

In This Issue:

From the Director

pg. 2

Announcements

pg. 4

Chickadee One pg 5

Chickadee Too pg 9

Owl pg 11

Hedgehog pg 14

Otter pg 17

Badger pg 19

Black Bear pg 22

Office: Sunnie McPhetres, Abby Plummer, Dawn Cote, Karen Small

Floating Assistant Teachers Terri Crane, Kristin Cole, Liz Harrington, Anna Tassinari, Emily Courtemanche, Sue Downey, Megan Wheeler, Riley Gray

Dartmouth College Child Care Center Newsletter

Summer 2019













Great Bike Parade
With special guest flagwaver: Jeff Robbins

July 3, 2019



From the Director

Happy Summer to all! Summer is a time of busy buzzing activity here at DCCCC. Our staff are taking vacations, kids and families are coming and going, children are preparing for the transition to their next classrooms or preparing to be a "big kid" in their current classroom – so much activity! And there can be a great deal of stress and anxiety, especially for parents!

You have spent a year or more developing relationships with staff and other families and now things are getting turned topsy turvy yet again! You have so many questions. Will my child's next teacher love them as much as their current teacher? Will they feel abandoned when they move to a new classroom? Will they miss friends that go into a different classroom? Are they going to the right classroom? Will I be able to hang out in the morning? Will the new teachers listen to me when I have concerns? Will I still be able to chat with my child's old teachers if I want to? Will life ever be the same? Do I still have to include a no-nut note? What are naps like? Do I still have to be out of the building by 5:30? Are toys from home allowed in the new classroom? How do I find out all this information? I am going to miss these teachers so much – what do I do?

So many questions! Yes, this is always a big transition and one that you and your child will experience over and over again throughout life. The questions never go away! The best thing that you can do is to attend "meet and greets" if offered or set up a time to talk with the Lead Teacher in your child's new class. All of the staff realize that this is a process for you as well. We are more than willing to help you get through.

My biggest piece of advice for this time of year is for you to come to terms with the transition in the best way that you can. Your attitude of excitement or nervousness will rub off on your child. The more positive you feel, the more positive your child will feel and the easier the transition will be! In the front foyer there are copies of a pamphlet called *So Many Goodbyes: Ways to ease the transition between home and groups for young children* by Janet Brown McCracken. While this does not directly address the group to group transition, it is a very helpful read in thinking about transitions. Feel free to take a copy from the bookshelf near the front door.

I'll leave you with a few quotes from the pamphlet:

"Good feelings are contagious! If you are genuinely enthusiastic about any upcoming change, your child will look forward to it, too."

"In a high quality program, you can count on staff members to help your family during this important time. They know that every parent, and every child, adjusts different and needs time to feel at home in a new situation."

"Young children, just like adults, always feel more comfortable if they know what to expect."

"...visit the room in advance so your child can learn the way around...take a few pictures so your child can show others what their new [class] looks like."

Want to know more? Pick up a pamphlet!

My door is also usually open to you! If you have some concerns that you want to talk through, please stop by, give me a call or send me a message. I've been through these transitions many, many times on both sides: as a parent and as a teacher. Even if you just need a place to cry – my door is usually open!

Here's to an amazing, busy, buzzing transition from Summer to Autumn and from classroom to classroom! I hope to see you all at end of year classroom events!

Sunnie

I will be away from Tuesday, July 30 returning on Monday, August 12. I'm taking a trip to Alaska. I will check e-mail periodically, but Abby, Dawn and Karen are all resources for you while I am away.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unfortunately, our photographer has announced to us that he has retired. We will no longer be offering child photography in the fall unless we get a lead on another amazing photographer.

