



# the discovery center

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

April 2022

### TEACHER APPRECIATION *A letter to the teacher!*

**THANK YOU** ★ ★ ★ ★

for *all* that you did in our classroom today...

For making a million little split second **DECISIONS**

For putting your own needs on hold and keeping us the **FOCUS** of your day.

For **PLANNING** our day long before it ever got started. ★

For **CHANGING** those plans because they didn't fit someone's needs.

For smiling, **LAUGHING WITH US**, and reassuring our efforts, trials, and mistakes.

For placing your hand on our shoulder because you knew it was **EXACTLY** what we needed. ★

For getting down on our level, because **IT MATTERS** to us.

For thinking of new ways to **REACH** us when we just don't get it.

For being the **AMAZING** teacher that you are. ★

★ ★ **YOU ARE LOVED.**

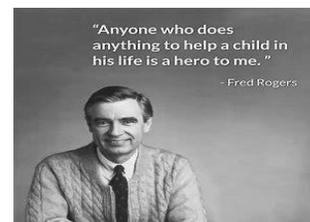


We are so incredibly thankful for the amazing and dedicated teachers and staff in our program! They have continued to meet every challenge these past two years have brought with patience, creativity, hard work and perseverance.

In the coming weeks, we will be getting ready to celebrate "Teacher Appreciation Day" (Tuesday, May 3rd) and further information will be shared with opportunities for families who wish to get involved in the celebration. Additionally, if families have any input for this celebration, we would be delighted to have your ideas!

Thank you for your unending support, as we continue to navigate unusual and unique circumstances!

Warm Regards  
Debbie



## Upcoming Events

Thursday, April 14th

Storytelling with Laura Pershin Raynor

10:00 am **Red Room**

10:45 am **Orange Room**

Tuesday, April 19th

Storytelling with Laura Pershin Raynor

10:00 am **Yellow Room**

10:45 am **Green Room**

Tuesday, April 26th

Storytelling with Laura Pershin Raynor

10:00 am **Purple Room**

10:45 am **Blue Room**

## GROWING IN THE GARDEN!

A garden can work like a savings account for children. But instead of money, they deposit moments of digging, planting, and watering. What do they withdraw? Understanding. Exercise. Nutrition. And the sheer satisfaction of creating something beautiful and useful. Your child can garden in your backyard, a community plot, or on a window sill. Here are some ideas to start with:

**Grow a PLEASE PICK Garden:** In a container or a small patch of ground, grow flowers that your child is always free to pick. Try zinnias, daisies, or marigolds.

**Water and Weed Me Flags:** What needs watering today? What needs weeding? Tie streamers of yarn on the ends of sticks. Blue yarn means "Water Me", and red yarn means "Weed Me". Move the sticks as needed.

**Thirsty Trees:** When your child's wading pool needs emptying, have them scoop up buckets of water and empty them under a tree.

**Celebrate Arbor Day:** This year, Arbor Day, a day set aside annually for tree planting, is on April 27th. The Arbor Day foundation suggests celebrating by starting a tree seed in a cup, or a seedling in a pot.

**Digging is half the fun:** Designate a place where your children can dig to their heart's content.

**Plants with Shoes?** Your child can make a planter by filling his or her worn-out, outgrown shoes with dirt. Try planting dwarf sunflower seeds in them. The stems look like long legs!

**Sandwich Bag Garden:** Make a row of four staples across a zip-close plastic bag, about one inch up from the bottom. Have your child fold and dampen a paper towel to place in the bag. Slide a few dry lima beans between the paper towel and the side of the bag. Then tape the bag in a sunny window and watch the roots grow.

**Grow a Salad:** Leaf lettuce and radishes are easy to grow and can be planted in a small patch of ground or in pots and window boxes. Have your child water seeds with a plant mister every evening and weed from time to time. The whole family can enjoy the results.



## 15 WAYS TO THANK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

**Smile:** Say hello and smile, even when you're in a hurry.

**Talk:** You can brighten up a teacher's morning simply by passing along your child's enthusiastic comments. Sometimes children will tell their parents about something they like at school, but never mention it to their teachers.

**Label:** There are few sights more welcome to a teacher on a hectic day than coats and belongings with a child's name clearly marked on them.

**Write:** After parent/teacher conferences are over, send a note of thanks for all the time the teacher has put into preparing for them.

**Tell a Friend:** Say something positive about your child's teacher to another parent in the class. Positive comments have a way of spreading.

**Tell an Administrator:** Make time to say something complimentary about your child's teacher to the director or staff. Sometimes people only go to them with complaints.

**Tell the Teacher:** Stop in and say something nice about your child's teacher to—who else?—the teacher her/himself.

**Copy It:** Write a thank-you note to your child's teacher for all she/he has done. Then make a copy and ask that it be put in his/her file.

**Watch:** Here's something teachers might not mention, but considerate parents do it anyway...if you bring younger brothers or sisters into a classroom, always keep an eye on them yourself.

**Order:** Order lunch for your child's teacher. **Remember, though, to keep it NUT FREE!**

**Fix It:** If the zipper on your child's jacket is broken, or sticks, fix it. It helps when getting 20+ kids ready for outside play.

**Make a Card:** Home-made ones are always best.

**Help Out:** Pitch in when something special is going on at school. Offer to lend a hand whenever you can.

**Check the Time:** Make it a top priority to arrive on time at the end of the day. Your child's teacher, like everyone else, has a family, appointments, or errands to get to.

**Smile Again:** Say good-bye and smile, even when you are in a hurry.

