



### **TRY THIS AT HOME: Homemade Bubbles**

Children of all ages love bubbles and it's quite easy to make your own. Simply mix 1 quart water, 8 tbsp. liquid detergent, 4 tbsp. glycerin, and 2 tsp. sugar. Make a bubble blower by bending a coat hanger into a circle. Try your new bubble solution at the beach or while waiting for an outdoor concert to start!

Dear Families,

Lots happened in June as we sang, danced, laughed, shared, and cried seeing many of our preschoolers graduate, but mostly we had loads of fun! We also spent a lot of time playing in the outside sprinkler and enjoying the good weather. We are looking forward to the new month with more exciting, fun things to do in July including field trips and taking care of our garden!

Some of our preschoolers will be moving on to Kindergarten while we welcome new children and families to the center and our preschool rooms. As you all know many toddlers will be joining us in preschool this year. It is always exciting to see children grow right in front of us as they move from the infant to toddler then preschool wing. This year we have children that started at CCCC as infants and have now "graduated" as preschoolers and are going on to Kindergarten in the fall!

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the parents, children, teachers, for their support and energy!

Enjoy the weather and happy summer!

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### **Important Dates to Note**

July 4<sup>th</sup>-CCCC is closed

July 6<sup>th</sup>-CCCC is closed for a staff professional development day!

July 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>-Soccer Shots

July 10<sup>th</sup> and 12 -Field Trip to Cornell Lab of Ornithology

July 14<sup>th</sup>-Bright Space Ribbon Cutting from 10 am- noon

August 25<sup>th</sup>-10am-2pm -CCCC Anniversary Celebration

### **Happy Birthday to You!**

**PS1**

July 1<sup>st</sup> – Eliza

July 16<sup>th</sup> – Sebastian

July 23<sup>rd</sup>- William B.

**PS3**

July 8<sup>th</sup> - Jesse

Wow! What a month June has been in Preschool One! We had an INCREDIBLE preschool graduation, during which we celebrate our two graduates: Ian and Iza. Our teachers watched teary-eyed as we belted out the words to “Make New Friends, But Keep the Old” on our outdoor “stage”. It’s been a year since our class has been together and we have really grown together! Miss Kelly and Miss Jill could not be more proud of each o four preschoolers! It is with sad hearts that we said goodbye to Ian C. in June and with happy smiles that we welcomed his brother, Adrian! In June we learned all about things that swim and then spent the rest of the month learning all about food. We loved using our knowledge to sound out words like: mermaid, fish and whale. We also had a great time counting all different animals and fish that swim! At lunch one day, we talked about spicy foods. We spent the next week talking about sweet, spicy, sour, and salty. We loved making different flavored kale chips and a healthy lemon-lime drink! Then, we talked about foods from our Earth. We loved putting all things from the Earth together to make a delicious smoothie. We also had fun visiting the garden and finding more foods from our Earth- like potatoes and basil! We finished out June by learning all about healthy breakfasts! We made our own bread and waffles. We had a great time playing healthy breakfast bingo and doing a science experiment on how yeast works. June has been a monumental month in PS One, and we are excited for many July birthdays and water play!





# A Preschool Two

The children in Preschool Two had fantastic time learning about frogs, ponds, ants and insects during the month of June. The children learned about what a frog is the different types of frogs, where frogs live, and the frog lifecycle. The Elephants were able to explore the wonderfully diverse ecosystem of a pond. The class was amazed at how many different animals and insects call a pond their home and we learned about the different frogs, turtles, birds, insects, and plants that live in ponds. The class made their own turtles out of paper bowls and at the end of the week the class baked and decorated a pond cake! The Elephant then picked up their magnifying glasses and looked at the amazing world of ants and insects! The students learned the qualifications of being an insect (six legs not eight Mr. Spider) and how absolutely diverse the insect world really is. The class created their own ants, made their own ant farm, and even had a wonderful visit by an expert on ants! Lastly, the Preschool class celebrated the graduation of seven of their classmates as they move on to Kindergarten! Hurray and good luck to our friends!







# Preschool Three

With the warmer weather the children have been interested in doing different types of water activities, so we decided to focus our lessons on water. The children have been learning about water around the world and have learned that salt water is much different than fresh water. We have been reading about animals that live in salt water such as killer whales, sea turtles, and coral and comparing these to animals that live in fresh water such as frogs, crayfish, and many types of insect larvae. At the science center some children chose to make a “wave bottle” which tested the relationship between oil and water. Each child was asked to predict what would happen when the oil was poured into the bottle of water, we learned that oil is less dense than water and therefore floats on the top! Our outdoor activities included water relay races, creating a pin aqua (water filled piñata), and sprinkler time.

Some of the children expressed an interest in having a week of learning all about me, myself, and I. As part of our emergent curriculum the teachers chose to have a week of learning about “me”. Children were encouraged to identify each member of his/her family and add it to the family chart. For our “small group” activity children were encouraged to work in groups of two and draw a friend’s face. Once a child was finished drawing a portrait of a friend the teacher asked that child to describe the friends facial features as well as personality and write it underneath the portrait (with the help of a teacher). Some of the children have been interested in their height and the height of friends so each child was encouraged to measure a friend and then chart their findings on our “Height Chart”. To finish the week each child shared at morning meeting about their family culture and what he/she loves the most about their family.