StoryWalk in Etna

Saturday, July 27, 2019
9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Additional Dates
Thursday, July 25, 2019
9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday, July 26, 2019 9:00
am - 8:00 pm
Sunday, July 28, 2019 9:00
am - 8:00 pm
Monday, July 29, 2019 9:00
am - 8:00 pm
Show Additional Dates
Etna Library
130 Etna Road

130 Etna Road Etna, NH Directions

Price: Free **Note:**

Follow the signs through Hayes Farm Park up to the King Bird Sanctuary while reading "Whoosh: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions" by Chris Barton and illustrated by Don Tate, the story of the innovative engineer who worked for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and also invented the super soaker. For all ages.

DCCCC Will Be Closed On The Following Days:

- -Monday and Tuesday August 26 and 27 transition days.
- -Monday, September 2 Labor Day
- -Thursday and Friday, November 28 and 29 Thanksgiving.
- -December 24, 2019-January 1, 2020 Winter break
- -Monday, March 23, 2020 Inservice day
- -Monday, May 25, 2020– Memorial Day
- -Friday, July 3, 2020 Independence Day

Family campout in West Hartford

Saturday, July 27, 2019 2:00 pm - 11:59 pm Erwin Clifford Park 100 Recreation Drive West Hartford, VT Directions

Price: \$30 per family (up to four people).

Note: Advance Registration.Senior citizen interest.Summer Guide.Valley

raients

Games, entertainment, arts and crafts for kids and a campfire under the stars with s'mores. Dinner and breakfast included.

Families should bring camping equipment, including a tent and sleeping bags, as well as extras such as chairs, flashlights, snacks, a change of clothes and personal items. No campers or RVs. No pets are allowed. Check-in begins Saturday at 2 p.m., with activities starting at 3:30 p.m. Checkout is Sunday by 10 a.m.

Pre-registration is required. Call 802-295-5036 or visit hartfordrec.com. Cost: \$30 per family (up to 4 people).

Contact Info
Karen McNall
Hartford Park & Recreation
kmcnall@hartford-vt.org
802-295-5036
More Info

Family campout in West Hartford

Ticket/Registration Links: Family campout in West Hartford

News from the Chickadee Ones

Ali Wachunas Lead Teacher

Deserai Stone

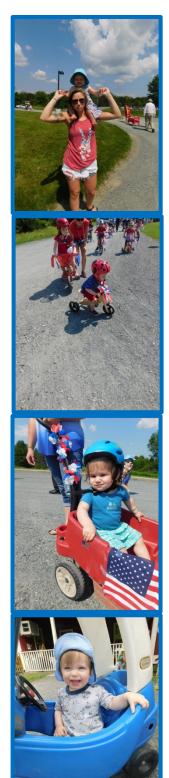
July 2019! Where has the time gone? I have said it before and I will say it again time flies when you are having fun & that is exactly what we chickadees do. This school year has been a blast and to think it is coming to an end gives us a mix of emotions. I always say in the intakes at the beginning of the year that dropping your child at daycare is hard, sad, exciting and so much more. It is also almost always harder on the parents than the child. When my own son Michael was coming here, and in my classroom, I even had a hard time and he was with me. For us teachers, the transition to their new classroom is always harder on us. We never want to see them go and yet know they are ready for their next adventures.

The chickadees all have their own personalities and are blossoming into amazing little people. Sonia, Dorothea,

Luna and Jack are best friends. They all enjoy running and jumping on the futon, giving each other hugs and kisses, dancing, playing outside, and carrying on conversations (half the time I am not sure what they are saying to one another). They greet one another every day with big hugs and loud hellos. These four have spent over a year with us in the chickadees and we are so thankful to have the experience of watching them grow.

Hayden brings us all smiles and is beginning to use his words more and more. He enjoys the outdoors, especially the sandbox. Caledonia is talking up a storm. She is super silly and full of personality. Benjamin is on the move. He is walking everywhere exploring with his new feet. Maiaspunky, hilarious Maia-makes us laugh every day. She recently has learned the word howdy and it is the cutest thing to hear. She has become very independent and is learning how to use her words to get her needs met.











