



# Breezy Knoll Child Care Center

311 Stillwater Road  
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## May 2014 Newsletter

### IF I HAD MY CHILD TO RAISE OVER AGAIN

*If I had my child to raise over again,  
I'd finger paint more and point the finger less.  
I'd do less correcting and more connecting.  
I'd take my eyes off my watch and watch with my eyes.  
I would care to know less and know to care more.  
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.  
I'd stop playing serious and seriously play.  
I'd run through more fields and gaze at more stars.  
I'd do more hugging and less tugging.  
I would be firm less often and affirm much more.  
I'd build self-esteem first and the house later.  
I'd teach less about the love of power and  
more about the power of love.*

### PRESCHOOL NEWS

We anxiously await the arrival of our butterflies to hatch in each of the classrooms! Spring is in the air (finally), and the caterpillars are on their way! This month, *some* of the goals we will focus on are: to demonstrate an understanding of the meaning of a story, to pursue questions through simple investigations, to investigate changes in materials and cause-effect relationships, activities, and to select a variety of tools to approach tasks. May will be a busy month.



### CONFIRMATION SUMMER AND FALL

If you need to change your child's schedule for **summer or fall**, kindly let Jeannette know as soon as possible. Now is the time to reserve the days you need and/or change the days registered in all programs. Thank you!

### VEGGIE BOX



Spring is in the air! Connect with the changing tastes of the seasons by treating yourself to a Veggie Box subscription.

Veggie Box is a subscription to fresh, local produce from RI and MA farms. Each box contains 7-9 different types of seasonal produce. Along with each box, participants receive an email newsletter packed with recipes and information.

Support local farms and enjoy a variety of Boxes run biweekly January through June, and weekly (with a biweekly option) from July through December. Boxes cost \$25/week, and payment is made in full for one month at a time. Farm Fresh accepts credit card, check, or EBT/SNAP cards for Veggie Box payment. You can sign up at [www.farmfreshri.org/box](http://www.farmfreshri.org/box). Be sure to choose *Breezy Knoll* as your pick-up location. Questions? Contact Jennah at [jennahhubbell@gmail.com](mailto:jennahhubbell@gmail.com)

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 9, Fri. Bake Sale
- May 11, Sun. Happy Mother's Day
- May 26, Mon. Memorial Day Breezy closed



### FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL AND TODDLERS/SUMMER ATTENDANCE

To help us plan our staffing for the summer months, please complete the form below and return it to Jeannette's mailbox. **We appreciate your effort to help us with scheduling.**

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that you are responsible for payment for tuition even if your child is absent due to illness, personal, or vacation. The fees paid reserve your child's enrollment in the center. (PARENT HANDBOOK p. 1)



### VACATION WEEKS MY CHILD WILL NOT ATTEND BREEZY KNOLL:

June 16-20	<input type="checkbox"/>	July 22-25	<input type="checkbox"/>
June 22-27	<input type="checkbox"/>	July 28-Aug. 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
June 30-July 4	<input type="checkbox"/> closed Fri. 7/4/14	August 4-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
July 7-11	<input type="checkbox"/>	August 11-15	<input type="checkbox"/> closed Mon. 8/11/14
July 14-18	<input type="checkbox"/>	August 18-22	<input type="checkbox"/> closed Fri. 8/22/14

## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Mark your calendars! Kindergarten graduation will be on **Friday evening, June 13**, from 5:45 PM to 6:45 PM. We look forward to your family joining us. **Graduates need to be at school no later than 5:30 pm.** Thank you!

Mother's Day event: May 9, Friday, 10:00-11:00 am.



Dramatic Play  
Beach



Science/Social Studies  
Insects  
Plant life/growth



Math



Word problems  
Measurement  
Review

Language Arts/Reading

Word families/Poems  
Sight words  
Guided reading  
Poetry  
Writing feelings  
Insect Research



## BAKE SALE

Breezy Knoll will host a bake sale to raise funds for our end of the school year celebration. Last year's bake sale was a huge success, and we are confident that this year will be just as successful.



