



# Dartmouth College Child Care Center Newsletter

May 2012

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**Office:** Jeff Robbins,  
Sunnie McPhetres,  
Terry Chase, Amy  
Potter

Floating Assistant  
Teachers:  
Eileen Ruml  
Gladness Msumanje  
Loey Crooks  
Miranda Arruda  
Terri Crane

## Successful Tot Trot During The Week of the Young Child



**Fun in the Sun, activities, food, stories, and nearly  
\$3,000 raised to benefit David's House! Thanks for  
all of your support!**

## From the Director

Dear Big Jeff,

This is our first summer at DCCCC. Is the summer program a lot different? We're from Florida where the children stay inside all summer because it's so hot. Will there still be learning activities?

Signed,  
Florida Mom

Dear Florida,

Yes, indeed, there will be lots of learning going on this summer! There are no planned differences in the summer program, but it does have a seasonal flavor. Children and teachers will be taking vacations, so there will frequent differences in group composition and staffing. Our excellent floaters and summer subs will be seen throughout the building. If you don't recognize the adults in your child's classroom, please shake their hands and introduce yourself.

The children's routines are about the same, except we'll avail ourselves of the good weather to spend lots of time outside, sometimes even the first thing in the morning. We do have AC for the hot days and we are especially grateful for that at rest time. Some old timers remember the sticky days before we got the AC's and the really old-timers remember a time before the ceiling fans.

Lots of our summer curriculum involves sand and water and mud, so send the raincoat, puddle boots, bathing suit, towel and a change of clothes every day. As someone wrote last month, it's a good day when children get dirty. We have lots of opportunity for vigorous play in the summer, but that will be balanced by quiet time inside for art projects, books and literacy, and activities that promote fine motor development and concept building. It's especially fun to be able to take some of those activities outside. Often we eat outside and once in a while, we even get to rest outside – shocking!

Children's growth seems to leap ahead in the summer. Compared to a mere 9 months ago they are so physically and socially adept. And they just know so much. We couldn't stop them from learning if we tried.

Best wishes,  
Big Jeff

Dear Big Jeff,

I've heard that there will be lots of ticks this summer. I also heard that ticks are related to spiders. Say it ain't so.

Signed

Arachnophobe

Dear Tickster,

I attended a workshop on ticks, which I have fondly called the Tick Talk, at the Ray School earlier this month, so I've had a chance to think about the topic. It's true, ticks have 8 legs (insects have six) and are arachnids like spiders. BTW, I did get your "Say it ain't so" reference to Shoeless Joe Jackson and the Black Sox scandal of 1919, not that it has anything to do with ticks, of course.

As has been well publicized, it is the deer ticks that transmit Lyme Disease. The larger dog ticks are annoying, but if you make yourself strong of heart and just pluck them off and drop them in the toilet, they're nothing to worry about. I have a strong stomach for external parasites and some internal ones, so I'm happy to send cheerful thoughts your way. In this way it is quite helpful to have a country boy as your COO.

I found a few facts to be comforting:

- a. Deer ticks must be attached for 36-72 hours to transmit disease.
- b. Not every deer tick carries Lyme Disease.
- c. Each tick only feeds once in its life, so they aren't prowling from person to person.
- d. The rate of disease transmission is very low.
- e. Ticks avoid open sunny places like our playground

Still, deer ticks aren't to be taken lightly. Children should be checked after outdoor forays and each night. Bath time is excellent for a full body check. Lyme disease is most often transmitted by immature ticks called nymphs. They are really small, so look carefully. If you find one, remove it with fine tipped tweezers. Pull gently up and away from the skin. If the head separates from the body and stays in the skin, try to remove it with the tweezers, but don't panic. It will heal over. The germs are in the body of the tick, put ineloquently. Wash the area with soap and water or rubbing alcohol. Call your pediatrician if you have concerns.

Some forms of prevention are especially well suited to home and family activities:

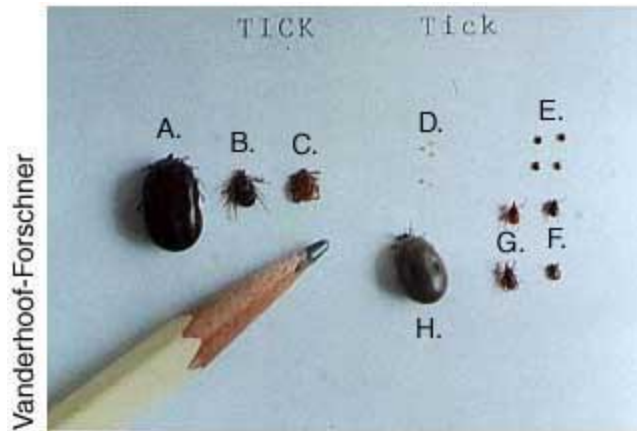
- a. Insect repellent with 20% DEET which must be reapplied every 2 hours. DEET is a powerful chemical, so we'd need your written permission if you want us to use it at DCCCC.
- b. Permethrin treated clothing

- c. Wearing long sleeved shirts and long pants tucked into your socks.