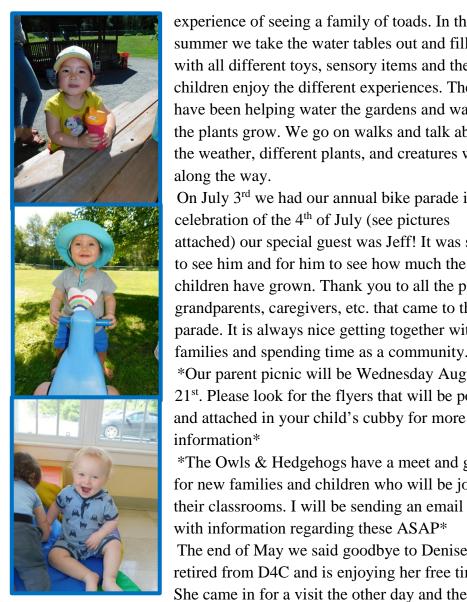


August is going to be walking in no time. He is pulling himself up onto every surface and beginning to let go. He enjoys mealtimes very much and can't feed himself fast enough. Miss smiley Riley is a firecracker. She is always smiling and waving to everyone. She is pulling herself up onto every surface and learning how to balance with one hand holding. August & Riley will be spending another school year with us! We are so excited to see how much more they will grow and develop.

We have begun the transition to sleep mats for the children who will be moving up to their new classrooms. We always get nervous for this transition as the children have gained comfort in their crib and mastering naps. The children have done amazing and totally made all our nerves go away. The children have begun to visit their new classrooms and meet their new teachers. Sonia, Luna, Theda, and Jack will join the hedgehogs & Hayden, Cali, Benjamin, and Maia will join the owls. I can say with confidence that this group of children will move mountains in their new classroom. They have grown so much since becoming a chickadee and they are more than ready for this next adventure (us teachers...not so much). The famous saying: "once a chickadee, always a chickadee!"

We have parents every year ask us about the transition period and how it all works. Our first bit of advice is at drop offs to walk through their new classroom with them. Even if it is just a quick walk through, a hi, or they want to engage with something. Having them see you as the parent/s establishing a relationship with the teachers in their new classroom will give your child a comforting feeling. Us as the teachers will begin to visit their news classrooms with them as well. We begin by staying with them and work towards leaving them for a bit with their friends in the new classroom. As the summer progresses, they spend more and more time in their new classroom and eventually eat lunch in their new rooms. What is so wonderful about the center and the location of the classrooms is that we spend a lot of time with the owls since they are right next door. The teachers in the owls get to know the chickadees. The hedgehogs spend time in close corridors with us as well and they visit the hedgehog classroom a lot. Please ask Deserai and I any questions you may have regarding transitions and how we can help in any way. There is an article below that talk about transitions that I found helpful.

This summer has been wonderful weather which has allowed us to get outside and explore. The children love water play, the sandbox, and we had the exciting



experience of seeing a family of toads. In the summer we take the water tables out and fill them with all different toys, sensory items and the children enjoy the different experiences. They have been helping water the gardens and watching the plants grow. We go on walks and talk about the weather, different plants, and creatures we see along the way.

On July 3rd we had our annual bike parade in celebration of the 4th of July (see pictures attached) our special guest was Jeff! It was so nice to see him and for him to see how much the children have grown. Thank you to all the parents, grandparents, caregivers, etc. that came to the parade. It is always nice getting together with the families and spending time as a community. *Our parent picnic will be Wednesday August 21st. Please look for the flyers that will be posted

The Owls & Hedgehogs have a meet and greet for new families and children who will be joining their classrooms. I will be sending an email out with information regarding these ASAP The end of May we said goodbye to Denise. She retired from D4C and is enjoying her free time. She came in for a visit the other day and the

children were so excited to see her. If you haven't already she left cards for everyone, clipped in your child's cubby. We will miss her very much!















Reminders:

*Please make sure to be checking your child's cubby for important papers, art work, pictures, and if they have enough clothes/diapers/etc. The owl teachers have clipped information about their classroom in the cubbies.