On Friday, May 9, we will set up a baked goods table in the main room. Please take a minute to stop by the table and sample some goodies. You may find a great dessert for Mother's Day! If you would like to contribute some baked goods for the sale, kindly bring them in either Thursday afternoon, 5/8, or Friday morning, 5/9. We appreciate any help you are able to give us. Some suggestions are: brownies, cookies, breads, and cupcakes, however, any baked goods will be greatly appreciated! Kindly include a list of ingredients for our families who may have issues with allergies. See you at the Bake Sale!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



This month, we wish a Happy Birthday to:  
Savannah E. (5/10), Jacob S. (5/15), Leo C. (5/26), Zoe Z. (5/28) and Sophia L. (5/31).

### HEALTH TIP *from healthychildren.org.*

Sports drinks contain extra calories that children don't need and could contribute to obesity and tooth decay. It's better for children to drink water during and after exercise.

### LEARN THROUGH PLAY *From Fun Family Activities: Science*

**Help your child become a scientific thinker: observe, collect, describe, and record.**

**A Shadow Hunt :** On a sunny day, take your child outside and look for shadows. Have your child find their own shadow. Move around and watch your shadows change. Try standing in your shadow. Then, stand in the light. Ask your child to describe what happens.

Now, look for as many shadows as possible. Observe the shadows made by birds, trees, signs, people, animals, and flowers. Ask your child questions such as, "What has a shadow? When do you see it?"



## FUNDRAISER

We thank you for your support in our fundraising efforts. The Breezy Knoll proceeds from the Meadowbrook Farms fundraiser were \$325.00. The money will be used to purchase outdoor equipment for the summer.

## OPTIONAL LUNCH MILK/JUICE MONEY

If you would like Breezy Knoll to serve milk/juice to your child at lunchtime, please enclose 25cents for each day of the month your child will receive milk/juice. Please place money in an envelope and drop in tuition mailbox.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Milk/juice money enclosed for month of (please circle): Jan Feb Mar Apr May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov



## REMINDERS

- Please be sure your child has a set of spare clothes here at BK that is appropriate for the weather.
- To help us with summer staffing, please return the form attached regarding your vacation time.
- When dropping off or picking up your child and you expect to be more than a few minutes, please park in an area which will not block other cars. Often, parents are in a hurry, and it is frustrating to be blocked in and unable to leave. Thank you!

**THE GOOD MOTHER** Lynn Shattuck  
*excerpt from Exchange Magazine 2013*



One of the hardest things for me about being a mom is that I make about 107 little decisions every day, and most of the time, I am totally winging it. Unlike work at a paid job, I don't get regular feedback on how I'm doing. So I think that as moms, we need to tell each other, 'You are such a good mom.' And we need to really hear it when our friends or family says it to us. We all parent differently. We parent from our personalities and from our wounds. From our heads and our hearts. We parent from our unconscious family patterns and from tips on books and blogs. And it is never perfect because we are human and messy, and our kids are human and messy."

## TODDLER NEWS



We anxiously await warm, sunny days, blooming flowers, and singing birds. Although it has been very cool, we are enjoying spending more time outside! Just a few reminders:

- Please leave all toys at home. A stuffed animal for quiet time is all that is needed from home.
- Remember to take home quiet time belongings every week for washing.
- Please return bag with a change of clothes suitable for the warmer weather. Thanks!

## SCHOOL AGE SUMMER CAMP

Our plans for summer camp are nearly complete and will be sent home soon.

# SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS

## Garden Poem

Here is my garden.  
I'll rake it with care.  
And then some seeds  
I'll plant in there.  
The sun will shine.  
The rain will fall.  
And my garden will grow  
straight and tall.



