

LADYBUG NEWS

Educating and Caring For Your Children For More Than 35 Years



Dear Ladybug Clients,

This month, as we proudly mark our 36th year of business, we want to take a moment to say thank you. We are awed and humbled by the trust so many parents have placed in Ladybug over the years. Literally thousands of children have passed through our doors-some short stays and some for as long as twelve years! We truly appreciate you, and the thousands of other loyal clients like you. It's because of you, and each of our many exceptional staff through the years, that we're able to celebrate our 36th anniversary.

As Ladybug embarks upon our next 30 years, we want you to know that we remain deeply committed to upholding the values that embody the essence of Ladybug. You have our word that we will continue striving to anticipate your needs-by providing you with the quality care and education and the personal attention you expect every time you walk into our centers.

It is an honor and a privilege to work with your children and family.

Thank you for being part of Ladybug.

Michelle Kraus
Vice President

Stephen Kraus
Vice President

April 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!

April 1st- Ladybug's 36th Birthday

April 14th- Ladybug is Closed to observe Good Friday

April 24th-28th- Week of the Young Child and Book Fair

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.



Please join us on Friday, March 31st to celebrate Ladybug's Birthday during pickup time. There will be cupcakes served in the conference room from 3pm-6pm!

SMALL STEPS FOR EARTH DAY



Earth day is April 22, so we encourage you to teach your kids to "go green"! Here are some quick and easy suggestions.

- * Shut off the water when they brush their teeth.
- * Walk, ride a bike, or take the bus instead of traveling by car.
- * Take faster showers or bathe in just a small amount of water.
- * Hang clothes on a line instead of using the dryer
- * Choose products that are not over packaged
- * Reduce electricity by explaining to your children that lights, computers, television, and the furnace use energy, and that energy is in short supply.
- * Appliances like computers and DVD players continue to use energy even when off, so cutting the power is the only way to conserve.
- * Explain to your kids that every bottle and can should be recycled. Help the kids sort and take them out for pickup.

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

LADYBUG PRESCHOOL LEARNING CENTER AND ADVENTURE- CENTRE

859 Vista Boulevard
952-442-5057

www.ladybugcc.com

Management Team

Stacey Knickrehm

sknickrehm@ladybugcc.com

Katie Klover

kklover@ladybugcc.com

Kayla Johnson

kjohnson@ladybugcc.com

Corporate Office

Connie Kraus—President

Michelle Kraus-

Vice President

mkraus@ladybugcc.com

Stephen Kraus-

Vice President

skraus@ladybugcc.com

Julie Kauffmann -

Accounting Associate

jkauffmann@ladybugcc.com

Katie Klover-

Client Services Manager

kklover@ladybugcc.com



Nursery

Spring Is In The Air

In the nursery we have a great spot to watch spring bloom through our windows. We will be working on moving in April. Most of the children in the nursery have some type of movement they already do but we want to get them rolling and scooting. We will also be working on the fine motor skills of picking up and playing with the smaller toys in the room. Each child has been able to hold on to them but we are looking forward to the time where they are actually playing and interacting with them.

During the month of April we will be doing art projects with rain, rainbows, and sun. For painting with the little ones we do tummy time finger painting! We place a piece of paper and some paint in a zip lock bag, tape it to the tile floor and let the children "paint" during tummy time.

As your little bug is growing up and starting to work on solids we encourage you to also provide finger foods as well. Example: Puffs, yogurt melts, mum mums, lil crunchies, etc. It helps the child practice their fine motor skills and get use to the feeling of textures in their mouth.

For The Love of Children~ Miss Andrea

Reminders

- Lady bug will be Closed on Friday, April 14th for observing Good Friday.
- If the weather starts getting nicer outside, don't forget to bring in spring time outerwear for us to put on your child. Weather permitting we would go out for stroller rides.

Tummy Time
finger
painting



CanDoKiddo.com



Rain Falling Down

(sung to the tune of Row, Row, Row Your Boat)

Rain, rain falling down,
Landing all around.
What a lovely
Sound you make,
Splashing on the ground!



