



Player Early Childhood Center

From the Director's Desk

Kindergarten Preparations

For the next few months, teachers will begin preparing their older students for kindergarten. They will talk about kindergarten in a positive way so the children can begin to prepare themselves emotionally for this big change.

Teachers here at Player will meet with the kindergarten teachers in April so they can "introduce" the students that will be coming to each school.

Parents will receive a letter notifying them which school their child will attend for kindergarten. This is called your home school and it is usually the closest to your home. It is very important that you let us know if you have recently moved so we assign the correct school for your child. Please send us updated addresses as soon as possible.

In some cases, students may be recommended to go to another school because

of programming options. You will be notified of this recommendation and will be part of the decision should this change be recommended.

We also plan to have a Kindergarten step-up day scheduled in April where we can take the children on a mini field trip to their new school. There will be also an opportunity for parents to learn more about what to expect as their child moves into Kindergarten at our annual Kindergarten Tea which is scheduled for early May. Until then, if you have any other questions, you can always call the Director or speak to your child's teacher.

Our goal is to ensure that this transition into kindergarten is a smooth and easy one for both child and parents alike.

ISD109
"Responsible Preparing Everyone
Today for a Better Tomorrow"

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Dates to Remember

- ☺ March 6 Pulaski Day
- ☺ March 9 Literacy Night-

Special Guest:

Mother Goose!

Inside this issue:

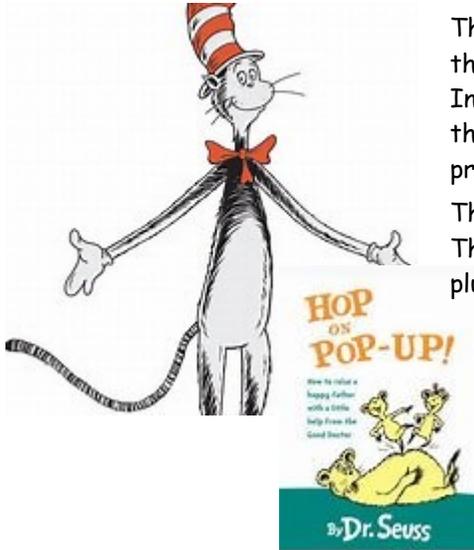
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Early Registration for 2017-2018

For those students who will be returning to Player Early childhood Center in the fall, we will be sending home packets for early registration when we return from Spring Break. Please fill out all the documents and follow the instructions as to other items we will need. Once everything is returned and reviewed, you will receive a notification that registration has been completed.

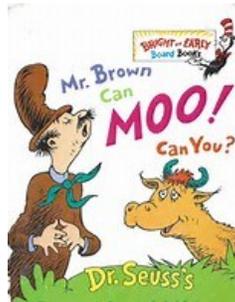
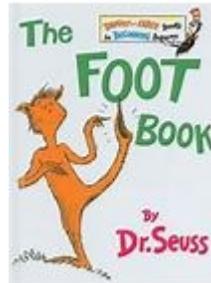
This means that your child will be completely registered for his/her class for the upcoming school year and will not need to return in August on the registration dates. Letters will be sent over the summer with start up dates and meeting times with teachers if necessary.

Celebrating Dr. Seuss's Birthday



There certainly are many, many books written by Dr. Seuss! Here are a few that our teachers are reading to their classes. For our February Technology Incentive, the students have been voting electronically on their favorite of these three books. The teachers will use the voting system and the graph it produces as a learning experience.

The teachers also use the books for early literacy and language experiences. These books tend to offer a lot of rhyming and the use of positional words, plus they are great fun! Pick up a Dr. Seuss book and read to your child today!!



Funding Factory: Recycle Program

Player School is participating in a recycle program that helps us to earn money! We will be collecting items such as:

- Empty inkjet cartridges
- Laser printer cartridges
- Old cell phones

And, non-working, small electronics such as

- Digital cameras
- MP3 Players
- GPS devices

For more information visit
www.fundingfactory.com

There is a collection box in our front foyer to receive any items that you wish to donate. You can bring them in or send them with your child. Some of you may work in an office where you the printer cartridges getting thrown away. Please ask if you can take them for recycling

Help keep our Earth clean and free from toxic waste in landfills. RECYCLE! And help your school in the process

We appreciate your help!

Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards (IELDS)

There are 75 early learning standards and countless more benchmarks that the state of Illinois requires us to include in our curriculum here at Player School. This year, while the teachers cover all of them, we developed 10 Power Standards/Benchmarks that are routinely covered more frequently and that the teachers determined to be some of the most important. They are the Top Ten that we want everyone to be aware of including all parents.

Here is the list and some examples of students working on them in action:

Preschool Power Standards

Language Arts

- 1.A.ECa Follow simple one-, two- and three-step directions.- (Listening)
- 1.E.ECc With teacher assistance, use new words acquired through conversations and book-sharing experiences.- (Speaking)
- 4.D.ECb With teacher assistance, demonstrate understanding of the one-to-one correspondence of letters and sounds.- (Reading)
- 5.B.ECa With teacher assistance, use a combination of drawing, dictating, or writing to express an opinion about a book or topic.- (Writing)

Math

- 6.A.ECa Count with understanding and recognize “how many” in small sets up to 10
- 6.A.ECe Differentiate numerals from letters and recognize some single-digit written numerals.
- 8.A.ECa Sort, order, compare, and describe objects according to characteristics or attribute(s)

Social/Emotional

- 30. A.ECb Use appropriate communication skills when expressing need, wants, and feelings.
- 30.A.ECd Begin to understand and follow rules.
- 30.C.ECc Show some initiative, self-direction, and independence in actions.



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Player Early childhood Center is proud to have earned accreditation from the National Association of the Education of Young Children (Naeyc). Naeyc is the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children

Our mission to provide high quality, developmentally appropriate practices in a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment that respects and supports diversity coincides with the mission and vision of Naeyc.

From the Health Desk...March is Nutrition Month

Children develop a natural preference for the foods they enjoy the most, so the challenge is to make healthy choices appealing. Of course, no matter how good your intentions, it's always going to be difficult to convince your eight-year-old that an apple is as sweet a treat as a cookie. However, you can ensure that your child's diet is as nutritious and wholesome as possible, even while allowing for some of their favorite treats.

The childhood impulse to imitate is strong, so it's important you act as a role model for your kids. It's no good asking your child to eat fruit and vegetables while you gorge on potato chips and soda.

Top tips to promote healthy childhood eating.

- Have regular family meals. Knowing dinner is served at approximately the same time every night and that the entire family will be sitting down together is comforting and enhances appetite. Breakfast is another great time for a family meal, especially since kids who eat breakfast tend to do better in school.
- Cook more meals at home. Eating home cooked meals is healthier for the whole family and sets a great example for kids about the importance of food. Restaurant meals tend to have more fat, sugar, and salt. Save dining out for special occasions.
- Get kids involved. Children enjoy helping adults to shop for groceries, selecting what goes in their lunch box, and preparing dinner. It's also a chance for you to teach them about nutritional values of different foods, and (for older children) how to read food labels.
- Making a variety of healthy snacks available instead of empty calorie snacks. Keep plenty of fruits, vegetables, whole grain snacks, and healthy beverages (water, milk, pure fruit juice) around and easily accessible so kids become used to reaching for healthy snacks instead of empty calorie snacks like soda, chips or cookies.
- Limit portion sizes. Don't insist your child cleans the plate, and never use food as a reward or bribe.

Authors: Maya W. Paul and Lawrence Robinson. Last updated: December 2012. HelpGuide.org
