



# the discovery center

June 2018

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER — SUMMER FUN!

I wanted to take this opportunity to share a few quick ideas to explore with your child for some summertime fun:



1– Put some peeled and broken crayons of various colors in paper cups. Cover with plastic wrap, set them out in the sun on a hot day. They'll melt and turn into round multicolored crayons.

2– Get up early and have a breakfast picnic outside!

3– Make colorful bubble prints. Mix food coloring in bubble solution. Then go outdoors and blow the bubbles at sheets of white paper.

4– Give your child a small bucket of water and a real paint brush. He or she can paint sidewalks, steps, or even houses.

5– Tape big pieces of paper on the kitchen table or floor. Give your child crayons, and turn on some music so they can scribble to a beat.

6– Finger paint with shaving cream.

7– Peel and wrap some bananas in waxed paper or plastic wrap. Then put them in the freezer. Frozen bananas taste great on a hot summer day.

8– Do family members take their lunches to work? Have your child decorate lunch bags for everyone! Or use them for a picnic.

9– Get out pots and pans, lids, wooden spoons, and make your own kitchen band.

10– Buy some inexpensive magnifying glasses and take a closer look at the world.

11– Poke some holes in the bottom of a paper cup. Put a flashlight in it and shine it at the ceiling to make stars in your child's bedroom at night.

12– If the plastic wading pool develops a crack— don't throw it away. Make it into your child's own garden. Fill it with soil and plant some fast growing seeds. Beans, radishes, and marigolds are usually reliable choices.

Have a safe and fun-filled summer!



Debbie

## Scribbling— It's Important!

There is nothing more joyful than watching a young child create! Have you ever been fascinated with a child as they are scribbling? Did you know?

\*Scribbling is learning-When a child scribbles, s/he is learning—how to feel competent about writing and drawing, how to start and stop a line, that a crayon can record the motion of his/her arm.

\*Scribbling is discovering-When a child scribbles, s/he is discovering—that it is s/he who made those rounded shapes on the paper, that s/he can make them again and again, that s/he can make them bigger or smaller, darker or lighter.

\*Scribbling is understanding-When a child scribbles, s/he begins to understand—that lines cross and re-cross each other, that when lines cross they form new shapes, that s/he caused it all to happen.

\*Scribbling is strengthening-When a child scribbles, s/he is strengthening—the muscles and skills needed for writing and drawing, the coordination of his/her hands and eyes, his/her image of himself/herself as someone who is interested in using the tools of writing and drawing.

Young children not only want to scribble with markers and crayons, they need to start out by scribbling. It is a pathway to writing and drawing.

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## Nature Bracelets

Wrap a piece of masking tape, with the sticky side out, around your child's wrist. Attach the ends of the tape together so it will stay on the wrist like a bracelet. Take your child on a nature hike. Encourage your child to attach things they find on the walk, such as



leaves, twigs, pieces of grass, small flowers, etc. to their bracelets. Be sure to also point out things for your child to see on your hike like: birds flying, squirrels climbing trees, clouds in the sky, etc.

## Yummy Snacks for "Camping in Your Backyard!"

### S'more Mix

2 cups honey graham cereal  
1 cup tiny marshmallows  
1/2 cup chocolate chips  
1/2 cup raisins

In a large plastic bag, combine all ingredients. close the bag and shake well. Store in a closed container or plastic bag to keep fresh. S'mores without too much mess! Yummy!

### Banana Boats

Take a banana and leaving the skin on, slice it half way through the long way. Place mini marshmallows and chocolate chips in the banana slit. Wrap entire banana in tin foil and warm in oven or over the coals of a campfire, until chocolate and marshmallow begin to melt. When warmed, scoop out banana with chocolate and marshmallow with a spoon. Very delicious!