Playroom

April Showers...

This month we will be busy with all things rain and water! Along with sensory water play, we will be making raindrops, clouds, umbrellas, "mud" prints and ducks in art! Easter is April 16th; we will be doing some special art with eggs and bunnies! We will also be doing a special Earth Day project, as April 22 is Earth Day.

We will be singing some fun rain, and Easter, related songs (and poems) this month like "Pitter Patter", "the Rainbow Song", and "Little Bunny Foo Foo"! Our playroom bugs really like listening to songs!

This month we will be focusing on the sign language signs for: "Stop"; "No Touch"; and "Stand".

With spring and (hopefully) warmer weather coming we will be starting to get outside! Weather permitting we will go outside in the morning and in the afternoon. Please bring a spring jacket, hat and mittens (if needed for the day). Also, our playground does turn clothes black, especially pants and socks, so feel free to bring "outside only" clothes. If your child is walking, please have shoes for them!

April is also a good month to check your child's extra clothes at Ladybug. Make sure that they have the correct size and start switching out winter for spring clothes! If you have any questions please let me know!

For The Love of Children~ Miss Ellen

Rainbow Song

(Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle,
Little Star)

Red and orange, green and
blue,

Shiny yellow, purple too.

All the colors that we know,
live up in the rainbow.

Red and orange, green and
blue,

Shiny yellow, purple too.



Playroom Tidbits:

~Welcome Caelan to Ladybug! He joined us at the end of March!

~Thea and Evelyn turn 1,
Happy Birthday!

~Jet, Nora and Eliza will
start taking one nap after
lunch!

~Cooper will start sleeping
on a cot!

~Alistair will start visiting the
Toddler A room!

Pitter Patter Raindrops

Pitter-patter, raindrops,

Falling from the sky;

Here is my umbrella

To keep me safe and dry!

When the rain is over,

And the sun begins to glow,

Little flowers start to bud,

And grow and grow and
grow!



Toddler A



We have spring fever....

Does anyone have spring fever? I know I do! I am ready for some sunshine and warm weather. I think all the kids are too! With spring comes mud so it is a good idea to leave your children's boots here. It is also a good idea to leave your child's hat and mittens here because spring can still be a little chilly for little ones. Also if you could bring in some rain gear in case we experience any April showers!

The month of March was a lot of fun. We got to learn about eggs, bunnies, and other animal babies. We even pretended to be all the different animals that we talked about. It was really cute to watch them waddle like ducks and cluck like chickens. There were many cute art projects that were done too. Hopefully a few of them were refrigerator material.



Goals and Concepts for April:

Math:

Children will be introduced to the oval shape during group, floor and table times.

Language Art:

Younger toddlers will work on sitting and listening in group time.

Older toddlers will learn to participate and interact appropriately during group time.

Personal and Social Growth:

Children will explore and learn about their environment. We'll work on feeling valued and attached to others in the room. Children will practice dressing themselves with help from the teacher.

For The Love of Children ~ Miss Natalie



I'm a Little Bunny

(Sung to "I'm a Little Teapot")

I am a little bunny.

Watch me hop.

(hop)

Here are my two ears.

See how they flop.

(flop hands at sides of head.)

Here's my cotton tail,

And here's my nose.

(wiggle hips, then nose)

I am furry

From head to my toes.

(Point to head, then feet)

Eggs, Eggs, Eggs

(sung to: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star)

Eggs in a bucket,

Eggs in bins.

Eggs in a basket,

Eggs in tins.

Eggs in green grass,

Eggs in clover.

Eggs, eggs, eggs,

Yes, eggs all over.

Eggs for children

Just like me.

Eggs for Springtime fun,

Yippee!



Toddler B

Happy Spring

Goodbye snow (hopefully)! Hello warmer weather! I am so excited for Spring J! I have so many fun activities planned for April, including; digging for Easter Eggs in Easter Grass, painting Eggs and cutting magazines!

