



Breezy Knoll Child Care Center

311 Stillwater Road
Smithfield, RI 02917
(401) 232-7177

May 2013 Newsletter



IF I HAD MY CHILD TO RAISE OVER AGAIN

*If I had my child to raise over again,
I'd finger paint more and point the finger less.
I'd do less correcting and more connecting.
I'd take my eyes off my watch and watch with my eyes.
I would care to know less and know to care more.
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.
I'd stop playing serious and seriously play.
I'd run through more fields and gaze at more stars.
I'd do more hugging and less tugging.
I would be firm less often and affirm much more.
I'd build self-esteem first and the house later.
I'd teach less about the love of power and
more about the power of love.*

CONFIRMATION SUMMER AND FALL



If you need to change your child's schedule for **summer or fall**, kindly let Jeannette know as soon as possible. Now is the time to reserve the days you need and/or change the days registered in all programs. Thank you!

*WE WISH ALL BREEZY KNOLL MOMS
A WONDERFUL MOTHER'S DAY.
SIT BACK, AND ENJOY THE DAY!*

PRESCHOOL NEWS

We welcome the start of spring (finally!) and are all enjoying spending more time outside. The Pre-K children are especially enjoying watching the classroom caterpillars in their stages of development into butterflies. Once they've all hatched, the butterflies will be released all together on a warm, sunny day. The children are checking them daily and recording their observations. Ask your child about the caterpillars' progress!

This month, *some* of the goals we will focus on are: to retell parts of a story with prompts and demonstrate an understanding of the meaning of a story, to pursue questions through simple investigations, to investigate changes in materials and cause-effect relationships, to demonstrate increasing strength and stamina in movement activities, and select a variety of tools to approach tasks.

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 10 Fri. Bake Sale
May 12, Sun. Happy Mother's Day
May 27, Mon. Memorial Day **Breezy closed**



Breezy Knoll will host a bake sale to raise funds for our end of the school year celebration. Last year's bake sale was a huge success, and we are confident that this year will be just as successful.

On Friday, **May 10**, we will set up a baked goods table in the main room. Please take a minute to stop by the table and sample some goodies. Remember that Mother's Day is May 12. You may find a great dessert for that day. If you would like to contribute some baked goods for the sale, kindly bring them in either Thursday evening, 5/9 or Friday morning, 5/10. We appreciate any help you are able to give us! Some suggestions are brownies, cookies, breads, and cupcakes; however, *any* baked good you would like to contribute will be greatly welcomed. Kindly include a list of ingredients for our families who may have issues with allergies. Thank you in advance for helping us to plan a great celebration in June. See you at the Bake Sale!

FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL/PRE-K AND TODDLERS/SUMMER ATTENDANCE

To help us plan our staffing for the summer months, please complete the form below and return it to Jeannette's mailbox. **We appreciate your effort to help us with scheduling.**

Child's Name _____ Group _____ Date _____

Please note that you are responsible for payment for tuition even if your child is absent due to illness, personal, or vacation. The fees paid reserve your child's enrollment in the center. (PARENT HANDBOOK p. 1)



VACATION WEEKS MY CHILD WILL NOT ATTEND BREEZY KNOLL:

| | | | |
|------------|--|------------------|---|
| June 17-21 | <input type="checkbox"/> | July 22-26 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| June 24-28 | <input type="checkbox"/> | July 29 – Aug. 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| July 1-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> closed Thurs. 7/4/13 | August 6-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| July 8-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | August 12-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> closed Mon. 8/12/13 |
| July 15-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | August 19-23 | <input type="checkbox"/> closed Fri. 8/23/13 |

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Mark your calendars! Kindergarten graduation will be on **Friday evening, June 14**, from 5:45 PM to 6:45 PM. We look forward to your family joining us. **Graduates need to be at school no later than 5:30 pm.** Thank you!