The CDC is an excellent source of information: <http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/transmission/index.html> Check this link for a good photo of the relative size of dog ticks, deer ticks and their nymphs.

At DCCCC we will check for ticks after outdoor play. We'll let you know if we find anything interesting. In the meantime, play hard and go outside often.

Best wishes,  
Big Jeff



Brown Dog Ticks	Black-Legged Ticks (Deer Ticks)
A. Engorged Female	D. Larvae
B. Female	E. Nymphs
C. Male	F. Males
	G. Females
	H. Engorged Female

## **Greetings From Sunnie:**

Happy May! DCCCC has been full of friendliness and gratitude in the past month! It was great participating in the Fit Kids Tot Trot to benefit David's House during the Week of the Young Child. It was marvelous to see so many people from different programs throughout the Upper Valley come together to trot and mingle for a worthy cause. Just seeing so many young children in the same place was amazing! It is great for our children to see that they are part of a larger diverse community!

During the Week of the Young Child we celebrated children and then we celebrated the people who care for them when you are not able to: Child Care Providers. Thank you for your great show of support! The teachers were thrilled with reading your words! They also enjoyed a lunch specially made by Jeff and me, and were treated to chair massages. Taking care of our teachers goes a long way in taking care of our children!

It was also wonderful to see the outpouring of appreciation for staff members who are moving into new positions throughout the building. Your support helps to make them the great teachers that they are! Thank you, families, for all that you do!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS/RESOURCES

## Annual Form Updating Extraveganza!!

Back by popular demand.

We will once again be making it easy for you to update your state required paperwork!

We'll be in the Multi July 9 and 10, 7:30-10:00

Stop by, look over your forms, initial and/or make changes. It doesn't get any easier than that!

**DCCCC Artwork  
will be on display  
at the  
Howe Library  
during the month of  
June!!**

Do you have items that you would like to make available to other DCCCC families? Outgrown clothing, toys, or household items? We'd be happy to post items here in the newsletter. The deadline for newsletter copy is generally the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. Let me know if you have anything that you would like for me to include!

## A HUGE THANK YOU

TO ALL DCCCC  
FAMILIES  
FOR YOUR GESTURES OF  
APPRECIATION  
ON  
CHILD CARE PROVIDER  
APPRECIATION DAY!

CHECK OUT THE MULTI  
DISPLAY OF YOUR MANY  
KIND WORDS!!!

## DCCCC Will Be Closed On The Following Days:

-**May 28** – Memorial Day

-**July 4** – Independence Day

-**August 27 and 28** – Prep for new year and staff training

-**September 3** – Labor Day

### Dartmouth Working Mom's Group...

Are you a working mom at Dartmouth? Would you like to meet other working mom's on campus? The Dartmouth Working Mom's group is a very casual group that gets together once a month for lunch to talk about whatever is on our minds. We all know how challenging it is to balance a career and a family and it's really nice to have others to talk with and get ideas or just vent. We discuss all types of things ranging from pregnancy, potty training, child care options, bedtime routines, food, etc. Any topic is open for discussion and people have been so helpful in offering advice and assistance when needed. Mom's in the group have all age ranges of kids and everyone is welcome. Typically we have anywhere from 5-12 women at each lunch. It would be great to have more so I hope some new women will join us.

Below are the dates for the upcoming working mom's lunches so make sure you mark your calendars.

**Monday, June 11**  
**Thursday, July 12**

**All lunches will take place at 12:00 at Ramunto's in Hanover.**

If you have any questions or would like to be added to the e-mail list (I will send reminders before lunches), please feel free to e-mail [megan.d.sobel@dartmouth.edu](mailto:megan.d.sobel@dartmouth.edu).

Thanks,  
Megan Sobel

Did you know that there is now an Upper Valley list, available only in digest form? This is the **ONLY** place to post to all the Upper Valley towns at once, instead of just the town where you live.

A good place to post items for sale and wanted, concerts and other events which would interest many Upper Valley residents, services offered and requested - perhaps even barbecues...!

A useful service from Valley Net and well worth signing up for. Just send an email to [UpperValley-subscribe@lists.valley.net](mailto:UpperValley-subscribe@lists.valley.net).