*If your child is coming in with a lunch please make sure it is in a lunch box labeled with their name. Below I have attached an article about foods/feeding a toddler/etc. Please take a look. I have parents ask me about what kinds of food to send. It is always interesting to hear parents say that their child will eat certain foods at school and not at home. For mealtimes the children all sit together. Often they are looking at what another child has and are always interested in it. If you have any questions please ask.

*Pick up days-If you would like/need an extra day other than the scheduled days please let us know. There are children on vacation this summer which means some days we have an opening. If you would like an extra day please email Deserai and I and we will make sure to let you know.

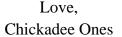
As always if you have any questions/concerns/etc. please emailing us or call ©

Articles:

https://www.parents.com/recipes/scoop-on-food/simple-ways-to-feed-a-toddler/
https://www.yummytoddlerfood.com/advice/picky-eating/100-foods-for-toddlers/
https://www.parents.com/toddlers-preschoolers/development/behavioral/easing-a-toddlers-daily-transitions/

https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/ideas-exploring-outdoors
https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/observation-key-to-understanding-your-child
https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/listen-talk-answer-support-learning
https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/growing-independence-tips-parents-toddlers-and-twos

Before you walk into the doors of the chickadee kitchen there is a bulletin board with all sorts of information on it. I attached one that is 100 things to do in the upper valley-Check it out!











News from the Chickadee Toos

Teresa Hahn, Lead Teacher

Lori Higgins

Angelica Morrison







SUMMER NEWS FROM CHICKADEE TOO

It is hard for me to believe this is the last newsletter of the year. The time has gone so fast, yet the Chickadees have changed so much. The time is almost here for our Chicks to spread their wings and fly the coop.

We are sad to have Catie leave us this month, but she will be moving on to new exciting adventures and we wish her well. It has been such a delight to watch her grow and learn. We will miss her beautiful smile and charming giggle.

Morgan and Sanna have both become quite the conversationalists. They can tell you all about their day and what they are up to at that moment. They will be moving to Hedgehogs at the end of August, which will challenge them and stimulate them to learn, learn, learn. Charlie can run so fast now and loves to run back and forth in the kitchen. He is talking a lot and making his wants and needs known.

Declan and Graham are such curious guys. They can often be seen trying to figure out a new toy or studying the movements of the insect world on the playground.

Audrey has really opened up and loves playing with her peers. She likes to roll around on the futon and giggle with her friends. She will join Charlie, Declan and Graham in the Owl room.

Tessa is really on the move now. She will walk holding our hands and independently pushing a toy. She always has a big grin while walking.

Daniel is an accomplished crawler and is pulling to standing. He even lets go and stands independently. He is such a smiley, happy guy.

Riley is a big talker these days. She loves to experiment with her voice. She is rolling and scooting around, getting to where she wants to go, she has just started to pull to standing.





Tessa and Riley will spend another year in Chick Too. Unfortunately for us, Daniel will be moving on, and won't be with us. We will sure miss that smile.

We have been enjoying the warmer weather and have all been getting outside most days. The sandbox, as always, is a big hit. Remember if you have sand stuck to sunscreen, a little baby powder helps take it all off. We have even had a few days warm enough for water play. The children really love playing in that water.

We have been doing a bit of gardening. The flower house is coming along nicely, it seems on hot days you can see the sunflowers growing. We have tomatoes on the vine waiting to ripen, and summer squash, zucchini and cucumbers coming along. Hopefully the woodchuck will let us have some.

As we move through the summer, we work with the children to assure smooth transitions to their new classrooms and teachers. Please take the time to visit the new rooms with your child. When they see that you are excited about the change and comfortable with the new faces and surroundings, they will feel more relaxed and comfortable too.

This time of year is bittersweet for us, we are excited to see your kids grow and move on, but sad too to let them go. We will have an end of the year family picnic to celebrate our time together on Wed. August 21. More details to come when we get closer.