## Preschool Four

This has been a very fun-filled busy month in the Owl room! The children continued learning about dinosaurs, more specifically the Pteranodon and Velociraptor! The Owls learned that the latter dinosaur is special because it has something that most dinosaurs do not have- wings! Using art materials, the children created Pteranodon wings and learned that the Pteranodon's wings were roughly about 25 feet long and then the Owls practiced their math skills as they measured this out using their own bodies on the floor of the classroom! The children were then fascinated while learning about the dinosaur, the Apatosaurus! We learned that this group of dinosaurs (the Sauropods) were the biggest dinosaurs that ever lived and that this type of dinosaur was a herbivore. The class enjoyed playing tail tag and creating their own Apatosaurus using various art materials. Our big event this month was our Graduation! The Owls spent a lot of time preparing and spent a week creating their own tie-dye shirts and creating photo albums with wonderful pictures of their time in preschool! Graduation day was fantastic and all of the children had such a great time performing their dance for all of their families. Because some of our friends have moved away – Luiza, Sarah, Yousef, and Lorenzo -- the group began talking about moving and vacations! When asked what they would like to learn more about, the children said Maine! So we learned where Maine is on a map, what the state mammal is, and the state fruit. During that week we baked a dessert called blueberry grunt! The children will also learn about a big charity bike-a-thon event held in Maine each summer and following this discussion the Owls will participate in their own bike-a-thon and donate any spare change to our Bright Space in Ithaca! The children also welcomed back water play, which we have missed so much!!!







# ArtSmart

## Summer Art with Your Children

Young children are natural, imaginative artists who have the delightful ability to make ordinary materials interesting. They have boundless curiosity and tremendous creativity. Parents can recognize children as inquisitive creators and provide ways and means for them to express themselves through the arts. Summer is a natural time to enhance this by providing a variety of outdoor art offerings.

Here are some examples of easy summer art experiences that you can enjoy with your children:

- Experiment with clay or different doughs and add outdoor materials such as sand, seeds, soil, rocks, pebbles, twigs, leaves or bark.
- Paint with branches; make rubbings of tree bark. Paint what is seen in the sky or the surrounding areas.
- Make wind chimes out of keys, utensils or other objects that make noise when the wind moves the air; hang your lightweight creations in trees.
- Weave leaves, fabric scraps and ribbons in chain link fences.
- Make prints by laying different objects on colored paper and placing the paper in the sun. Go back a few hours later to see how the paper has changed.

The outdoors lends itself to easy clean up after messier art activities. A few examples include:

- Spray painting: Mix small amounts of food coloring or paint with water in small spray bottles. Then hang a light colored sheet or large rolls of paper on a fence. Your child will enjoy spraying the colored water into the sheet.
- Gadget painting: Inside you might provide combs, utensils, or corks, to use as painting tools, but outside you can provide brooms, mops, fly swatters, or clean toilet plungers!
- Carton painting: Painting large cartons or refrigerator boxes. Children might turn boxes into trains, a tent, store or a barn. Outdoors they can more easily use wide brushes or paint rollers and trays.

The outdoors enables children to experience weather and nature in many forms, as well as the vastness of the sky. It lends itself to larger than life experiences including emotional and physical release, artistic explorations and social interactions. There are many ways for children to interact or release physical and emotional energy through art while outside. Be it sculpture, painting, collage, construction, or moveable art blowing in the wind, the outdoor world is a place that is conducive to creativity - both with the body and the mind. Parents can create and enjoy these outdoor environments with their children - places where bodies can move, while imaginations flourish and a wonderful time is had by all.



# Bright Horizons News



Have you visited the Bright Horizons Online Community lately? It's a great place for parents and educators to share ideas get perspectives and ask questions. Lots of moms, dads, teachers and grandparents are getting advice from other families facing similar challenges and successes.

Some of the things they are talking about are:

- When to tell your boss you're pregnant
- How to cope with sibling jealousy
- How to handle potty training set backs
- How to deal with toddler tantrums while shopping
- How to choose the right breast pump
- Kindergarten "redshirting"
- Managing screen time

The Online Community is also on Twitter so there are two great ways you can join in the conversations. Please join us at [www.brighthouse.com/community](http://www.brighthouse.com/community) or at [www.twitter.com/CommunityBH](http://www.twitter.com/CommunityBH).

## Parent Webinar Series

Did you miss our last Parent Webinar *Breastfeeding, Working and Pumping: Making it work when you're a working mom*? If you are a new or soon to be mom (even for the second or third time) and are looking for tips and strategies to successfully continue breastfeeding after returning to work, feel free to access the archive by visiting [www.brighthouse.com/growing/parent-webinar](http://www.brighthouse.com/growing/parent-webinar).

Stay tuned for more information on our next parent webinar taking place in September. We are thrilled to be offering the advice and expertise of Bright Horizons co-founder Linda Mason on the topic of effective discipline.