On behalf of ValleyNet  
E D M Landman and Niko Horster  
Upper Valley List Moderators

**NEW Camp at DHMC – Healthy Habitats! Fledglings & Falcons: July 30 - August 3 | August 6 - 10 [Sign up »](#)**

VINS is partnering with DHMC to offer campers an extraordinary opportunity! Participants in this program will learn to love being outdoors through exploring the forests, streams, and meadows surrounding the DHMC campus. We will have fun learning new outdoor skills, playing exciting eco-games in the woods, visiting with live animals, and so much more! We will even learn about the science behind food production and enjoy some delicious farm-fresh snacks. Join us for this incredible activity packed week of summer camp!



## Friday, May 18

CHILDREN'S USED BOOK SALE at Tracy Hall in Norwich, Vt., with thousands of children's books to benefit the Marion Cross School library.

Great deals! Great selection! Mark your calendars, as this event only happens once every two years.

Friday May 18, 2011 11:30 AM - 8 PM

Bag Sale Saturday May 19, 2011 9AM - 12 noon

## Saturday, May 19

**HUGE KID STUFF YARD SALE!** Toys, books, clothing, gear, furniture... The KID-TO-KID BENEFIT YARD SALE. Saturday May 19 9-2 (Rain date Sunday) At Hanover Nursery School 40 Valley Road Extension, Hanover. All proceeds benefit Hanover Nursery School.

**Maple Leaf Children's Center in Thetford** will be having a yard sale and bake sale on the Thetford Hill Green on Saturday, May 19th from 10:00 until 2:00. The sale will include children-related items. All proceeds to benefit Maple Leaf Children's Center.

**Saturday, May 19 DaVinci Day in Lyme:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Lyme School, 35 Union St. Create and learn with Thayer Engineering students \$5 or \$25 for all activities. Proceeds benefit Trebuchet Building Team competition. 603-795-2125.

**Saturday, May 19. Health Fair and Bike Rodeo in Grantham:** 10 a.m.-noon, Grantham Village School, 75 Learning Drive. Bike rodeo, 10-11 a.m.; health fair exhibits, 10 a.m.-noon. Free. 603-863-9143.

**Saturday, May 19. Cow Pie Bingo Festival in Hanover:** 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Hampshire Cooperative Preschool, 104 Lyme Road. Activities include pony rides, storytelling, live music, crafts and a game of cow pie bingo \$15 family of 4, \$5 each additional person, includes a bingo square. Rain date: May 20. 603-643-4640.



## Sunday, May 20

You are invited to join the fun this Sunday May 20 at 3 pm \*sharp\* in Post Mills, VT for "A Valley Home Companion", an old-time radio variety show featuring live music, jokes, skits, and much more!

Folks you've seen performing at First Fridays in WRJ, members of the Lyme Town Band, and musicians from Canaan, Chelsea, Quechee, West Hartford, White River Junction, Norwich, Thetford, and Lyme will be lending their talents to this effort.

No admission will be charged, but please make a donation at the door to support [HelpKidsIndia.org](http://HelpKidsIndia.org) and join in the fun as we share some music, some laughs, and have a good time for a good cause.

Expect unique and exciting door prizes! There will be fun for the whole family!!!

It's all happening at the Post Mills Congregational Church, on Route 244 in Post Mills, VT, this coming Sunday afternoon.

For more information, contact Roger Daum at (802) 333-4082.

**Sunday, May 20. Art and Garden Festival in Enfield:** 1-4 p.m., Enfield Shaker Museum, 447 Route 4A. Festival includes artist on site, plants sale, gardening tips and children's activities \$4 to \$8.50. Proceeds benefit the museum herb and production gardens. 603-632-4346.

Sunday, May 20, 2:00pm – 4:00pm. FREE. All ages welcome.

Join Laura Dintino of Vital Communities on a guided Quest of the Hurricane Forest & Wildlife Refuge.

Learn some tree identification and search for clues of the Hurricane of '38!

At the end of the Quest, we will create some nature art - make a fairy house from bark & leaves or a stone sculpture. Using just what we will find, we'll use our imaginations and create art in the forest.

\*Wear some walking shoes. Cookies and juice provided.

Directions: From White River Junction, follow Route 5 south. Go under 2 highway overpasses. Beyond the second overpass, turn right onto Wright Reservoir (Kings Highway). Go 0.25 miles and park at the turnout on your left. Walk up hill 50 feet to begin.

For more information call 802-291-9100, ext. 107 or email [laura@vitalcommunities.org](mailto:laura@vitalcommunities.org).

## Tuesday, May 22

**Tuesday, May 22. Food Allergy Support Group in Lebanon:** 6:30-8 p.m., Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, 5A conference room. Guest speaker Cindy Gurry discusses upcoming Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network walk in Portland, Maine. Free. 603-653-9899.

