

LADYBUG NEWS

Educating and Caring For Your Children For More Than 36 Years



Mother's hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever.

~Author Unknown

Dear Mommy,

Please join me for

Muffins For Mommies

When: Friday, May 12th

Where: Ladybug

Classrooms

Time: 8:30-9:15 am

We love our Ladybug Mom's!

May 2017

Thank you for being part of our Ladybug family. Ladybug teachers are pleased to create this monthly newsletter for you because you are important to us and we truly appreciate you. Please feel free to share this newsletter with friends and family.

Happy reading!

Mark Your Calendars!

May 12th

Muffins for Moms

May 29th

Ladybug is Closed for Memorial Day

June 16th

Donuts for Dads

Mission

At Ladybug Child Care Center, our mission is to provide a joyful learning experience for your family that empowers your children to reach their educational and personal potential while lovingly nurturing their self-confidence and self-esteem.

10 Unique Gardening Activities for Kids



1. Grow a Playhouse: Imagine being three years old and surrounded by gigantic sunflowers towering above you, or crawling into a teepee made of sticks and overgrown with pea pods, or engulfed in a square of moonflowers that open up when the crickets start to sing. Flowering playhouses are easily built (by a parent) out of wooden poles and string. Plant the seeds around the poles, then gently train the flowers to wind around and through them.

2. Grow Something to Wear: Let your children play dress-up with their flowers. Turn colorful blossoms into necklaces, leis, or bracelets. Tuck flowers behind ears, into hair, or thread a blossom through a shirt button. Save pretty petals to make jewelry.

Our rainbow garden

3. Plant a Rainbow: Find flower seeds in the colors of the rainbow, then help your child plant them in a rainbow shape. Try to find flowers that are roughly the same size and make sure they are all appropriate for the same season.

4. Plant Something Weird: Appeal to your child's love for the unexpected. Plant purple and red carrots, blue potatoes, or purple beans. Grow miniature or "midget" versions of the vegetables we usually see like peas, corn, or lettuce.

5. Create a Scratch & Sniff Garden: Please your child's nose with an assortment of smells: plant mint that smells (and tastes!) like chocolate peppermint, ginger, lemon, orange, and apple, and geraniums that smell like roses, lemon, mint, chocolate, pine, nutmeg, and more.

6. Grow Plants that are Nice to Touch or Fun to Hear: Your toddler will love "tickle me" plants; the leaves curl up when touched. Lamb's Ears have a fuzzy silvery fur that kids like to touch. If you garden indoors, aloe vera plants are a good tactile choice for small children. You can also try bunny tails and cotton to satisfy a child's sense of touch.

On windy days, your toddler will love to listen to the sounds made by ornamental grass, the Chinese lantern plant, or the Money plant.¹

7. Grow a Craft Project: Grow gourds that you can turn into birdhouses or musical instruments. Grow flowers and berries that you can use for their natural dyes, which your child can use for artwork and other crafts. There are even certain plants with beads that can be used in jewelry.

8. Garden in Unusual Containers: Who says you have to plant seeds in the ground? Give your child a fun container (also a great way to garden inside). You can use an old shoe, a discarded toy, or a plain pot with a face drawn on. Or trap a cucumber in a glass jar.

Our butterfly/hummingbird garden

9. Attract Butterflies and Hummingbirds: Create beauty on and above the ground by planting flowers that attract butterflies and hummingbirds.²

10. Eat Your Vegetables and Your Flowers: Ground cherries are hidden in pods that look like little lanterns. Grow a pizza patch garden full of tomatoes, peppers, basil, garlic, and other veggies and herbs that can be baked into homemade pizza. Apartment dwellers: did you know you can grow peanuts inside? For a completely new level of edible fun, try growing flowers you can eat: nasturtium, clover, and lavender are just a few tasty varieties.

LADYBUG PRESCHOOL LEARNING CENTER AND ADVENTURE- CENTRE

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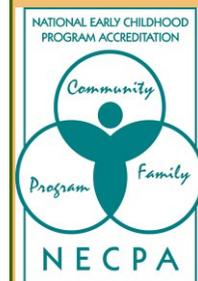
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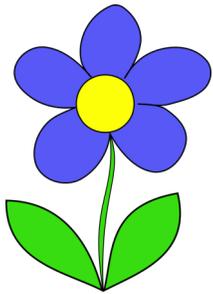
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At Ladybug Child Care Center, we will prepare your child's heart, mind, and body to ensure their success as a life long learner.

Nursery



Happy Spring!

Thank you all for a great April! We had so much fun during the Week of the Young Child. We also enjoyed all the art projects for Earth Day and Easter!