Thank you for sharing your families with us,

Teresa for Chickadee Too











News from the Owls

Debbie Burnham, Lead Teacher

Wendy Irwin

Moya Stevens

This time of year is always bittersweet. We are amazed at the growth that has happened over the year, but we know our time with your child is coming to an end. Some we will get to keep watch on as they move through DCCCC, but they will not be "ours" anymore. We will say hello to them over the outside fence and maybe receive a hug, but eventually they will forget their time with us. We do not forget though! Thank you for sharing your family with us. It has been a privilege to be a part of your lives.

This year has been a time of social growth, with friendships forming. The Owls have gone from parallel play to actually calling friends over to join in play. Children greet each other, join each other and ask where certain friends are.

Their love of books has expanded with many children now having favorite books. They know the story lines and can even repeat some of the phrases in books. They will sit for flannel stories and wait their turn to add a character to the storyboard.

Many has shown interest in the potty and we have a "potty party" after lunch most days!

Sam became a big brother this year. He is definitely the entertainer of the group, often singing to us at lunchtime! As soon as he hears music his body starts moving!

Netta has become more outgoing, some days even surprising us with the volume of her voice! She has made strong friendships and seeks out others who love baby dolls as much as she does.

Simon is talking more and knows when to use English and when to use Spanish. He has a wonderful sense of humor and often makes us laugh.

Ayah truly became of part of the group. She arrives with a smile and joins in play with all her friends. She will become a big sister soon!









Sabina became a big sister this year also. She is a storyteller and is also our New York City tour guide, telling us what trains to take to get to places.

Madison is the "energizer bunny" and is always in motion. She is the welcoming committee and greats each child and parent as they arrive.



Aiden is now a risk taker. He challenges himself by walking down the slide. He is so proud when he makes it to the bottom successfully!

Fallyn is the teacher of the group. She knows the rules and repeats them to others. We hear her say, "No toys on the climber" to a friend who is going up with a toy in their hands.



Basil is now comfortable with us and will give us snuggles after nap. She can be silly. We love seeing how much she loves her baby brother August.

Campbell is our room helper. He washes tables, carries laundry and goes to get snack with us. While outside he grabs a lawnmower and goes up and down the hill. Then he puts the lawnmower in the back of the truck to go to the next site.



Angela is talking, counting, singing and reciting words from books. She loves to dance and as soon as "Baby Shark" comes on she is moving!

We will miss you all and again, we thank you for sharing these wonderful children with us!

































Fondly, Debbie, Wendy and Moya



News from the Hedgehogs

Danielle Field, Lead Teacher

Jenn Boudro





Greetings Hedgehog Families,

It's hard to believe, but this is our last newsletter of the year! The once tiny Hedgehogs have now completely grown and developed into such a great group of children. Their self-help skills have grown exponentially, they have developed strong and lasting friendships, and we have been so delighted to grow and learn with them over the past year.

As our time together draws to a close, we have had many discussions about the upcoming transition to the Otter and Badger rooms. The Hedgehogs have all been very excited to explore their new spaces, and we have begun having the children visit the classrooms during free play and activity times, and will soon be inviting them to visit during lunch and snack times. This will continue as the summer progresses. We invite you to visit their new

classroom during morning drop-off, and if your child is comfortable, letting them stay after drop-off to acclimate to the classroom. This is also a great time for you to learn more about the room and to meet and chat with your child's new teachers.

The Hedgehogs have been taking advantage of the warm weather and spending a lot of time outside, especially in our wading pool! This group has loved water play of all types, and there's no better way to beat the summer heat then splashing in the pool, or getting sprayed by the hose. Along with playing in the water, we have also been riding bicycles (we have a great group of pedalers), continuing our hiking/walking regimen, and playing at the Ray School playground.