**Tuesday, May 22. A Conversation About Adoption in Quechee:** 7-9 p.m. Birth parents, adopted adults, adoptive parents and extended family members join a conversation facilitated by Judith Bush and Titia Ellis, author of *The Search: A Memoir of an Adopted Woman*. Free. Limited enrollment. Contact 802-436-1488 or [jbush@together.net](mailto:jbush@together.net) for location and details.

## Saturday, May 26

**Saturday, May 26. Ascutney Day Hike and Picnic:** 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Ascutney Mountain. Full picnic lunch atop the mountain at the stone hut, elevation 3,110 feet. Three trails; two accessible from Route 44, one from Route 131. No chair lifts. Bring water. Dogs allowed on leash. Free. Sponsored by Ascutney Trails Association. 802-674-2326.

**Saturday, May 26 and Sunday, May 27. Open Art Studios in Vermont:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Local artists open their studios in White River Junction, Woodstock, Hartland, Pomfret, Springfield and Weathersfield. Free admission. Maps available: [vermontcrafts.com](http://vermontcrafts.com). 802-223-3380.

**Saturday, May 26 and Sunday May 27. Cheese and Dairy Celebration in Woodstock:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Billings Farm & Museum, Route 12 North and River Road. Sample 50 different cheeses and participate in dairy programs \$3-\$12, under 2 free. Exhibits open daily. 802-457-2355.

## News from Teddy One

Debbie Burnham,  
Lead Teacher

Wendy Irwin,  
Teacher

April Buchanan,  
Assistant Teacher

Oh the changes this spring has brought us....April Buchanan has joined Wendy and I as part of our Teddy One team. April has worked at the center since October of 2010 and was recently a float for the whole center. We are glad to welcome her to our group.

Emily and her family will be saying goodbye as they move to Maine. Kellyn and her family will also be leaving. They are moving to South Carolina. We wish them all the best in their new endeavors.

We welcomed two new children this month. Auggie Reder joined us with his family: Jake and Mary Jo and big sisters Claire and Maddie. Claire and Maddie are old timers here at DCCCC.

Auggie is our youngest member and a real sweetie. Anne Hickox and her parents, Tammy and Ryan also started recently. Anne seems to love watching all that is going on. She will be a girl on the move soon!

Grace has started talking to us and singing songs. She responds to all of our questions with a "ya". Dara is also talking. Her two favorite words are "MINE" and "yellow". She uses the word "mine" repeatedly throughout the day! Remi entertains us with animal sounds. He wants to hear animal books over and over, signing and saying, "more, please" at the end of the book.

Madelyn is now crawling and pulling herself up. There is no stopping her now!

Cleo is very independent. She goes around the room exploring and then comes in for a hug from us.

Carter loves the outside. He even mows the lawn for us with our toy mowers. Owen spends time at the slide when we are out. He has become a terrific climber.

Yirang can put on her own socks and counts to five. Kirsten has learned her colors and announces the color of anything we are using.

We love watching and encouraging all the growth and learning that is going

on. Our room is ever changing...how exciting!!

We have had several children biting recently. An article on biting was put in each child's cubby. While we try to prevent an incident from happening, we are not always quick enough. Wendy, April and I discuss each situation and develop strategies to try to prevent further injuries. Please come to us with any concerns that you have.

We are watching the robins hop outside our windows and are seeing new flowers coming up. We are singing songs about birds and enjoying some flower activities. We also have planned some gardening type activities. We hope you are all enjoying this springtime.

Fondly,  
Debbie, Wendy and April



## News from Teddy Too

Radoyka Garcia,  
Lead Teacher

Lori Higgins,  
Teacher

Denise Ayres,  
Assistant Teacher

(¡Saludos!)

Greetings from the Teddy Toos!

It has been a wonderful couple of weeks with the Teddies! What a great classroom this is! But first I must share that my last day as a Polar ended with our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Art Show... it was extraordinary! There was no better way than spending it with the Polar Team, the new Polar Lead Teacher, Jeff, the Polars and their families! James, who has been our Professor of Percussion during many years of storytelling in the Multi, was also present, wow! (*Sunnie, we really missed you since you had piloted this event when you were a Polar, but you were there in spirit!\**) I am very grateful for all who have made my life as a Polar very memorable. Even as a Teddy now, I've had a number of Polar visitors. I was speechless upon receiving gorgeous flower arrangement with a special balloon and a card signed by all the Polar families. I can't thank you enough! I miss all of you and will always remember you.