Spring shows up in every corner, grass is green, trees start to bloom and geese are crossing the streets proudly. We'll be watching all those metamorphoses in the window, talk about it, read books about Spring and Rain. We'll look at the Sun sparkles in our sun-catchers, do sensory play with feathers and a lot more! Our 3 littlest bugs: Ford, Easton and Emmett will continue getting acquainted with their friends and explore new sensory play in the nursery. Edward and Sam will be trying their strength on tummy time looking at family pictures in the album. Hudson, Liam and Elliott will continue to practice sitting up like big boys. Alexandra and Novalie will be our spring flowers in the room, brightening it with their smiles and babbling stories!

We are also welcoming a new staff member in our room, her name is Miss Jessie and she is already in love with our little babies! You may have noticed she looks very similar to Miss Jennifer. They happen to be sisters. We are very excited to have her be a part of Ladybug. You will also still see Miss Jennifer still as she has started working in the toddler department.

For The Love of Children~ Miss Lera



Flower



Grow

Here are our 2 new signs in May!

Here is what we will be doing this month with babies.

Large Motor: knee bends, floor play, toes to nose, dance with me, roll over with help and push and pull.

Small Motor: bang the blocks, make music with rattlers, grasp a toy, pull the string, arm stretch and Clap-Clap-Clap.

Language: books, question – answer, words with action, nursery rhymes, shapes and abc's.

Sensory: smells in the room, sensory bottles, peek-a-boo, magnet bottle, tissue play and pattern pictures.

Sprinkle, Sprinkle

Sung to: Twinkle, Twinkle

Sprinkle, sprinkle

On the ground.

Soft, wet rain is

Falling down.

Time for boots and coats

And hats.

Open umbrellas

With a snap.

Sprinkle, sprinkle

On the ground.

Soft, wet rain is falling down.

Playroom

Happy Spring!

Thank you all for a great April, we had so much fun during the week of a Yong Child together!

Spring is fully in bloom, summer is close and the smiles of our little bugs are brightening up the room just as much as the spring sun.

For The Love of Children ~ Miss Jody



Flower



Grow

Here are our 2 new signs in May!

Here is a song we are going to sing this month:

Little Plants

(Sung to "Down by the Station")

Down in the garden, early in the morning,

(Stand straight and tall)

See the little plants bending to and fro.

(Bend body back and forth)

See the gentle breeze help them lift their arms.

(Raise arms out at sides)

Swish-swish, swish-swish, wave hello!

Wave arms gently up and down)

By Jean Warren



Here is what we will be doing this month in the Playroom.

Small motor: playing with pop beads, nesting cups, working with picking up small toys and banding things tighter, puppet play

Large motor: we will doing paper plate toss , working on crawling and walking, rolling balls to friends and teachers.

Streamer play, playing with pooper.

Language : we will be learning our colors, shapes and number one to five.

Sensory: texture books, peek a boo with animals, bubbles, sensory bottles, fun with rice and tickle time.

Sprinkle, Sprinkle

Sung to: Twinkle, Twinkle

Sprinkle, sprinkle

On the ground.

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Toddler A



April showers....bring May flowers!

Art: We have some fun weather related projects including rain painting where we will drip paint and see the pattern it makes, making a rainbow with streamers, and making cotton ball clouds so we can see what they look and feel like! We will also be making a muddy boot and some other fun projects that use our hand and foot print as well! During bugs and bees we will be making all kinds of bugs including egg carton caterpillars, butterfly sun catchers, and paper plate ladybugs!

Sensory and Science: There are sensory options everywhere for this month! We will be exploring water and sand, and finding out what happens when those two things come together: MUD!!!! That will lead us straight into the funny looking things that live in that stuff Bugs! Here we will look at all the different crawly things that we see outside and we will learn about where they live! We will also learn about why some bugs we should just look at but not touch!

Math: We will be working on our math skills by counting from 1-5 and learning to pattern with two different kinds of counters yep you guessed it Ladybugs and Bumblebees! We will be working on our color and shape recognition as well but we will be focusing on the colors brown, blue, red and yellow!

Language: We have lots of fun songs to sing and new stories to read this month! Some of our favorites including, "Baby Bumblebee," and, "There was an old lady who swallowed a fly." We have some great books for story time too including, "What makes a Rainbow?" and "Ten Tiny Snails." One of our favorites is, "Big Bug, Little Bug!"

Happy Spring...

Yeah! Spring is here and we are so ready for our next themes! We have been getting a fair amount of April showers so we have been kind of already getting into our next theme, Muddy Puddles! We have been just having a grand old time splashing in the little puddles left by the rain in various places on the playground and now we get to learn about them and play with them even more! Then we get to go out and explore the world of Bugs and Bees! Bugs are such a fun world to get into for these little ones and I am super excited to show them how fun bugs are to look at, listen to, and sometimes touch too!

