



# Discovery Zone Gazette

## Preschool B Prepares to Walk the Plank

Preschool B is starting out the month of August by learning all about bugs! We will go on a bug hunt, and learn about ladybugs with the help of The Grouchy Ladybug by Eric Carle. In addition we will make edible insects, sing bug songs, and do many more fun and exciting activities.

Next, in order to get ready for our end of the year celebration (graduation), we will do all different kinds



of Pirate related activities. We will make treasure maps, go on a treasure hunt around the classroom, and work on creating a large pirate ship. Also, we will get ready for the big day by making hats and learning special songs.

Finally, we will travel deep into the jungle to learn about what life there is really like. We will learn about the animals of the jungle, and will also do many crafts related to this. We will make colored sand parrots and monkey puppets. We will

also learn about the plant life in the jungle. To help give the children a visual picture of the jungle many books will be read throughout the course of the week.

I'm sad that the summer is coming to an end, and that my time in Preschool B is almost over. I have had a blast with your children this summer, and would like to thank all of you for being so welcoming and kind during my time in Preschool B. Best wishes for a fun and exciting school year.

### Discovery Zone Learning Center

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### Important Dates:

- 8/14 Preschool Graduation 3-5pm.
- 8/31 Tuition increase goes into effect.

- 9/1 First day of School for School Agers.



## Toddler B Heads Under the Sea

August is here and so is the heat! In celebration, Toddler B will make Thursday our "Sprinkler Day." Please send you child with a bathing suit, water shoes and a towel.



The Toddlers quickly dive into a 2 week theme on the ocean. The children will explore the inhabitants of the sea. Toddlers will dabble into creative art as they finger paint jellyfish. To enhance math skills, the children will count fish in the ocean and be shown numbers in written form. Gross motor skills will be improved with the "Ocean

Pokey" in which the children will imitate sea animals. Next, Toddler B will explore their sense of touch while creating sandy footprints, search for seashells in the sand and make sand art. We end the week building sand castles for the day. Be sure to look for your child's creation to be displayed on top of the cubbies.

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## Preschool A Says "Aloha!"

Preschool A would first like to wish a Happy Birthday to Kyle H. and Olivia E. this month. We would also like to wish congratulations to all of our graduates going off to Kindergarten. Best Wishes and have fun!

We begin the month of August with a week about Rocks. We will enjoy a sensory experience with "rock prints" and "rock washing." Our class will also improve number and counting skills while counting, sorting and patterning rocks. Preschooler will be encouraged to exercise their creative skills while creating Pet Rocks.

The second week of August, Preschool A will set sail with a pirate theme. The children will improve fine motor skills as they make binoculars and

enhance creative expression with "Treasure Chests," and practice following directions to create a pirate snack. The week will end with a Pirate themed Graduation party including games, activities, snacks, and of course, graduation. Hope to see you there!

The third week of August will be all about Hawaii and Islands. The children will enjoy a sensory experiment by making islands, improve fine motor skills with a "Fancy Fruit



Salad" and have fun with a gross motor "Island Hop." Preschoolers will also identify colors and be encouraged to create patterns with leis and flower bands.

Preschool A will end the month and summer by learning about the Wild, Wild West. The class will enjoy a fun art experience with Corn Husk paintings. The children will build literacy skills with "Boot Letters" while working on letter and phoneme awareness. Fine motor and problem solving skills will be improved with knot tying.

Throughout the month, Preschool A will focus on the letters D, E, F, and G. Don't forget water bottles for outside play and be on the lookout for Sprinkler Day notices.