Now...Life as a Teddy: While I am still adjusting to each child's routine and getting to know my new team, I continue to feel like a sponge every moment of the day. Terri, Lori and Denise have been exceptional in helping me understand how the room functions and some of the administrative duties that come along with leading the group. The Teddy One team has also been extremely helpful with learning Teddy Room tasks that we share. I have met just about all the Teddy parents and I have been delighted to hear little snippets about their children's special times at home. I notice these children have been very accepting of my presence (some much quicker than others), but I am truly amazed on how well they have responded to me. Sometimes, if I need to, I may use my grandma's old trick: to sing a children's lullaby in Spanish, cuddle, and rock them until they turn to Jell-O on your lap!

I am looking forward to many adventures as a Teddy, especially with the summer months approaching!

Happy to be a Teddy!

Ray

## **News from the Panda Bears**

Susan Young,  
Lead Teacher

Jenn Boudro,  
Teacher

Teresa Hahn  
Assistant Teacher

Once upon a time, long long ago( like 9 months ago!!) there were 12 small children. They all came together in a room at DCCCC called the Panda room. This was a whole new ballgame for them. They had never moved to a new room at DCCCC. They may have been apprehensive about moving to this new room but when they saw new toys and lots of familiar faces with both peers and teachers, they felt better. They had all spent a lot of time visiting this room over the summer and that seemed to help this group of toddlers feel safe and loved. The teachers all made such an effort for this to happen. They approached and chatted with them on the playground over the summer. They invited them for numerous visits including snacks and lunches as well as circle time and the wonderfully cool big multi!

As the months went by, the teachers and parents noticed a lot of changes. They watched as language skills blossomed. They saw children making real friends with each other. They saw children get so involved as circle times. They learned new songs and played new games. They learned to wait for their name to be called before they went to wash their hands for snacks. They learned they had a choice of sharing their toy from home ( after they had the first turn of course!) or keep it safe in their cubby. They

learned how to make each other giggle by being silly. They learned that they may have to wait for a turn on a bike or other preferred toy but that their teacher would be sure to ask them if they still wanted a turn after a few minutes. This in turn gave them a feeling that they could trust their teachers. They learned that they were growing up and some of it is really hard but yet so very cool to get bigger and do stuff like go for walks in the fields, visit the big playground, help set up lunches and sit and maybe even pee on the potty! They even had a fun indoor swimming party!! So much is going on with this group that's impossible to mention all they have learned. Now this learning is always transformed into play and fun activities. They may learn how to match colors and while doing this, verbalize the colors. This helped with both cognitive and language growth. They in turn heard lots of verbal praise for all their learning and even got stickers when they sit on the potty.

Now as the year was coming into the last few months of their time in the Panda room there was even more fun to be had in the summer. They had fun in the pools and sprinklers. They did a lot of dumping and pouring. They played outside a lot! They visited their future classrooms and met their new teachers who also made the children feel safe and loved. They spent more time on the big playground as they explored the new BIG climber, rode bikes and scooters and played in the sandbox that actually has a place to get water to build rivers and puddles. They began to interact with older kids and some preferred to watch the older kids while some fearlessly joined in their play. It was a wonderful way for these small yet growing fast and steady children to end their year in the Panda room. The teachers loved this group of children and hunted them down for years to come to chit chat about " when you were a Panda".....

not "THE END"

OK then..... Here are a few more details of what the Pandas have done. They have loved gardening and chowing chives! They planted peas that are even bigger than Teresa's!! We are putting in 3 raised bed gardens ( thanks to Brad Taylor for screwing them together!) in a fenced in area. We'll have fresh veggies for sure this summer. Teresa is THE GARDEN LADY and is so excited about working with and teaching kids about gardening! She has a sunflower house all marked and ready to be tilled and then planted. I'll be the BEAN LADY as usual. We'll be planting lots of beans and will eat them all summer. Jenn will add the nutrition aspect of how vegetables help our bodies grow and model (as she always does) eating vegetables and fruits.

Another hit has been the HUGE Tonka vehicles that we borrowed from the Polar Bears. The trucks have been used to haul toys, blocks or anything they can put in them. The children are learning the names of these (some had them down pat already!) and more about construction vehicles. Jenn found lots of books at the library to support their learning and these books are hot items these days and so fun to read as kids verbally label things like dump truck, grader, crane, excavator, front end bucket loader, etc etc. Even after we moved them to the big multi, kids are still playing with them.

This is "pasta week" where we have done so much with a variety of pastas. We have painted with spaghetti. We have glued all kinds of dry pasta including bow ties, curly, wagon wheels, etc. We have a few books about spaghetti. One comes with a story tape and is about how "Daddy makes the best spaghetti" (now I've got THAT song running thru my head!) There is one about "More Spaghetti I Say!" that is a favorite of Jenn's that she goes crazy with! (and you think I'm the crazy one!!) In the story a monkey gets to jump in spaghetti, run in spaghetti, ride (yes it happened!!) in spaghetti and ski in spaghetti (on flat boards barefoot). And so did the Pandas! The crew had a blast getting into what normally is forbidden... like the above mentioned. Do feel free to tell your child it's ok to do that with Jenn for a special fun time at school but not at home!! Kind of like when we do toothbrush painting. OK for school but not home!! I was trying to take pictures as fast as I could especially when Jenn held hunks of cooked spaghetti over their heads like hair! It was hysterical.