## Here is the Beehive

Here is the beehive.  
Where are the bees?  
Hidden away where  
nobody sees.  
Watch and you'll see them  
Come out of the hive.  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, BZZZZZZZZZZZZ!



## Plant Some Seeds

(tune: Pop Goes the Weasel)  
I dig and dig and dig and dig.  
And I plant some seeds.  
I rake and rake and rake and  
rake.  
And I pull some  
weeds.  
I wait and watch and  
watch and wait.  
And very soon I know  
The seeds will eat and drink  
and sprout.  
And then they'll start to grow!



## A Caterpillar's Song

(tune: I'm a Little Teapot)  
I'm a little caterpillar, green and fat.  
But I won't always look like that!  
I will grow and change as time goes by.  
And I'll become a butterfly!



## May Flowers

April brought us showers.  
But it is plain to see.  
That May will bring us flowers  
That are pretty as can be!

## Rain on the Green Grass

Rain on the green grass  
And rain on the tree.  
Rain on the rooftop  
But not on me!

## MOTHER'S DAY HUMOR

You know you're a Mom when:  
Your feet stick to the kitchen floor and you don't care.  
Popsicles become a food staple.  
Your favorite TV show is a cartoon.  
Peanut butter and jelly is eaten daily.  
Spit becomes your primary cleaning agent.

- Author Unknown

## Super Singers

(tune: Do Your Ears Hang Low?)  
Do you hear birds sing?  
They're so happy that it's spring!  
Hear them cheep, cheep, cheep.  
Hear them twitter,; hear them peep.  
Hear them at sunrise  
When you open up your eyes.  
Do you hear birds sing?



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

## Three Little Tulips

(tune: Three Little Ducklings)  
Three little tulips once I grew.  
A white one, a pink one, a red  
one, too.  
One little tulip grew, grew, grew.  
It grew taller than the other two.  
The other two, the other two.  
It grew taller than the other two!



## The Itsy Bitsy Seed

(tune: Itsy Bitsy Spider)  
The itsy bitsy seed  
Was planted in the hole.  
Down came the rain  
And a sprout began  
to grow.  
Out came the sun  
And shone down on  
the leaves.  
Now the itsy bitsy seed  
Is a great big grown-up tree!



## NUTRITION TIP OF THE MONTH:

- Watch tired faces break into smiles with this breakfast treat.
- Smile-A-Mile Breakfast Faces
- Mini bagel or regular bagel, Fruits, such as grapes,
- cut in half crosswise strawberries, bananas,
- Whipped cream cheese canned pineapple
- Cereal, dry oranges, raisins
- Place the bagel half on a plate, and spread with cream cheese.
- Use the fruit and cereal to make a face. Enjoy!



## FUN IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS From Scholastic Pre-K Today Tips



Spring means sunshine, warm weather, and rediscovering the great outdoors. Many of the activities your child enjoyed indoors during the winter months will have a new twist when done outdoors.

Here are two outdoor activities that are enjoyable and educational and that you and your child can easily do together in your own backyard or at a local park or playground. Remember that as your child tries these activities, he or she will not only have fun, but gain experience with fundamental science concepts, use skills like matching and listening, and express his or her own imagination:

**Spray Bottle Painting:** attach a large piece of paper to a fence or wall. Fill several pump-type spray bottles with water and add food coloring or different-colored tempera paints. Show your child how to pump the spray bottles and aim toward the paper. Discuss the importance of aiming the spray away from oneself and others. Let your child use different colors in succession. As your child squirts the spray bottle, he or she is strengthening finger muscles. This kind of exercise helps your child to refine his or her ability to hold and control a writing or drawing implement.

**Fun With Light Reflections:** This is a great way for your child to experiment with light reflections. Part of the fun is a "light chase" that will challenge your child's eye-hand coordination. This activity is great fun on a sunny day. Collect some small mirrors. Show your child how to hold the mirrors at an angle to create a bright reflection on the outside of your house or another building. Let your child try to make his or her lights chase and catch yours!

