

Genesis Early Childhood Program News

Volume 22 Issue 7

March 2018

Spiritual Connection

From the Directors Mary Davis and Melanie Gehrt:

Task 3 in the Catechetical Framework calls us to the Moral Formation. For preschool aged children, this includes concepts like:

- People are called to be kind to each other.
- People can act in ways that are good and bad.
- God gives people choices.
- God made each person special.
- God wants people to do things that are good and safe.

These are all concepts that support a child's social emotional development.

One of the best things we as parents and educators can do for children is to set boundaries and limits to help them feel safe and secure.

EASTER BREAK this year runs from Holy Thursday, March 29 through Easter Monday, April 2. Classes will resume on Tuesday, April 3.



Upcoming Events

SPRING BREAK: There will be no classes for the week of March 12-16. Have a safe and relaxing Spring Break! Classes will resume on Monday, March 19.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES:

Thank you to all the 4 year old parents who participated in the Parent Teacher Conferences. We appreciate you being active partners in cooperation with us for the success of your children!

CATERPILLARS: This month after Spring Break, we will have live caterpillars that the children will observe as they progress through the transition into butterflies.

DONUTS WITH DAD: Please mark your calendars and make plans for our annual "Donuts with Dad". This event will take place **before school** from 8:45-9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, April 4 and Thursday, April 5.

KINDERGARTEN PRE-REGISTRATION:

The date for the 2018-19 Kindergarten Pre-registration is April 18, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Check www.cfid.net for more details regarding district requirements for new student registration. Children must be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2018.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH!



Letters of the Month:	Uu, Ee and Kk
Numbers of the Month:	14 and 15
Colors of the Month:	Color Review
Shape of the Month:	Rhombus
Rhyme of the Month:	It's Raining, It's Pouring
Themes of the Month:	"One Fish, Two Fish" and "Easter "Egg"itement"



CURRICULUM CORNER

"Will my child be reading at preschool?" This is one of our most frequently asked parent questions. The TEA does not require, nor is it developmentally appropriate for every child to be reading prior to their 5th birthday. However, at Genesis we focus on all of the reading readiness skills as outlined in the TEA Pre-Kindergarten Guidelines. The books, "Cat in the Hat" and "Hop on Pop," are great for rhyme and rhythm. However, they are also fantastic for introducing word families. This is the latest developing phonological awareness skill. We don't expect all our 4 and 5 year olds to be able to manipulate word families, but we will be introducing that concept this month. This information and related pre-reading information can be found on p.67 of the Texas Education Agency's Prekindergarten Guidelines (Updated 2015).

4 YEAR OLDS

During March, the 4 year olds will focus on language development in various ways. For example, the 4's will explore rhyme through the wonderful works of Dr. Seuss and classic nursery rhymes. Also, look for sight words to be added to our letter wall for those children who are moving into further stages of pre-reading. After Spring Break, the 4's will explore sequencing and the butterfly life cycle.

3 YEAR OLDS

The 3's will be making a Dr. Seuss snack for "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish." We will also be doing some exciting underwater activities to help remember the letter "U". We will continue to practice name recognition, name writing and scissor skills.

2 YEAR OLDS

The 2 year olds will be working on pre-reading skills by learning rhymes. Tearing paper, painting and gluing will help build pre-writing skills by working the tiny hand muscles. These muscles along with core stability will help with handwriting by the time they are 4 years old. We will also explore math and science concepts like sorting, stacking and the butterfly life cycle!

18 MONTH OLDS

The 18 month olds will work on fine motor skills by peeling stickers, using bingo dobbers and writing on a vertical plane. We will also paint shamrocks with corks.

ENRICHMENT CLASSES

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT: We will work on large motor skills by hopping like bunnies, crawling like crabs and fluttering around like butterflies. We are learning our End of Year program songs as well.

BIBLE: In March, we will hear the story of the the Good Samaritan. When we return from Spring Break, we will learn about Palm Sunday and get ready for Easter!