For The Love of Children ~

Miss Anne

Reminders

*Make sure to label all clothing, shoes, and rain boots! We are all about the same size and like a lot of the same things so some belongings are very similar and it is very easy to get things mixed up!

*Please clean out your child's cubby every day! All Toys and Blankets from home need to stay home or go to work with Mom or Dad our cubbies are getting very crowded and we don't want things getting lost.

*Ladybug will be closed Monday May 29th in observance of Memorial Day!

* Please come and join us for Muffins with Mom it will be our pleasure to have you enjoy a special breakfast on your special day! We will be having breakfast for you and your little bugs at 8:30am on Friday May 12th! I hope that you can make it!



Toddler B

Welcome May!

Yea, it's May! This month is one of the favorites for the little ones because this month we get into "Muddy Puddles" and "Bugs and Bees". When it comes to toddlers these two things are very important and fun! Prepare yourself as we enter one of the more messy months in our curriculum. Here are a few of the activities during May:



In **science**, the toddlers will explore and learn about the weather, plant seeds and watch them grow, examine creepy crawlies we see outside, and make our own puddles with stuff that we will find on a nature walk.

In **math**, the toddlers will count with gummy worms, learn to classify objects by color, learn the colors green and brown and the shape diamond, and go on color and shape hunts in our classroom.

In **language** the toddlers will be listening and participating when I read The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Very Busy Spider, and The Grouchy Ladybug by Eric Carle. The toddlers will also improve their vocabulary by reciting rhymes including, "Puddles" and "Pitter Patter."

In **music and movement**, the toddlers will sing favorite songs like "Baby Bumblebee" and "Itsy Bitsy Spider". Along with singing, we will also pretend to be raindrops falling down, spiders crawling up a wall, and bumblebees buzzing around our room.

In **art** the toddlers will be making all kinds of bugs including clothes pin butterflies, marble painting bumblebees, and egg carton caterpillars for bugs and bees. During our muddy puddles unit, we will be painting with chocolate pudding, making a rainbow out of streamers, and making a flower out of multicolor cereal.

For The Love of Children~ Miss Amanda

Thank You, Mom

Thank you for reading me stories and taking care of me.

Thank you for tying my shoes and putting bandages on my knee.

Thank you for tucking me into bed and kissing me goodnight.

Thank you so much for all of your hugs and holding my hand so tight.

Thank you for being my mommy and that's not all I have to say.

Thank you so much for all that you do and have a happy Mother's Day too!

Look What We Are Learning in May!

Math:

- Identify the colors: Brown and Green
- Identify the shape of a diamond
- Be able to classify objects by color

Language Arts:

- The children will show an interest in books and stories

Music:

- The children will be able to sing, play, move, and create music expressive of individual imaginations

Personal & Social Growth:

- Introduce name identification (first name only)
- Work on potty training
- Practice putting on their own shoes and coats

Other:

- The children will jump over objects without falling
- The children will practice zipping their own jackets
- The children will be given ample opportunity for use of large muscle skills.

Proddlers

Goals and Concepts

Math:

- Count 0-20
- Review Patterns ABA and ABCA
- Review colors
- Sort items by color and size
- Practice graphing
- Review shapes-circle, square, triangle, diamond and oval

Language Arts:

- Discuss spring as one of the seasons
- Learn plants are living things
- Learn parts of a plant (root, stem, flower)
- Learn what a plant needs to survive (water, soil, sun, air)
- Make-up stories
- Review parent names

Music:

- Practice different rhythms
- Clap patterns
- Sing songs and rhymes

Personal & Social Growth:

- Practice pouring from a pitcher
- Practice putting on shoes and socks
- Practice hanging jackets on hooks
- Review good hand washing
- Practice cleaning up after themselves

May is all about...

"Tiptoe Through The Tulips" and "How Does Your Garden Grow?"!

The Proddlers will have many learning opportunities in May. Here are a few!

In math your little bug will be learning and reviewing shapes and colors as well as sorting objects by size and color! We will also continue to work on our counting 0-20.

The class will also be learning about the four seasons! We will put into sequence what happens to trees in the four different seasons with flashcards. Your little bug will also continue to work on learning mommy and daddy's first and last names!

In science the Proddlers will plant many different kinds of plants and then watch them grow!!!

In music, we will be singing songs about plants, butterflies and spring flowers!

We will also focus on learning how to zip our own jackets! It is a huge task but they all are all growing so fast and will do great!

Lots of learning going on!

For The Love of Children~ Miss Stephanie

Funny Stories

My funny story this month happened in the morning with Kaia.

Kaia- I'm going on an airplane!

Stephanie- Really, that will be fun. Where are you going?

K- Target

S- Target? What are you getting there?

K- Cookies

S- Cookies. Are you getting anything else?

K- Bananas

S- Cookies and Bananas. Anything else?

K- Nope

S- You're flying to Target to get cookies and bananas. Where are you going after that?