Over the past few months, we have been exploring a variety of topics and themes. We have been enjoying tending to the garden, giving it lots of water and pulling out any weeds. The plants have grown tremendously since we've planted them, and we have even been able to pick some of the crop (mostly lettuce)! Since the weather has been so favorable, we have been spending as much time outdoors as possible. We have painted on easels and explored tree rubbings outside on our playground, picked dandelions and made our own dandelion playdough, and ate a picnic lunch outside together. We also explored bike safety and learned more about bicycles to prepare for the annual Bike Parade,

which was so much fun! We were even able to walk over to the Ray School with the Badgers and Black Bears to see a performance from Funny Man Dan.

As the rest of the summer progresses, we are excited to learn more about camping, which will include setting-up the tent in our classroom and creating a campsite, playing flashlight tag, and visiting the Storr's Pond campsites. We will also be bringing back an old favorite day from a few years ago: Jellyfish Day, along with our annual walk to the Coop to get ice cream (date pending)!

Another important date to remember is our End of the Year Celebration on **Friday, August 23rd at 4:00pm!** The Hedgehogs will be performing a song, preparing a snack for you to enjoy, and there will also be a slideshow viewing to commemorate all of the great memories that we made this year. We will also be having a small graduation ceremony to send the Hedgehogs off to their next classrooms.

We would also like to say goodbye and best wishes to Hudson and his family, as Hudson is going to be attending the Cornish Elementary Preschool program in the Fall. We will miss you Hudson!

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank you all for such a great year! We have been thrilled to get to know your child, you, and your families, and have been so appreciative for all of the support and kind words you have given us and our program. My first year here as the lead Hedgehog teacher has been so filled with joy and support, and I am so happy that I am a part of this wonderful community. As sad as we are to see this group go, we are even more excited to see them to continue to learn and grow in their new classrooms. Thank you again for your trusting us with your child this year, and please feel free to stop in and say hello anytime!

On behalf of the Hedgehog Team,

Danielle















News from the Otters

Stephanie Cummings, Lead Teacher

Vipasha Oza

Maya Lopez

Hello Otter Families,

The end of the Otter year is almost over! These past few months have flown by and we have been looking at photos of when the children first started, they have grown so much! The Otters are preparing for their transition to the Badger and Black Bear room. Some of our Otter friends have already started to visit their new classrooms for morning play. We will also be sending a couple of friends to visit for lunch. We will be continuing with this as the summer progresses. We will shortly be talking to the Badger and Black Bear team about your child to discuss their interests, needs and their typical schedule.





This summer, there will be lots of different transitions taking place. Joshua, Louisa and Matthew will be joining the Black Bear room. Edith, Connor, Jonah, Joe, Roxy, Max, Margaret and Aadhi will join the Badger room. Graham has left and is making the transition to a new day-care. Aadhi is leaving the Otter room to begin her 6 week vacation to India before returning to the center as a Badger. I know that lots of parents expressed anxiety about how some of the children will be separated during this time of transition during our conferences. I can reassure you that the children will still have opportunities to see each other during outside play and center-wide activities. As well as our discussions here in class, we strongly recommend that you frequently talk with your child about their new class and teachers. Now, that your children have started spending some time in the other rooms, feel free to stop by in the morning with your child and invite your child to explore their new class. Talk to them about the friends they will be moving with. If we are positive about this transition then the children will be too.









Don't forget our 'End of Year Celebration' on Thursday, August 22nd at 4pm. It will be our last chance to get together before the new school year. The Otters will help to make snacks for the event. We will give out the children's goodbye books which will contain pictures of their year in the Otter room. We have individual folders on the computer with all the children's photos from the year, if you would like all the photos that have been taken over the year, please bring in a USB stick and we will transfer your child's photos onto it.







DCCCC will be closed on August 26th and 27th and children will begin in their new classrooms on Wednesday, August 28th.



I want to thank YOU most of all for trusting us with your child. We have really got to know your child and we have enjoyed providing them with opportunities to learn about themes that have interested them. During this year, we have also enjoyed developing close relationships with parents and have loved the conversations we have had. We also thank you for the support you have shown the Otter program. We have been thrilled that parents have been able to join us to lead activities for the children in the class. We will miss you all next year, but please drop by the Otter room from time to time to say hello!