## Toddler A Gets Moving to Music

Toddler A will start the month of August with a week theme on "Occupations." Toddlers will learn about the various jobs that people have and what those jobs entail. They will have the opportunity to role play many of these occupations through various activities. Toddlers will have the chance to be painters and paint a house. They will be able to play doctor with a fine motor project on "fixing a wound." Children's cooking and math skills will be enhanced when we learn about teachers and make a delicious apple dipping sauce for snack. Fine motor and creative expression will be developed when the Toddlers make their own paper plate puppets and get to play hairdresser and create their own hairstyles for their puppets. We will finish out the week learning about firefighters with another fine motor activity of cre-

ating red, yellow and orange fire marble paintings. Throughout this week the children will learn new songs that correspond to different occupations. We will measure the children's height and discuss how we grow bigger the older we get and the importance of making healthy choices. Be on the lookout in the classroom for various center choices that Toddlers will be able to choose from to practice many of these different occupations.

To kick off the second week of August, Toddlers will have a week theme on "Music



and Movement." The children will have the opportunity to creatively express themselves while they paint to different music. Toddlers will use various instruments during circle time and will enhance their fine motor skills when they make their own maracas. Gross motor skills will be improved when the children are given the chance to tap dance by taping quarters to the bottoms of their shoes. We will also enjoy a game of Musical Chairs in which the students will have to use their senses to listen for the music and to follow directions carefully. Lastly, we will enjoy a day of yoga. The children love doing yoga in the morning at circle time and we're excited to spend a day developing this skill they have been working on. For the third week of August, Toddler A will learn about "Vacations." Throughout this week toddlers will

## Toddler A Continued

learn about the various means of travel that people use to go to different places in the world. The children will also be shown a range of things that are used to get from place to place, such as maps and brochures. Fine motor skills will be enhanced when the children make their own sails for a boat. Toddlers will use their cognitive thinking when they design their own post-cards. Gross motor skills will be developed in a left and right foot ac-

tivity. Lastly, the children will use their creativity while making a shoe box train.

To end the month of August, toddlers will learn all about "Rainbows." They will enjoy a sensory experience while making handprint rainbows. Science skills will be advanced when children do an experiment on color mixing as well as a rainbow activity of crayon shavings, corn syrup and water. Fine motor skills will be worked on when toddlers

create their own necklaces with different rainbow colors and a water color project. Toddlers will also discuss their favorite colors and sing a variety of songs in relation to rainbows.

Toddler A is sad to say goodbye to Liam Quinn and family and Emma Lally and family. We will miss you but wish you the very best of luck! We would also like to welcome Brady Marsh and his family to our class!

## Infants Explore Food

August is here and the Infant Room would like to wish Ian and Joe a happy first birthday!

For the first two weeks, we will learn about fruits and vegetables. The children will have sensory and creative art experiences as they



make strawberries, tomatoes, peas and broccoli. The children will use fingerprints for seeds and handprints for broccoli. The children will also enjoy a tasty sensory experience with applesauce and the inside of an apple.

The last two weeks will focus on language and literature with the books

Apples Up on Top and Jack Be Nimble. The children will stamp with apples and paint apple pictures. The children will also assemble their own candlesticks. Throughout the week we will revisit these stories and rhymes as the children are exposed to literature.

## Toddler B Continued

The third week will bring birds to our class. The children will explore a birds habitat as they make their own nests out of twigs. The children will learn about

comparisons as they look at pictures of different birds and attempt to sort them by size. Toddlers end the

week exercising their vocal skills as they imitate their feathered friends.

Toddler B ends the month with a theme on picnics to build excitement for our annual end of summer field trip. Fine motor skills will be enhanced as the children attempt to cut fruit for a fruit salad. The children

will also learn about safety while travelling in the van. Finally, Toddler B will enjoy a trip to the Willimantic Sprinkler Park.

Toddler B is happy to welcome Emily P. and family to our class.

## Center News

Please remember to send your child with a water bottle every day for outside play. We want to make sure the children stay hydrated during the hot summer days.

Also, please remember that if your child is celebrating a birthday and you

would like to send a special snack, to make the snack healthy. Some great ideas that the children love are muffins, banana/zucchini bread, fruit juice popsicles or fruit with whipped cream.

Don't forget to apply sunscreen to

your child every morning and the DZLC staff will reapply in the afternoon.

