



News From the DCCCC Office

November 2017

Jeff Robbins, Director
Sunnie McPhetres, Assistant Director

Dawn Cote, Office Manager
Karen Small, Administrative Assistant

Staff

Chickadee One

Ali Wachunas
Denise Ayers
Deserai Stone

Chickadee Too

Teresa Hahn
Lori Higgins
Moya Stevens

Owls

Debbie Burnham
Wendy Irwin
April Buchanan

Hedgehogs

Jennifer Sprague
Jenn Boudro
Angelica Morrison

Otters

Stephanie Cummings
Jordan Rosenzweig
Vipasha Oza
Jane Wolfe

Badgers

Terri Hollis
Miranda Arruda
Judy Labrie

Black Bears

Liz Harrington
Barb Merchand

Floating Assistant Teachers

Kristin Cole
Terri Crane
Jenn Murphy

Congratulations!

DCCCC STAFF ON THE MOVE

There are two new Lead Teachers at DCCCC:

**Liz Harrington will lead the
team in the Black Bear Room**



**Stephanie Cummings has become
the official Lead Teacher in the
Otter Room**



**Also on the move: Vipasha Oza
has moved from the team of
Floating Assistant Teachers to the
position of Teacher in the Otter Room!**





From the Director

Dear Big Jeff,

My four-year old likes her milk in one of those cups with the attached straw. It seems like a small thing, but it drives me absolutely crazy when she blows bubbles in her milk. It's messy; it's gross; it's downright disgusting. Is this normal behavior? Hers, I mean, not mine.

Signed,

I'm Gagging

Dear Gagging,

Yes, blowing bubbles in milk is normal. And although you didn't ask, yes, it is normal that your child makes you crazy. Everybody has their "things" and gagging over milk bubbles is as good as any. You didn't ask for suggestions either, but this is my column so here you go.

#1 easiest step – don't provide straws or sippy cups with straws for a while. No moralizing, no lecturing. If your child asks, just say we aren't using them tonight. You can leave it at that. Parents get veto rights on everything. Seriously, you don't have to negotiate. However, if you believe that taking the straw away is going to cause an utter meltdown, you may certainly provide something different to drink milk from. You might use your "fancy" glasses or a coffee mug. Or buy an inexpensive plastic glass from the Dollar Store with a theme that your child likes.

Here's a really simple bubble-blowing experience that your child can do at the kitchen table while you fix dinner. Cover the table with a bath towel. Fill a sturdy cup with a little water and a drop of dish soap. Give your child a straw and say "Blow!" The bubbles overflow nicely, clean up well and a person can only blow bubbles for just so long, so it should get it out of her system by dinner.

At a different time of day you might also provide other legitimate and more fabulous bubble blowing opportunities. Store bought bubbles are fun and goodness knows merchants would like to sell you all kinds of paraphernalia. Homemade bubbles are just as much fun and there are a plethora of options on-line for bubble solution recipes and homemade wands. Here is an easy bubble mixture:

Add 1 cup of water to a bowl

Mix in 4 tablespoons of dish soap (Joy and Dawn work best)

Add 1 tablespoon of glycerin from the drug store. Corn syrup may be substituted. Neither is necessary, but make the bubbles stay inflated longer.

Bon appetit,

Big Jeff, Bubblemaster

Good-bye from Sunnie

I can't believe that it is here already, but this will be my final newsletter at DCCCC. My first newsletter contribution was in 1987 when I was a Panda Teacher – that seems like a lifetime ago! Over the years I have worked with every age group at DCCCC: I was a Teacher in the toddler room, Lead Teacher in the infant room, the four year old room, the three year old room and two separate multi-age preschool rooms! That was all before moving to the office.

I will always carry very happy memories of DCCCC with me. Mostly I'll remember all of the wonderful *kid stories* that I have collected over the years. I'd like to share two of those stories with you now.

1. At the end of the year, a three year old brought me a blue ceramic bowl as a gift. Her mother told me that she encouraged her daughter to put cookies or something else in the bowl but her child said, "No, Mom. It's already full. It's full of love." That bowl is still one of my most treasured possessions.
2. A four year old brought a Barbie to child care and set about making a dress to put on it. She took fabric that we kept in the class for craft projects, scissors and a stapler. She worked for nearly an hour to make the dress. When she was finished, she honored me by asking me to put the dress on the doll. I looked at the doll and looked at the dress and said, "I don't think that I can do it." The child gave me a disgusted look that only she could give, took the doll and dress away from me, removed two staples and put the dress on the doll. She then looked at me and said, "When something is hard you figure out a way. Don't give up, never give up... unless you know what you are doing." Those words ring in my ears constantly.

As I move on from DCCCC I go with the courage of never giving up and knowing that my life is full of love all due to my years here with hundreds of children and hundreds of families! Thank you all for the role that you have played in my career!

Fondly,

Sunnie

P.S. I love to receive updates on what DCCCC children do as they grow up and move through life. My personal e-mail is sunnie.joy79@gmail.com . Please feel free to send me updates now and then!

Announcements/Resources

DCCCC Will Be Closed On The Following Days:

-Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24, Thanksgiving Break

-December 25-January 1, 2018, Winter Break

-Monday, April 9, 2018, In-service Training

-Monday, May 28, 2018, Memorial Day

-Wednesday, July 4, 2018, Independence Day

(anticipated: Monday and Tuesday, August 27 and 28, 2018, Transition Days – subject to change)

Parents' Morning Out in Hanover

Saturday, November 11, 2017

9:45 am - 12:00 pm

[Hanover High School gym](#)

41 Lebanon St.

Hanover, NH

Price: Suggested donation: \$20 per child.

See attached flyer for details!

Baby Signing Basics Workshop in Norwich

Saturday, November 11, 2017

10:00 am - 11:00 am

[The Family Place](#)

319 Route 5 South

Norwich, VT

[Directions](#)

Price: \$15.00

Note: Advance Registration

With just a few simple signs, parents and infants can start communicating, even before the baby starts talking. Learn the 25 signs for mealtime, getting dressed, bedtime and more. For children up to 3 years old and a caregiver. Instructor: Kelly Jarosz. Advance registration required.

Full scholarships available. Call for information.

Contact Info

Katie Malik

The Family Place

katiem@the-family-place.org

[802-649-3268](tel:802-649-3268)

Clothing Swap in White River Junction

Saturday, November 11, 2017 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday, November 12, 2017 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

[Bugbee Senior Center](#)

262 N. Main St.

White River Junction, VT

[Directions](#)

Donate good pre-worn clothing to the swap Saturday (no rips or stains). Return on Sunday to "shop." No donation necessary to choose free clothing.

A donation box also will be located at the Upper Valley Food Coop from Nov. 6–10.

Donations of non-perishable food for the Upper Valley Haven will also be collected.

Contact Info:

Upper Valley Clothing Swap

uvclothingswap@gmail.com



**Want to do holiday shopping or run
weekend errands without the kids?**

Drop them off for a morning of fun and games
at the

PARENT'S MORNING OUT

Saturday, November 11

Hanover High School Gym

(Entrance in back of building)

Open to kids ages 3-12 (must be potty-trained).

Registration and drop off begin at 9:45.

Pick up at noon

Supervised by players, parents, and friends of the Hanover
High School Girls Basketball program.

Suggested Donation \$20 Per Child

**This is a fundraiser for the Friends of Hanover High
School Girls Basketball Program.**