

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

ENGLEWOOD BAPTIST
4 October 2021

SENSORY PLAY & LEARNING

From birth through early childhood, children use their senses to explore and try to make sense of the world. They do this by touching, tasting, smelling, seeing, moving and hearing.

Educational Playcare says, "Children and even adults learn best and retain the most information when they engage their senses. Many of our favorite memories are associated with one or more of our senses."

Providing opportunities for children to actively use their senses as they explore their world through 'sensory play' is crucial to brain development, helping to build new connections in the brain's pathways. This leads to a child's ability to complete more complex learning tasks while also supporting cognitive growth, language development, gross motor skills, social interactions, problem-solving skills and more.



Learn more about Sensory Play at <https://www.educationalplaycare.com/blog/sensory-play-important-development/>

Here's a *third* finding from our End-of-the-Year Parent Survey:

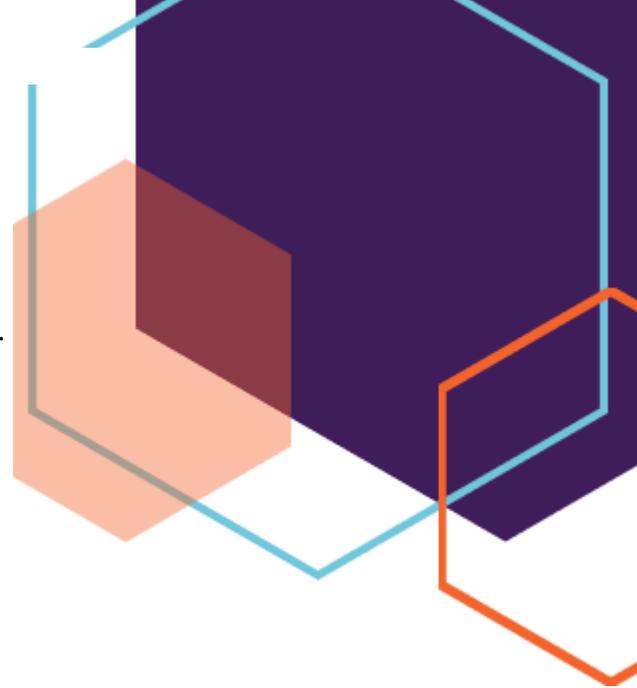
FINDING: "I do think a smaller number of 4-year-olds (sic) may be more comfortable in their current space.."

RESPONSE: To meet licensing requirements, a facility must meet the requirements set forth in the North Carolina Childcare Rules. The law sets requirements for both indoor and outdoor spaces – classrooms and playgrounds. Periodically, unannounced visits are made by a childcare consultant who is charged with making sure the facility is compliant with all childcare rules. Any violations are cited and must be corrected!

See previous editions of our newsletter for other findings & responses!

IMMUNIZATIONS

On September 24th, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper issued **Executive Order 234** extending, but not waiving, proof-of-immunization and health assessment documentation deadlines for school and child-care facilities. To ensure children are not excluded from school because of increased demands on health care providers amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the order will give students and families more time to complete their required vaccines and health assessments. This year, the 30-day "grace period" for all students extends to **November 1, 2021**. The Order and Memo require families to provide **proof** of an upcoming appointment **within** the grace period.



SPOTLIGHT ON:

Mrs. Sarah ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Meet Mrs. Sarah Dial, our new Assistant Director! Mrs. Sarah joined Weekday Preschool in January of this year as a "floater." She has supported several classrooms from Infants to Fours with several weeks spent in Infants and Threes.

A native of Plainfield, New Jersey who was raised in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania, we are thrilled that Mrs. Sarah is a southerner now! Her career and life experiences are rich and diverse and include tenure in banking administration, the US Army Reserves, BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) and Vacation Bible School.

Her hobbies include hiking, baking and gardening – activities that she likely shares with her husband of 23 years, Michael, and her lovely daughters, Meghan and Jillian.



Looking Ahead...

- Tuesday, October 5th Fire Department Visit
- Tuesday, October 12th Bookmobile and Storytime
- Thursday, October 14th Dentist Office Visit
- Friday, October 15th Staff Work Day (WPS Closed for Students)
- Thursday, October 21st Pumpkin Farm Visit (Parents are invited to join us!)



AWANA IS A TOOL EBC uses to sink Scripture into the hearts of children, 2 years old through 5th grade! Learn more at <https://www.inglewoodbaptist.com/awana/>

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

October is not just a time when the air turns crisp and cool, it ushers in a season of lots of fun events – events that we are capitalizing on to make teaching and learning fun, engaging and memorable!

October is National Apple Month, National Dental Hygiene Month, National Go on a Field Trip Month, National Pizza

Month, National Fire Safety Month and National Eat Better and Eat Together Month. And that's just a few of the holidays that happen in October!

Look below to see what your little one will be learning at Weekday Preschool in October. Think about how you can expand the learning at home. You might watch a RightNow Media video then enjoy dialogue around the kitchen table!

Week of...	Academic Theme	Spiritual Focus	Right Now Media	Link
October 4	Fall	Where is God? How do we talk to God?	I Am With You, Sessions 9, 10, 19, 20	https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/506920
October 11	Apples	Can you see God?	Emily Elephant, Session 3	https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/483743
October 18	Dental Health	What does God know?	The Character of God, Sessions 3, 4, 12, 13	https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/KidsSeries/506946?episode=1
October 25	Friends/Serving Others/Veterans	How did God make man? Does God know me? Does God see me?	The Animated Kids Bible, Episode 1, Creation Holy Moly, Session 1, Creation	https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/KidsSeries/209632?episode=1 https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/KidsSeries/216646?episode=1

Uh, must've been under a rock or something?

What is RightNow Media?

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<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/EBCWeekdayPreschool>

FINE & GROSS MOTOR SKILLS



Make your own play dough...

<https://livingwellmom.com/easy-homemade-playdough-recipe/>



You need...

- AP Flour
- Water
- Cream of Tartar
- Table Salt
- Vegetable Oil
- Gel Food Coloring

Children grow and develop quickly during the toddler years, exploring their world more independently, improving their eye/hand coordination and doing more things for themselves. Two types of motor (movement) skills emerge and are developed during the toddler years - 'fine' motor skills and 'gross' motor skills.

Fine motor skills involve using hands and fingers to control smaller objects. Gross motor skills involve the coordination of larger muscles in the body to make larger movements. Both skills are critical later in life – for feeding self, for holding crayons and pencils to write and draw, for body movement – walking, running, skipping, for putting on shoes...

Research suggests a strong link between fine motor skills (control of the smaller muscles) and language, literacy and brain development.

There are many ways to develop fine motor skills – threading beads, playing with LEGO or DUPLO blocks, rolling play doh/dough and more, including tearing paper! Consider integrating tasks and addressing several skills at once while also deepening knowledge – like making a torn-paper tossed salad! What a great way to learn about fruits, vegetables, healthy eating, colors and more – all while strengthening fine motor skills!

See more ideas at:

Pregnancy, Birth & Baby

<https://www.pregnancybirthbaby.org.au/toddler-development-motor-skills>

Very Well Family

<https://www.verywellfamily.com/what-are-motor-skills-3107058>