



Kachemak Kids

Early Learning Center

June 2009
Volume 1, Issue 8

Director's Note

It has been interesting to see the flow from a "school" program move to a "summer" program. Do to the ages we are attracting, some of our previous concepts need to be redirected. I hope the following adjustments continue to meet the needs of KKELC families.

June Themes

Bountiful
Bread

Fairies and
Fairy Tales

Artful Arts

Ecology

Circus

Thank you,
Bobbi

Staff Changes:

A need to redesign our staff schedule has developed due to enrollment and teachers' summer schedule needs. The following changes will begin June 1st:

Sierra: Tue-Fri 7am to 6pm (four- 10 hour shifts)

Bobbi: Mon-Thu 7am to 6pm (four- 10 hour shifts)

LeAnne: Mon-Fri 9am to 6pm (five- 8 hour shifts)

Sue Sequella Mon & Fri 8:30-5:30 (two 8 hour shifts) She has been a substitute.

Tammy Rainwater will become a substitute ONLY

Rebecca Putterbaugh (high school aide) M,W,F 12:00pm-3:00pm

Program Changes:

Attached to the newsletter is our new Summer program schedule.
Director Office Hours: M-Th 7am-9am and 3pm-5pm

Water Bottles:

I am asking that ALL water bottles stay home. One of the Alaska State Objectives for early childhood is a pouring skill. I have purchased reusable cups so kids can pour their own water throughout the day. Yes it may spill...but it is only water. This is healthier as some water bottles look like they are growing our next science experiment and it provides an opportunity to master a skill.

Summer Closure Dates:

July 3rd in honor of 4th of July
Labor Day

What is my child learning?

As the staff and I were developing the summer program, I had an “ah-ha” moment that I would like to share with you. Our centers are designed to touch a wide range of developmental ages and stages. It is important to assess your child’s progress and enjoyment from the process not the product. Here is an example:

Following napping, we set out a collage activity with scissors, colored paper and glue. Raiden cut his paper into a rocket shape and started flying it around the room.

Kostas played with blocks; he cared less about paper, glue and scissors.

Willem was more interested in the glue stick and he put the cap “on” - “off” at least twenty times while I repeated, “on-off” and “open”- “close” over and over and over!

Here are three boys, in an age span of six months, all “feeding” their own developmental needs. The only parent who will have a “product” to take home is Tela (Raiden’s mom); however, the “process” all three boys experienced is critical. Your child may not tell you, there may not be a “product” to look at but I can confidently assure you....all of you, YOUR CHILD IS LEARNING....A LOT!!- Bobbi

Summer Themes and Dates:

- 6/1-6/12: Bountiful Bread (all about bread and baking)
- 6/15-6/26: Fairies and Fairy Tales featuring a Renaissance Fair and inventions
- 6/29-7/10 Artful Arts featuring: theater, photography, painting and sculpting
- 7/13-7/24 How Green can we become Ecology
- 7/27-8/5 Circus, Circus

Reminders:

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Krispy Kreme Donut volunteers needed!

KKELC would like to host a Krispy Kreme donut sale in Homer. The date will be either July 16 or 17th. KKELC needs 4 all day volunteers or people to split these positions (morning/afternoon shifts) to help with selling donuts the day of the event on the Spit (at a stand) and delivering presold donuts.

We also ask all parents and board members to help with selling the donuts prior to the one day event.

If you are interested in helping- contact Jenny Martin- homerjlm@yahoo.com

Sandwich Board Volunteers Needed!

Volunteer(s) needed to build and/or paint a sandwich board sign for Kachemak Kids. If you are interested please contact Emilie Otis at emmy@xyz.net or 235-0706.

Board of Directors

Chair: Lolita Brache
299-0694

Vice-Chair: Diane
McBride

Treasurer: Jenny Martin
235-9727

Secretary: Emilie Otis
235-0706

Members: Shannon
McBride-Morin
235-2604

Thank You!

Thank you Parents for assisting with the Yard Sale in May!! From donations, to sales, to set-up/clean-up, to posters.....We raised \$600 for KKELC. -Julie

Announcements:

Please provide list of at least 3 names, addresses, emails & phone numbers of people you know who may donate to support our non-profit Learning Center.

All donations are tax-deductible. Shannon McBride-Morin (Sabina's Mom) will be coordinating the next fundraising effort targeting friends, family, and businesses. Please email contact information to Shannon@AlaskaWildernessLodge.com or drop it in the KKELC in-box file with a note it is for Shannon. She will be sending letters out asking for financial support. Thank you for helping make KKELC a financial success!

Summer Wish List:

The following items are needed to supplement our centers:
Textured fabric scraps
King/Queen (royalty) accessories and Jester's hat
Bakery accessories (chef hat, aprons)
Salad spinners (for a painting activity)
6-pack pop rings
Dryer lint (for making paper and sculpting)
Vacuum

Parent Meeting:

Mark your calendar for Monday, June 15 for our fourth parent meeting. It'll take place from 5:30-6:30 PM.

Drop-off Drama

If you want to reduce stress at "drop-off" here are some suggestions:

Create a ritual at school and **STICK TO IT**. An example: when you arrive to school put snack and lunch on cart, give a hug and a kiss and **GO**. When you linger or return because your child starts to fuss; you are rewarding the fussing behavior.

Pre-arrange with your child when you arrive at school you will stay 5min. or 10 min. Show them the clock and tell them where the minute hand will be when it is time to go. Then when that happens, no matter how much pleading, crying that develops **STICK TO YOUR PLAN**.

All of the caregivers will redirect your child. Your child will **NOT** be abandoned; we will assure your child of your return. Usually your child is engaged and playing before you leave the parking lot. The leaving and returning cycle to cuddle your upset child only creates more stress on everyone. Please find a ritual that works for your family or talk with one of the staff to help develop one and then **STICK TO IT!** You are laying the foundation to coping with the many facets of separation and we want to help you create healthy, secure, stress **free transitions**.

At Home Parent Service Projects:

Make painter canvases

Make signs: BAKERY, Art Studio, Science Center, Sensory, and Construction Zone

Make: Cardboard or tag board: cookie, cake and cupcake shapes

Make Ecology game (See LeAnne)

Our Mission: To provide a safe, nurturing, cooperative-style preschool and child care program that strengthens families through the education of parents and staff. We strive to provide awareness and role modeling for the Homer community regarding safe, nurturing child care, child development, and integrated learning for children, their families, and other community members.

JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Week theme- Bountiful Bread	2	3	4	5 First Friday Art Gallery Opening 5PM-7PM	6
7	8 Week theme- Bountiful Bread	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Week Theme- Fairies and Fairy Tales 5:30-6:30 Parent Meeting	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Week Theme- Fairies and Fairy Tales	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Week Theme- Artful Arts	30	30			