us to exercise our fine and gross motor skills. As part of our Signature Primetime, we participated in early literacy activities to enhance our language and communicating skills – Ms. Tamara and Ms. Janie

Sprouts

In the growing world of Sprouts, the month of February was filled with a lot of fun exploring. The first week we explored with books. We explored with a different book each day. The children enjoyed the book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and they had a blast feeding the hungry caterpillar the different kinds of fruit. In the second week, the children were interested in exploring with shapes. During a Science Rocks activity they poured baking soda, and vinegar with food coloring onto the heart cut-outs. They watched as the colors fizzed together creating a new color on the heart. We traveled into the third week exploring and mixing colors. We also learned about Raphael D. Abernathy for our black history project. In our final week, we are learning about our senses and body part as we march into the month of March – Mrs. Natasha

Blossoms

With the warmer than usual weather in February, Blossoms 1 and 2 discovered different ways to keep our bodies healthy. Blossoms 1 explored how to keep our hearts and teeth healthy by doing various exercises to keep our heart rate going and learning the proper way to take care of our teeth through teeth brushing and flossing. Blossoms 2 learned about how bad germs can spread in our bodies and how we can keep them out by washing our hands regularly – Ms. Andrea

Garden 2 & 3

The creative juices were flowing in Gardens 2&3 this month! In Garden 2, the children learned about "Black History. After discussing famous African Americans, the teachers tested the children's knowledge. Ms. Colby asked, "Who invented the traffic signal and the gas mask?" Jeremiah yelled, "Garrett Morgan!" They also learned that Rosa Parks did not give up her seat on the bus, and Benjamin Banneker invented the first clock. Garden 3 also learned about Garrett A. Morgan, and Madam C. J. Walker who invented the straightening comb in a jar. The height of the month was the Valentine's Day Tea Party where both classes celebrated a day of "love." The children dressed in tea party attire and participated in a Valentine's Day card exchange. The month of February was short and sweet! – Ms. Stephanie

Garden 1

In kindergarten prep, we learn about fire safety. We practiced how to call 9-1-1 in case of an emergency, how to crawl low in a smoky room, and about Stop, Drop, and Roll! We also studied black history month and community helpers. We enjoyed reading Amazing Grace. The book taught us how the character, Grace, dreamed to be Peter Pan. Therefore, our class made a kindergarten prep monument with our pictures showcasing our future aspirations and dreams as a community helper. Lastly, we learn about presidents and money. The children learned about the life of Barack Obama, George Washington, and Abraham Lincoln. The children learn to sort money by value and the president on the coin – Ms. Ashley

READY FOR SCHOOL NEWS

^{1.} Building Responsibility

When asked what traits parents would like to see in their children, one of the most common responses is “to be responsible.” According to the Center for Parenting Education, being responsible is a key to children’s future success both in school and in the larger world.

Contributing to the family by helping with age-appropriate chores instills a sense of responsibility and fosters competence in young children while teaching them valuable life skills. By making helping part of your family culture, you demonstrate that contributions, big and small, are part of the expectations of life. Taking the attitude that “in our family everyone helps” is much more effective than “this is a job that you must do.”

With young children, the goal is for the contribution to be enjoyable so it instills a sense of pride. Include your child in the process of planning and assigning jobs. Choose jobs that are appropriate for your child’s developmental capacity and temperament. Below are some suggestions:

Toddlers:

- Help put toys away
- Sort and match socks
- Carry own backpack or lunchbox
- Classify items to recycle (cans, paper)
- Turn off lights and the water faucet

2-3 Year Olds:

- Help feed pets
- Dust with socks on hands
- Clear own dishes from table
- Help set the table and fold napkins
- Carry laundry to the washer

4-5 Year Olds:

- Water plants
- Set and clear the table
- Carry out recycling bins
- Make own bed (if simple)
- Rake leaves

Family members develop a closer connection to each other by working side-by-side to complete a task. Every family is unique, yet in all families, it takes cooperation to run a household. Children’s contributions help them recognize their competence and the importance of their role in the family. When everyone pitches in, tasks get done more quickly. For additional ideas obtain the READY for SCHOOL Family Activity Cards available for preschoolers from your center.

For more information, see The Center for Parent Education website:

<http://centerforparentingeducation.org/library-of-articles/responsibility-and-chores/developing-responsibility-in-your-children/>

BRIGHT HORIZONS NEWS

Come to our OPEN HOUSE in April!



Each year, Bright Horizons welcomes new families to our community. And, year after year, we've found that the best way to meet these families is through you!

Next month, we will be hosting an Open House Week where new families will be able to discover what makes a Bright Horizons education unique.

If you have a friend or family member that might be interested in joining, we would be happy to provide information for you to share with them! Please see your Center Director for details. We hope to see everyone at Open House Week!

Join Bright Horizons This Summer for Fun, Friendships, and Exploration!

Our two summer camp programs, *Camp Explorations: Preschool Adventures* (ages 3-5) and *Camp Explorations: School-Age Adventures* for school age (ages 6-12), take advantage of everything summer has to offer.

Our teachers develop a fun curriculum that uses surrounding communities and special visitors as an extension of the camp and integrate technology throughout the programs. Children learn about the world around them while exploring nature, experimenting with science, and engaging in creative arts.

To learn more about summer camp programs at your center, talk to your center director. Programs vary by location.



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