Mother's Day event: May 10 10:00-11:00 am

Father's Day event: June 7 10:00-11:00 am

Science/Social Studies

Insects

Plant life/growth

Math

Word Problems

Measurement

Review

Dramatic Play

School

Language Arts/Reading

Word families/poems

Sight words

Guided reading

Poetry

Writing Feelings

Insect Research



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATON

If your child is attending Breezy Knoll's Kindergarten in the fall of 2013, please return all necessary paperwork as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please see Jeannette. Thank you for your prompt attention.

THE HOT OR COLD GAME

How to play: Choose one child to be the "Finder." Send him out of the room while the rest of the players hide an object, like a red ball, somewhere in the room. Ask the Finder to come back and look for the ball, while the other players shout out hints: "You're getting hotter" or "you're getting colder." Play until the object is found, then give everyone a turn as the Finder.

What it teaches: Cooperation. This game puts the emphasis on encouraging other players, not competing against them, so preschoolers learn to help each other out.

Parent tip: Try asking children to speak louder or softer depending on how close or far away the



HEALTH TIP

Sports drinks contain extra calories that children don't need and could contribute to obesity and tooth decay. It's better for children to drink water during and after exercise.



LEARN THROUGH PLAY *From Fun Family Activities: Science*

Help your child become a scientific thinker:
observe, collect, describe, and record.

A Shadow Hunt : On a sunny day, take your child outside and look for shadows. Have your child find their own shadow. Move around and watch your shadows change. Try standing in your shadow. Then, stand in the light. Ask your child to describe what happens.



Now, look for as many shadows as possible. Observe the shadows made by birds, trees, signs, people, animals, and flowers. Ask your child questions such as, "What has a shadow? When do you see it?"



SCHOOL AGE SUMMER CAMP

Our plans for summer camp are nearly complete and will be sent home sometime soon.

OPTIONAL LUNCH MILK/JUICE MONEY

If you would like Breezy Knoll to serve milk/juice to your child at lunchtime, please enclose 25cents for each day of the month your child will receive milk/juice. Please place money in an envelope and drop in tuition mailbox.

Child's Name _____

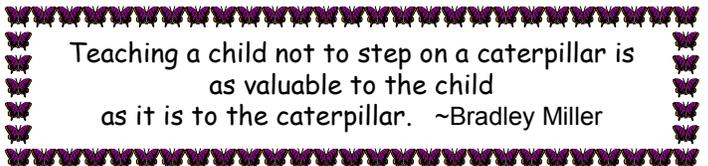
Amount enclosed: _____

Milk/juice money enclosed for month of (please circle): Jan Feb Mar Apr May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec



KIDS QUOTES

While looking at illustrations in a book they were reading, a Kindergartner commented, "I think it's kinda weird that a *lady* is doing the lawn." Mrs. McDuffee replied "I couldn't agree with you more!" Guess we know who "does the lawn" in those households! :-)



Teaching a child not to step on a caterpillar is as valuable to the child as it is to the caterpillar. ~Bradley Miller

TODDLER NEWS



Spring has finally arrived, and we are excited for warm, sunny days, blooming flowers, and singing birds. We are enjoying spending more time outside!

We offer a few reminders:

- Please leave all toys at home. A stuffed animal for quiet time is all that is needed from home.
- Remember to take home quiet time belongings every week for washing.
- Please return bag with a change of clothes suitable for the warmer weather. Thanks!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

This month, we wish a Happy Birthday to:

Zachary C. (5/2), Aline G. (5/5),
Madeline P. (5/7), Savannah E. (5/10),
Jacob S. (5/15), Grace C. (5/16), Julia E. (5/18),
Brady Q. (5/20), Leo C. (5/26),
Austyn and Zoe Z. (5/28).



REMINDERS

- Please be sure your child has a set of spare clothes here at BK that is appropriate for the weather.
- To help us with summer staffing, please return the form attached regarding your vacation time.Thanks!
- When dropping off or picking up your child and you expect to be more than a few minutes, please try to park in an area which will not block other cars. Often, parents are in a hurry, and it is frustrating to be blocked in and unable to leave.Thanks!

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS

Garden Poem

Here is my garden.
I'll rake it with care.
And then some seeds
I'll plant in there.
The sun will shine.
The rain will fall.
And my garden will grow
straight and tall.



