



# the discovery center

April 2019

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

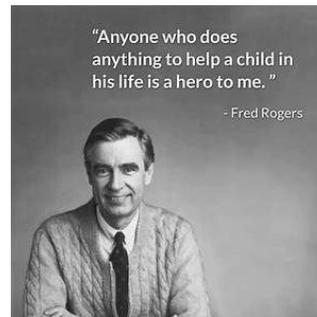
During the month of April we will be celebrating The Week of the Young Child™ (April 8-12). The Week of the Young Child™ is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers, and families. This annual celebration focuses public attention on the needs of young children and their families, and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. It is also to raise awareness in making the critical early years the best they can be for all children.

There are many ways during this week in which we will be celebrating children, their families and teachers. Each day of the week has a unique focus. Monday, April 8th is "Music Monday--Sing, Dance, Celebrate, Learn". Tuesday, April 9th is "Tasty Tuesday--Healthy Eating and Fitness at Home and School". Wednesday, April 10th is "Work Together Wednesday--Work Together, Build Together, Learn Together". Thursday, April 11th is "Artsy Thursday--Think, Problem Solve Create". Friday, April 12th is "Family Friday--

Sharing Family Stories".

**Additionally** on Wednesday, April 10th from 6-7:30 pm, we will be hosting an All School Event, "An Enchanted Evening". This is a great opportunity for Discovery Center children and their families and friends to explore the classrooms in our center and partake of many activities planned just for evening. We will also have storytelling, a raffle, silent auction and a pizza dinner option. Sign up sheets for ordering pizza are located on your child's classroom door! All proceeds from our event will benefit The Jacquelyn H. Miller Endowment.

It is important to celebrate young children and those who are most important to them and their well being. We also take this opportunity to con-advocate for well. Our precious re-are our chil-



must oppor-tinue to them as most source dren!

Warmly,

## Upcoming Events

Wednesday, April 10th	6:00-7:30 pm	"An Enchanted Evening" All School Evening Event
Monday, April 15th	10:00 am	Music Concert with Laz and Guest
Thursday, April 18th	10:15 am	Storytelling with Laura Pershin Raynor

## 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.