K- Home

I guess Kaia has an expensive trip to Target coming up.

Preschool

May Themes



Tiptoe Through the Tulips

This unit is all about spring (YAY!). After a long, long, long winter we will jump right into springtime with rainbows, flowers, butterflies and kites. We will learn all the parts of a flower, measure our rainfall with a rain gauge, and talk about the science behind tornadoes. Get ready to ask your preschooler if they can tell you the names of the world's smallest and largest flowers!

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Our work learning the parts of flowers and plants in Tiptoe transitions us seamlessly into this unit where we will learn how those plants and flowers grow. What important part do roots play? How exactly does a seed turn into a flower? We will be incorporating nature into our playtime as well as our artistic endeavors, making prints with vegetables, using seeds and corn to make mosaics, and doing leaf rubbings with crayons. The kids will also have the opportunity to help us out in our Preschool Garden on our playground and get some first-hand experience growing plants!

Look how much fun we had....

April is winding to an end and with that so do our themes "Eggs, Eggs, Eggs" and "Bunnies and Other Babies". The Preschool classroom had so much fun with our many egg themed experiments in our theme "Eggs, Eggs, Eggs"! We turned an egg into rubber using vinegar, tested the strength of an eggshell and talked about what would happen if an egg fell off of a block wall! We found out that with just two blocks the egg was just fine but after adding four more blocks the egg cracked into a bunch of different pieces. We practiced math by guessing how many candy eggs were inside a jar and even got to make some tasty snacks like deviled eggs and egg salad! YUM! We also loved getting to talk about all of the cute little baby animals spring delivers, like bunnies, ducklings and fawns! For art we used our fine motor skills by painting with feathers, gluing feathers to a duck, gluing cotton balls to a bunny and finger painting with spring colors! During circle time we enjoyed stories like "Busy Bunnies," "A Nice Surprise For Father Rabbit," "Little Quack," "The Lively Little Rabbit" and "Is Your Mama A Llama?" and singing the songs "The Farmer in the Dell," "Old McDonald," "Who Says Moo Moo" and "I Like baby animals."

For The Love of Children~ Miss Jenna and Miss Alyssa

GOALS AND CONCEPTS

Math:

- The children will demonstrate an interest in exploring with the concept of measurement
- The children will know that an item used to measure other items is called a unit of measure
- The children will know that any item can be used to measure other objects

Language Arts:

- The children will be able to express ideas through writing using:
 - scribbles/pictures (pretend writing)
 - random letters and pictures
 - initial consonants
- The children will be able to identify their own name in print
- The children will be able to print letters using both upper and lower case letters

Music:

- The children will be able to play simple rhythmic-melodic patterns on classroom instruments

Personal & Social Growth:

- The children will be able to transition smoothly from one activity to the next
- The children will be able to recognize and describe(5 year olds only) basic feelings

AdventureCentre



THE SCOOP



Flower Power- In the week of flower power we will be focusing on the wonders of spring! We will be starting our A.C. garden and beginning our fresh spring flowers and fruits and wonderful veggies!

Berry special moms- This week we will be focusing on our mothers and what they mean to us, we will also be making a few mother's day centered arts and crafts!

Dragons and wizards- during this week we will be exploring the fairytale lands of dragons and wizards! This week will be all about our imaginations as we create our very own renditions of a dragon!

Black and white- During this week we will be focusing on colors we will also be testing our knowledge of our primary colors and our secondary colors as well as what and how feelings are associated with colors. Such as why is a doctor's office always a light color such as baby blue? Or why should kitchens colors never be dark?



Alphabet soup- for this ending week of the month of May we will be focusing on the alphabet soup! Making words and saying phrases for the day to increase our vocabulary overall, this week will be a fun week to see what we will all come up with!

For the love of Children" Miss Sade

Reminders:

- Parents please remember to check the parent board, Upcoming field trips as well as important information is posted daily!!
- Also, please remember to utilize your tadpoles; if you so happen to forget to look at the parent board information is posted daily via tadpoles as well.
- Cubbies will be emptied on Mondays as they are getting very full!

Last month we had a blast while celebrating ladybugs birthday in the week of ladybug squares, we also celebrated Easter in the week of **Peter Cottontail**, with Easter egg hunts, Easter basket buying and prize! In the last week of the month we celebrated **there's no place like earth**, we did a lot of activities focused around our beautiful home called earth. We also went out and recycling trash and created a few cooking projects such as worms and dirt for the fun day of earth day.

With the fun ending in the month of April we are ready for what lies ahead in the month of May, In the May we will have a few fun themes that we will be exploring! In the first week of May we will be celebrating the growth and love that May brings! We have a few fun themes this month such as flower power, berry special moms, dragons and wizards, black and white week and lastly alphabet soup!