Here is the Beehive

Here is the beehive.
Where are the bees?
Hidden away where
nobody sees.
Watch and you'll see them
Come out of the hive.
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, BZZZZZZZZZZZZ!



Happy Mother's Day

(tune Yankee Doodle)
I'll pick some flowers
for my Mom.
To make a nice bouquet.
I'll give her a smile and a hug
And say, "Happy Mother's Day!"



Plant Some Seeds

(tune: Pop Goes the Weasel)
I dig and dig and dig and dig.
And I plant some seeds.
I rake and rake and rake and
rake.
And I pull some weeds.
I wait and watch and watch
and wait.
And very soon I know
The seeds will eat and drink
and sprout.
And then they'll start to grow!



May Flowers

April brought us showers.
But it is plain to see.
That May will bring us flowers
That are pretty as can be!

Rain on the Green Grass

Rain on the green grass
And rain on the tree.
Rain on the rooftop
But not on me!

A Caterpillar's Song

(tune: I'm a Little Teapot)
I'm a little caterpillar, green and fat.
But I won't always look like that!
I will grow and change as time goes by.
And I'll become a butterfly!



Three Little Tulips

(tune: Three Little Ducklings)
Three little tulips once I grew.
A white one, a pink one, a red
one, too.
One little tulip grew, grew, grew.
It grew taller than the other two.
The other two, the other two.
It grew taller than the other two!



The Itsy Bitsy Seed

(tune: Itsy Bitsy Spider)
The itsy bitsy seed
Was planted in the hole.
Down came the rain
And a sprout began to grow.
Out came the sun
And shone down on the leaves.
Now the itsy bitsy seed
Is a great big grown-up tree!



MOTHER'S DAY HUMOR

You know you're a Mom when:
Your feet stick to the kitchen floor and you don't care.
Popsicles become a food staple.
Your favorite TV show is a cartoon.
Peanut butter and jelly is eaten daily.
Spit becomes your primary cleaning agent.

- Author Unknown



Super Singers

(tune: Do Your Ears Hang Low?)
Do you hear birds sing?
They're so happy that it's spring!
Hear them cheep, cheep, cheep.
Hear them twitter,; hear them peep.
Hear them at sunrise
When you open up your eyes.
Do you hear birds sing?



Mothers hold their children's hands
for a short while, but their hearts forever.

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- NUTRITION TIP : Sandwich Ideas
- Veggie cream cheese and cucumber
- Tuna salad and a sliced tomato
- Almond butter with slivered almonds and dried cranberries
- Hummus and chopped peppers
- Apple butter and fresh apple slices
- Whipped cream cheese and fresh blueberries
- The Laughing Cow light spreadable cheese with ham and grated carrot
- Reduced-sugar jam and cream cheese
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FUN IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS From Scholastic Pre-K Today Tips

Spring means sunshine, warm weather, and rediscovering the great outdoors. Many of the activities your child enjoyed indoors during the winter months will have a new twist when done outdoors.



Here are two outdoor activities that are enjoyable and educational and that you and your child can easily do together in your own backyard or at a local park or playground. Remember that as your child tries these activities, he or she will not only have fun, but gain experience with fundamental science concepts, use skills like matching and listening, and express his or her own imagination:

Spray Bottle Painting: attach a large piece of paper to a fence or wall. Fill several pump-type spray bottles with water and add food coloring or different-colored tempera paints. Show your child how to pump the spray bottles and aim toward the paper. Discuss the importance of aiming the spray away from oneself and others. Let your child use different colors in succession. As your child squirts the spray bottle, he or she is strengthening finger muscles. This kind of exercise helps your child to refine his or her ability to hold and control a writing or drawing implement.

Fun With Light Reflections: This is a great way for your child to experiment with light reflections. Part of the fun is a "light chase" that will challenge your child's eye-hand coordination. This activity is great fun on a sunny day. Collect some small mirrors. Show your child how to hold the mirrors at an angle to create a bright reflection on the outside of your house or another building. Let your child try to make his or her lights chase and catch yours!

