

Child Care Services

Child Care Center

City of Grand Terrace

November, 2009



Teachers' Notes



Wow! What a fun month we had in October. The children enjoyed the pumpkin patch we set up in our parking lot. It was fun to watch each child select the perfect pumpkin. Especially the Kangaroo class. They thought the pumpkins resembled balls and they tossed them around a bit!


We hope everyone had a safe and fun Halloween and we would like to thank everyone who participated in the Halloween festivities. It always puts a smile on our face to see the children in their costumes. We had a lot of fun here at the Center.

During the month of November the children will talk about the importance of family, friends and loved ones during this season. Each classroom will make small individual pumpkin pies to eat for snack, yum, yum! We will start our Pennies for Patients Drive, so bring in your pennies to help patients with cancer.

Our Book Exchange has been changed to November 4th and 5th so please wait until November to bring your books. We will also be doing our Christmas Shopping Event, where the children shop for their loved ones on Nov. 20, 2008. More details will be coming your way.

Now that the weather is getting cooler, we would like to remind you to check your child's change of clothes bag. Jackets are also needed at this time. Please label all outerwear. For the safety of your child, we would like to reiterate our policy on no drawstrings.

CLOSED



We are closed in honor of Veteran's Day Wednesday, November 11, 2009.

Happy Birthday!

Damian Campa	Nov. 5
Ms. Sheila	Nov. 7
Ms Eleanor	Nov 15
Anthony Neville	Nov.21
Hayden Rohder	Nov. 21

Themes of the Month

Kangaroos & Turtles

See Daily Web for classroom activities

Giraffes

Turkeys, Indians, Pilgrims, Thanksgiving

Monkeys

Jump, Leap, Spring, and Hop, "J"
Kings, Queens, Castles and Things, "K"
Thanksgiving, "L"
Review

Alligators

Autumn - Letter N
Turkey Art - Letter O
Pumpkins & Pilgrims - Letter P
Thanksgiving Week - Letter Q

Practice Being a Positive Parent

by Christina C. Gordon, MS, FCS

Nobody ever said parenting would be easy. The day-to-day activities parents go through are tough, and often parents are tired at the end of a long day of work. It can be hard to remember to "stay positive" when your child makes mistakes, or does something that frustrates you. Here are some tips to help you "accentuate the positive" during those trying times:

* **Take perfection out of your vocabulary.** Television and movies bombard parents with impossible-to-reach examples of family life and parenting. Do not get bogged down with struggling to meet these expectations.

* **Remember that your child is learning.** It is easy to think that young children do things to annoy or frustrate us on purpose. However, this is rarely true. Children are always learning, and testing their limits is part of the process. If you stay consistent and positive in the way you respond to their behaviors, you will see positive results.

* **Use positive statements to correct behaviors.** Take "no" or "don't" out of your teaching statements. Instead of "don't run", try "use your walking feet". "We look with our eyes, we feel with our hands" is another way to say, "hands off". It works for your child's classroom teachers...it can work for you, too!

* **Praise with a purpose.** Children hear different types of praise all day long. "I love your picture", or "You are so smart" are some of many statements they hear during the day. While children can never hear "I love you" enough, choose your times to praise with a purpose. Instead of saying, "Good job!" over and over, point out the activity that your child is doing well, and let them know how much you appreciate them.

* **Catch your child doing something good.** Be aware of and comment on those times when your child is following the rules, behaving appropriately, or helping you out by doing his job. Pay attention to what you want repeated.

Parent for the future, not just right now. Parents often just want to stop the negative behavior in the long run. Invest the time now to make staying positive a habit. The reward will be a positive, confident child who behaves well and feels good about his role in your family!