In the Month of March, my Toddler B's themes for the month were: *Spoons are for Banging, I Do It!*, and *Going Places*. During this theme, the children painted with spoons, practice getting dressed, and make a classroom mural with our handprints. The children learned about different means of transportation (plane, train, bus, car, truck, and boat). Each child also got to make their own stop light and license plate.

March Goals

Math:

- Identify the colors: Red, yellow, orange, green, black, brown, white and pink.
- Be able to sort by: Color
- Identify the shape: Rectangle

Language Arts:

- Be able to sit and listen to a story.

Music:

- Engage in singing games.

Personal and Social Growth:

- Practice using indoor voice
- Use appropriate manners like excuse me and apologizes.
- Use appropriate table manners.

Physical:

- Be provided with ample opportunity for use of large muscle skills.

For The Love of Children ~ Miss Courtney

Our themes for the month will be: *Eggs, Eggs, Eggs & Bunnies and other Babies*. During this month the children will be learning about the sounds and looks of all kinds of baby animals. Art projects of Egg Sun catchers, Chalk Eggs, Bunny Ear Headbands and much more will be done. There will also be extra activities of an Egg Search, Bunny Hop Dance, Egg Puzzles and more.



We also welcomed two new little bugs that moved up from the Toddler A classroom last month! Hello Gannon & Quentin welcome to Toddler B!

Classroom Reminders

Well, it's finally arrived...SPRING!!!!!! With the snow melting and ground still wet, we are bound to see a lot of muddy puddles. If Minnesota weather decides not to snow again J Please be sure to keep your child's boots and extra clothing at Ladybug. This way, if they decide to explore the mud, we have protection against their clothing, or at least extra clothing to switch them into when we come in from outside.



Proddlers

Math:

- Be able to identify the oval shape
- Learn the concept of empty versus full
- Practice patterning
- Review one to one correspondence; such as sorting colors, shapes and sizes.
- Graphing various items

Language Arts:

- Recall words in short songs and using our fingers to make motions to the songs.

Music:

- Sing, play, move and create music expressive of individual imaginations
- Engage in singing activities

Personal and Social

Growth:

- Identify themselves by first and last name and gender
- Practice manners
- Using an indoor voice while inside

We will continue to work on fine motor skills through everyday tasks as well as enhance their large motor skills through daily routine and tasks.



Week 1 & 2:

Eggs, Eggs, Eggs – This theme will be talking about Easter and everything that goes with it. We will be doing some different experiments and projects with eggs.

Week 3 & 4:

Bunnies and Other Babies – To wrap up the Easter month and dive into spring, our theme will be Bunnies and Other Babies. We will be talking about different animals and their babies that they have and doing art projects involving baby animals.

For The Love of Children ~ Miss Julie

Proddler News:

- We go outside every day the weather allows, so please make sure your bug has the appropriate gear for the weather!
- Potty training can be a difficult thing and having the supplies here really helps us stay on top of it! If your child is in the potty training process, having 2-3 pairs of extra underwear and 2-3 pairs of extra pants is an ideal number to keep on hand at Ladybug. If you have any questions please let me know!

Thank you so much for your continued support in your son or daughter's life! We love having him/her every day!!!

Three Easter Bunnies

(Sung to the tune "Three Blind Mice")



Three Easter bunnies,
three Easter bunnies,
Hip, hip, hop; hip, hip,
hop

With baskets full, they
hop around,

They hide their Easter
eggs on the ground,

Then hop away without a
sound.

Hip, hip, hop; hip, hip,
hop.

Preschool

"Eggs, Eggs, Eggs"

The science of eggs and what does it mean to "hatch"...we'll be learning about what kinds of animals hatch from eggs as well as the parts of eggs, and the different ways we can enjoy eggs as a food! Do you prefer them scrambled? Deviled? Green with a side of ham? Chocolate with a cream filling? We will also do an experiment to see if we can make an egg bounce when we drop it!