With this New England weathah, please keep sending in rain pants and puddle boots and lots of extra clothes. There will definitely be some wet and wild days!

We'll be doing parent conferences throughout the late spring and summer. We'll set them up with individual families. This is a time to chat about how the year is going for your Panda as well as our plans for helping them in the transitions to their next classroom. We'll send home a quick questionnaire about this as the times get closer.

**FAMILY SNACK...**

We'd like to have a family snack on Wednesday June 6th at 4 PM. We'll do a little music (maybe even a little concert with our air guitars!!)

**WE LOVE YOUR CHILDREN!!**

Susan for the Panda team



## News from the Koalas

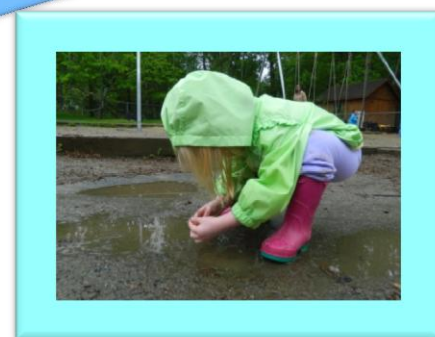
Terri Hollis,  
Lead Teacher

Bobbie Lynn Stone,  
Teacher

Assistant Teacher

# PUDDLE PLAY!!!!

Ahh.....



## News from the Woolly Bears

Deb Girdwood,  
Lead Teacher

Barb Merchand,  
Teacher

Moya Stevens,  
Assistant Teacher

Hello Woolly Families,

Happy May to you! Our theme this month is: Friendship Connections – WB Style .....

At this time of year children have developed strong peer relationships and connecting with friends is crucial to their play plans. They often know who they want to play with, what they want to play, where they want to play, when they want to do it, and most importantly how they want the playtime to evolve- WB style!

A typical day for a Woolly might look something like this as they step through the door and .....

Zip the lunchbox into the fridge, splash a little water on their hands, and rush to greet their friends who are waiting to play. Oops ... first say good-bye to Mom or Dad, and then the play plans begin “for real”. The structured activities the teachers have carefully prepared are exchanged for Woollies creative ideas and choices. Some friends chat non-stop about their play plans, others only need a word or two, and still others create in-depth scenarios with detailed roles and rules for their activities. Styles also vary; duos and trios can work well for some children while others need a small army to carry out their ideas.

The first collaborative decision friends must make is inside Choice Time. Will friends choose: trains-cars, baby dinosaurs-princess kitties, or sharing the easel together? Multi- time play: will it be tumbling, thunder-claws fast alligators, blasting off to outer space from the loft, or kicking ‘round the soccer ball? On the playground: is it building huge volcanoes in the sand pile, pretend Star Wars light saber action, or a game of hoops with the basketball?

Back in the room the play plans continue at lunch with a reminder to friends, “eat first then chat”. Potty time the same reminder is heard: “finish, then you can make your afternoon play plans”. Departure time is similar to drop-of when Woollies once again ask parents: can I finish building with Legos, color my picture, or play two more minutes with my friends? Woollies reluctantly say their good-byes with promises of play plans that will continue the next day, and the next, and the next!

Healthy peer interactions empower preschoolers to develop social competence as they learn to handle compromise and conflict effectively. Teachers intervene when the interactions include exclusionary behavior (“you can’t play”) or hurtful feelings emerge (“you’re not my friend”). They provide positive role models and emphasize cooperative ways to help children sustain these special friendships.

Connecting with friends is serious business in the Woollies. At the end of the day the primary question might be: who did you play with and then: what did you play to get the full story about their WB day.

Barb for the WB Team



## Learning Domain Highlight:

### Domain: **Social – Emotional**

Objective 2: establishes and sustains positive relationships.

- c. interacts with peers
- d. makes friends

Objective 3: Participates cooperatively in group situations.





