

April Newsletter

April 2024

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The month of April is Autism Acceptance month. According to the Autism Society, “Autism is defined as a complex, lifelong developmental condition that typically appears during early childhood and can impact a person’s social skills, communication, relationships, and self-regulation. The Autism experience is different for everyone. While there is no known single cause for Autism, it is generally accepted that it is caused by differences in brain structure or genetic factors. Early diagnosis and intervention can greatly support an Autistic individual with the resources needed to live fully.

Some signs and symptoms that might occur when an individual has Autism:

- Restricted or repetitive behaviors, movements, or phrases
- Co-occurring conditions including but not limited to, mental health illnesses, gastrointestinal issues, seizure disorders, and more.
- Lack of response to normal stimuli (i.e. his/her name, visual cues)
- Avoiding eye contact
- Restricted or repetitive behaviors, movements, or phrases
- Delayed movement, language, and/or cognitive skills
- Atypical verbal communication, non-speaking, or non-verbal
- Difficulty understanding or expressing feelings

Getting the help you need. Early identification is associated with dramatically better outcomes for people with Autism. The earlier a child is diagnosed, the earlier they can begin benefiting from early intervention therapies and education. There are no medical tests, such as blood work or brain scans, for diagnosing Autism. An accurate medical diagnosis must be based on observation of the individual’s communication, social interaction, and their activities and interests. While there is not a single behavioral or communication test that can detect Autism, several Autism-specific tools are now being used for formal diagnosis. The characteristic behaviors of ASD may or may not be apparent in infancy (18 to 24 months), but usually become obvious during early childhood (24 months to 6 years).

Autism Society has a National Helpline offers our trained Information & Referral (I&R) Specialists to provide resources to services and supports across the country.

Room Updates

Room 1 - Continuity of Care

Hello families! This month we are talking about Spring, the sun, Earth, colors, and the garden. We are looking forward to spending more time outside. We are going to talk about flowers, bunnies, eggs, identifying colors, and experience feeling dirt, water, and plants. This month we will also add snack time picnics!

Room 2 - One Year Olds

Hello Spring! We would like to welcome Ms. Ashley to Room 2! This month we will be discussing the weather, week of the young child, colors, Earth Day and Cinco de Mayo. We look forward to all the fun activities we have planned for this month.

Room 3 - Two Year Olds

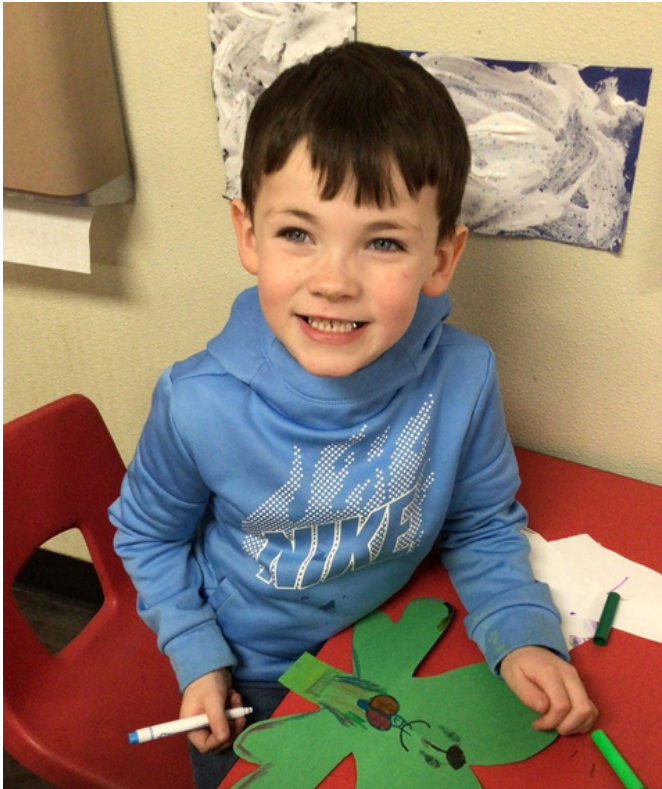
Happy Spring! Now that the weather is finally seeming to be warmer I wanted to remind families that we will be spending a lot of time outside. The grass typically is still wet when we go out for the day and will probably get wet and muddy. This goes for clothes as well as we will be painting, coloring, exploring, and making various things that will be messy. However, all products that we use are washable! This month we will explore topics of weather, colors, and celebrate the Week of the Young Child! We will be closed April 5th and April 8th!

Room 4 - Continuity of Care

Hello April! This month we will be looking at themes of sea animals, NAYCE's Week of the Young Child, Earth Day, and Weather. We will be closed April 5th and 8th! Make sure to keep an eye for messages for diapers, wipes, and clothes. Let's have a wonderful April!



Room Updates



Room 5 - Infants

Happy April Room 5! This month we're looking forward to diving deeper into spring nature based play and creative expression, such as working together to create a group mural using mud and paint! We're excited for new books, to celebrate Earth Day with recycled loose parts play, and to work on our monthly individual plans. We can't wait to enjoy more time outside as the weather continues to warm up!

Room 6 - 3 & 4 Year Olds

Happy Spring Room 6 families. We're so excited to learn and play outside as it begins to warm up. This March we learned about different forms of transportation, celebrated multiple holidays, and introduced patterns. During the month of April we will learn about insects, weather, and discover ways to appreciate our Earth. Please dress your child appropriately as our Indiana weather can be unpredictable day to day. Thank you for all you do!



Room 7 - 4 & 5 Year Olds

March was a fun filled month! We enjoyed starting off the season of Spring together and our Easter Egg hunt was a blast! April brings more spring fun. We are looking forward to discussing different types of weather and how our weather is changing from winter to spring. Our class will also be doing some fun exploring with bugs and planting some seeds for Earth Day. We will also be celebrating reading with a book show and tell! Room 7 wishes happy birthday to Bailey and Ella!