From the Otter room,

Stephanie, Vipasha and Maya



News from the Badgers

Terri Hollis, Lead Teacher

Miranda Arruda



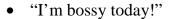


Hello Badger Families,

This is it, the last letter that you will all be addressed as Badger Families. Your children have learned so very much and have shown and proven their readiness to move on for more new learning adventures. Your children did not come up short this year when it came to sharing their knowledge and perspective on life. It was expressed in words that ranged from bizarre and sweet, to hilarious. Sit back, ponder, and laugh when reading a compilation of quotes from throughout this year.

- "I was the second first one here today."
- "I wish Daycare was my home."
- "It's really hard work when you have children."
- "Black is beautiful too."
- "Someday I and my mom are going out of space to visit Germany."
- "Sometimes I don't know where I'm going."
- "Why are we drinking spring water when it's almost fall?"
- "I'm allergic to the cold."
- "OMG! I can taste the feelings in my heart."
- "I have mouses in my houses."
- "Man, those babies grow fast."
- "I have little nipples just like my dad."
- "I don't like the cotton (cottage) cheese."
- "My bum is getting fatter every day."
- I don't have to take care of you, you are a teacher."
- "I didn't know your mouth was that big?"
- "My penis said it does not have to pee."
- "I can't believe how much I love myself."
- "It's getting to much fun."
- "I'm going to the pub tonight."
- "I pulled up my pants parts so that I could be cool."
- "I'M going to be Captain America when I grow up because the Hulk is all make believe."
- "Help we're having an agreement."
- "I didn't know puppets could fart."
- "Lucky me, I didn't get a burnt piece of toast."





- "I have the same size head as Buzz Light Year."
- "I always make things good."
- "Bad guys are in Italy."
- "OH NO! You peed on my pee."
- "You want to hear a beautiful song? It's about bad guys."
- "The loneliness is on top of the sea of heartbreak."
- ""I guess I am a hero."
- "You should let your husband choose, that is what is proper."
- "I really like your hair, especially the gray parts."
- "I might be weird when I am a grownup."
- "My mommy's finger always sticks in my nose."
- "They promised on me."
- "Look! I finally learned my lesson."
- "Sooo before there were cell phones, you had to use drums to talk to one another?"
- "I speak a bit of Italian; I'm in Hanover and get Italian Ice Cream, so I speak a bit of Italian."
- "I got that tomorrow."
- "Yay! It's the first worm of spring."
- "I just want to give a squirrel a hug."
- "Mothers think they always know everything."
- "I got a tick on my fancy pants."
- "Can I smell your breath?"
- "Do you always bring a pocket?"
- "But I'm your friend. You love me."
- "I'm scared of my own reflection."
- "I want to be a frog when I grow up."
- "We're all filled with sugar, so we will only eat some for lunch."
- "This is nice, It makes me calm down."





Hope you all enjoyed these insightful quotes as much as the teachers did. It has been an extreme pleasure being a part of your families.

Sincerely

Terri and Miranda













News from the Black Bears

Kristen Brown, Lead Teacher

Gerry Bott

Judy Labrie

I can't believe that the year is coming to an end! It is incredible to see how much the Black Bears have grown since September. Black Bears have been Firefighters, gone to space, built a teepee, explored Ireland, and so much more. They have been artists, authors, engineers, scientists, and actors. Whether they are moving up to Kindergarten or becoming a "Big Black Bear" they have gained the confidence and independence to take on this new role.

It has been an absolute pleasure to watch the Black Bears grow during their time with us, and I thank you for sharing and trusting your children with us. Thank you to all of the families, for your support and involvement in the Black Bear program. We couldn't do it without you!

Best of luck on all of your new adventures, and please feel free to stop in and visit any time! And most importantly, always remember: "Once a Black Bear, always a Black Bear."



