# News from the Polar Bears

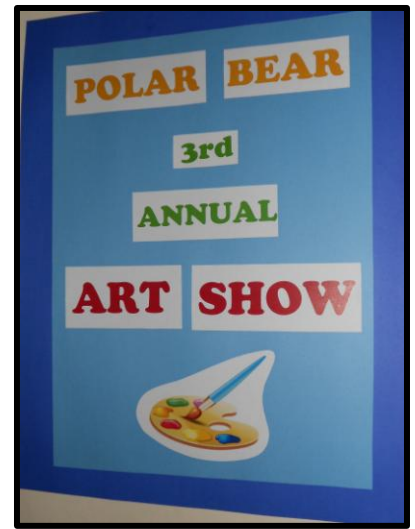
Elizabeth Harrington,  
Lead Teacher

Tatyana Bills,  
Teacher

Raquel Fluette,  
Assistant Teacher

Polar Families,

It is with great excitement that I write to you my first Polar newsletter! All of the Polar families, children, and members of the teaching team have been extremely supportive during this time of change. Every day is a new adventure (with plenty of surprises along the way)!



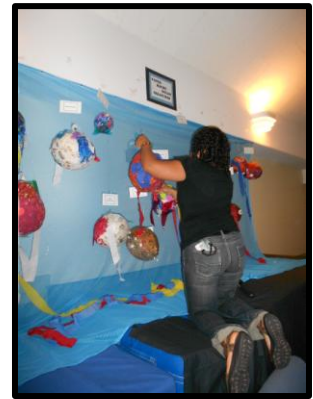
Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Art Show was a HUGE success! As a guest, I was able to see how much work truly goes into this event- what great team work between the teachers and the children! Seeing how much joy and excitement the Polars had as they welcomed families and danced together sporting their wonderful outfits was truly touching.

They were very excited to share their art and the slide show pictures with their families. Many classrooms came to tour the Art Show throughout the day, commenting about the various works of art they enjoyed. To those who were unable to attend: We missed you! There will be additional pictures posted in the classroom to view. Thank you to everyone who helped this event come together! Sto Lat! (“One Hundred Years!”)

I’d like to extend a thank you on behalf of the Polar Team for all of your kind words and gifts in honor of National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day. They were especially wonderful to hear during this time of transition. We likewise thank all of you for all of the love, support, and smiles you give your children every day!

As we head into Spring, we are excited to begin work on our gardens and planting our seeds! Thank you to all of the families who have contributed seeds and soil!

Liz and the Polars



## News from the Grizzlies

Karen Gray,  
Lead Teacher

Kristin Ball Cole,  
Teacher

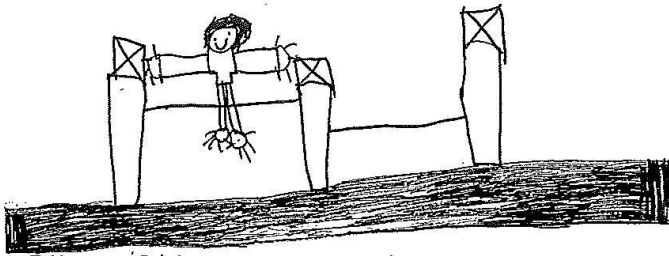
We have entered the final months of the kindergarten year already! We are beginning to prepare the children for the changes that will be rapidly approaching. Some friends will soon be having their last days, new friends will be joining us and we are anxiously waiting to have All Day Grizzlies EVERYDAY! We've been busy celebrating the remaining birthdays of Grizzlies waiting to turn 6! The children are enjoying recognizing/recalling the many things they have learned throughout the year. We have had lots of time together to practice skills. By helping, encouraging, supporting and teaching one another Grizzlies have been more willing to take risks, have patience and a positive attitude. They have gained more confidence when they choose to not give up and witness their successes. There have been so many accomplishments made this year! We wanted to take this opportunity to celebrate with you the many things the Grizzlies are proud of working so hard on and improving. Please enjoy their amazing illustrations and write-ups below!

### ***Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday to:***

Andrew Davis on May 15<sup>th</sup>

Michael Jia on May 25<sup>th</sup>

Pilar Young on May 31<sup>st</sup>



I'm stronger and  
I got Better at the  
Bars. By Rhea

I Am  
better  
at  
math

$$\begin{aligned} 2+2 &= 4 \\ 4+4 &= 8 \\ 1+1 &= 12 \\ 2+5 &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