"Bunnies and Other Babies"

Where do bunnies live and what do they eat? What do we call a baby goose? How about a baby cat or a baby horse? We will be learning about these animals through pictures and lots of large muscle movement. Our class will also be hopping like bunnies and pretending to be kittens. Then we'll exercise our fine motor skills with lots of animal art projects like making muddy pigs and gluing cotton balls on paper bunnies.



For The Love of Children ~ Miss Jen and Miss Amber

Tidbits & Reminders:

*Show and tell is every Friday; your child may bring ONE toy that fits into their cubby.

* If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us either by phone or email at Waco-nia.preschool@ladybugcc.com

*Ladybug will be closed on April 14th for Good Friday.

*Please bring only what your child needs (i.e. ONE hat, ONE pair of mittens, ONE coat, etc), we are finding that the cubbies are jammed packed with things and are not able to put our work in them.

Thank you for all of your support and have a great Easter!



At Home Activities:

Because one of the goals for the month is measurement, a great at home activity to practice this cooking! Allowing your child to cook with you can help teach them how to use measuring cups and spoons.

Goals and Concepts

Math

- Children will demonstrate an interest in exploring with the concept of measurement.
- The children will be able to demonstrate knowledge of specialized tools that are used to measure length, weight, volume, temperature, and time.
- The children will know that an item used to measure other items is called a unit of measure.

Language Arts

- The children will be able to express ideas and thoughts through writing using scribbles and drawing.
- The children will be able to identify their name in print.
- The children will begin to print letters in lower and upper case.

Music

- The children will respond to expressive qualities of music through movement.

Personal and 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 basic feeling (5 years old).

Other

- Control pencil and scissors.
- Practice holding a pencil with the appropriate grip.

AdventureCentre



Week 1 & 2

Peter Cottontail

During this week we will be experimenting and learning about eggs and all things Easter. We will be making fuzzy bunnies and cute chicks! I can't wait to decorate eggs with the kids.

Week 3

No Place Like Earth

April 22nd is Earth Day. We will be contributing towards Earth Day by walking around the Ladybug area and collecting trash. We will also be learning about how we can help keep our earth clean!



Week 4

Land Before Time

All those dinosaurs that once roamed the earth, we get to go back in time and explore those creatures. Come check out our sensory tub where we will be digging up dinosaurs and their "bones"!!!

Classroom Tidbits

- **IMPORTANT:** please make sure you have turned in your Summer Registration Form. If you are not planning on having your child attend Ladybug this summer you will just need to check off "My child will NOT attend." section and their name. Please let me know if you need a new form!
- The 13th is a early release day for the Waconia Public School.
- The only non-school day this month is the 14th, this is Good Friday and Ladybug is also closed!
- If you would like to keep an extra pair of old shoes or boots for your child to wear while they are outside feel free to bring in an extra pair during this muddy time of the year.
- As spring time comes, if anyone is willing to donate any vegetable seeds, flower seeds or plants for the Adventure Centre Classroom, we'll be gladly accepting anything.
- Please keep letting us know when your child will not be getting off the bus at Ladybug after school! You can also email us at Waconia.ac@ladybugcc.com! If you also have the tadpoles app you can mark them as absent from there!

For The Love of Children ~ Miss Kayla

A recipe that we will be trying during April is Dirt Cups during No Place Like Earth Week. Here is the recipe for you to try at home:

Dirt Cups

2 Cups Cold Milk

1 Package Chocolate Pudding

1 Tub Whipped Topping

1 Package Chocolate Sandwich Cookies

Plastic Cups

Gummy Worms



Pour milk into large bowl. Add pudding mix. Beat with whisk until well blended, 1 to 2 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes. Stir in whipped topping and half of crushed cookies. Place 1 tablespoon crushed cookies into cups. Fill cups $\frac{3}{4}$ full with pudding mixture. Top with remaining crushed cookies. Refrigerate 1 hour. Decorate with worms.

ENJOY!