Matthew

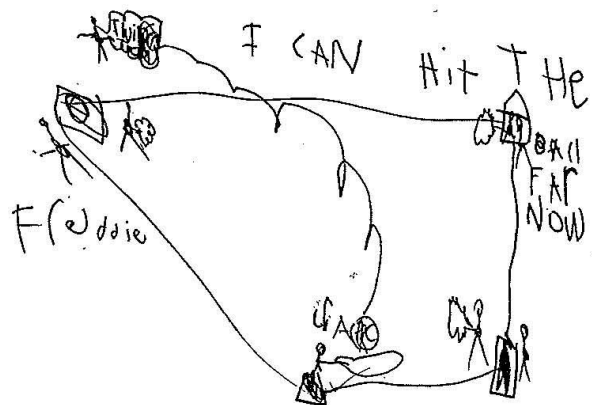
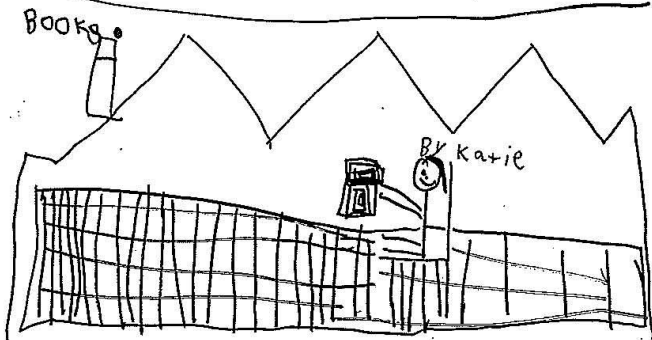
I am better at drawing  
Elena

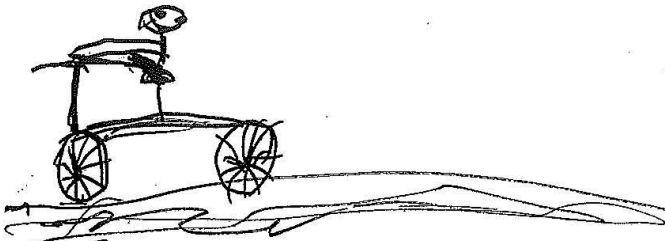






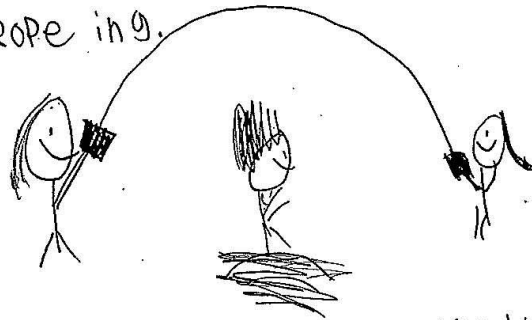
I got better at reaving





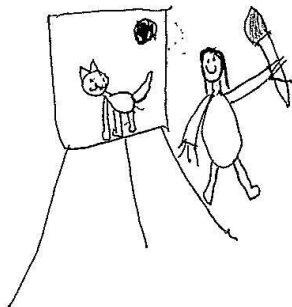
I Can ride a two  
wheeler now again

I got better at jump  
rope ing.



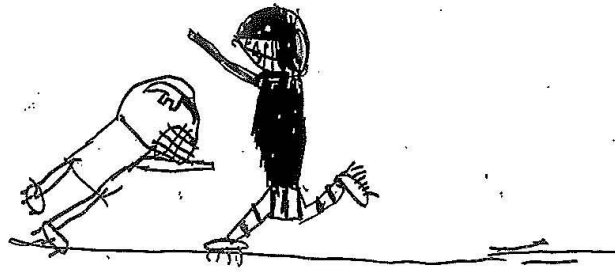
cynthia

My painting's are better.



Mina

I Am A GOOD FOOTBALL  
PLAYER.



Gabriel

NOAH IS A BETTER AT BUILDING  
AND PLAYING



I CAN Shoot

the BASKET BALL  
Better

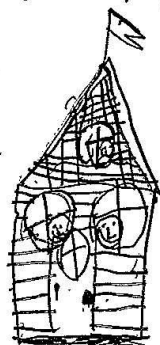


ANDREW

I can score a goal in soccer



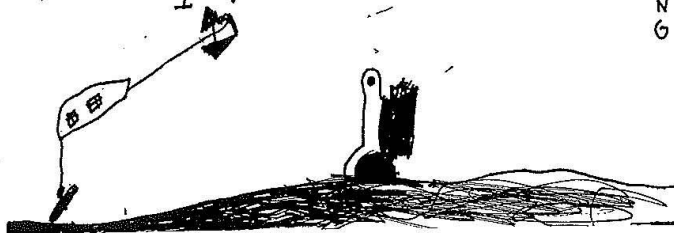
I can draw better



Michael



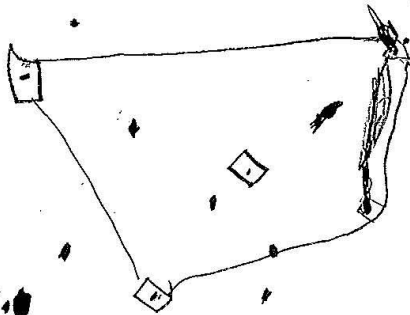
I GOT BETTER AT BUILDING WITH LEGO.



I CAN WRITENICER



BOICAN  
CATCH  
THE BALL  
BETTER  
HENRYK.



I Learned how to  
Paint

piler