



JANUARY 2022

# HEAD START NEWS

Deltona Lakes Head Start Newsletter



## CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE

- FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS
- CONTACT INFORMATION
- MARK YOUR CALENDARS
- FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER
- A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS
- HOME LEARNING & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
- PARENT MEETING MINUTES
- POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES



## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Jeamary Garcia

It is amazing how quickly the New Year comes and goes. I hope you had a wonderful break! I hope you all take time to be with your families and enjoy some sort of normalcy during this unusual time. We are already beginning to plan for next year! We are happy to see all your smiling faces back school. We wish you all a Happy 2022 and look forward to all the exciting events to come throughout the school year. As studies show it is important for children to stick to a routine, see the helpful information below.

### Toy Safety Shopping Tips:

Buy the right toy for the right age child

Ages 3 through 5

Avoid toys that are constructed with thin, brittle plastic that might easily break into small pieces or leave jagged edges.

Look for household art materials, including crayons and paint sets, marked with the designation "ASTM D-4236." This means the product has been reviewed by a toxicologist and, if necessary, labeled with cautionary information.

Teach older children to keep their toys away from their younger brothers and sisters.

READ THE LABEL....

Shopping for toys during the holidays can be exciting and fun, but it can also be frustrating. There can be thousands of toys to choose from in one store, and it's important to choose the right toy for the right age child. Toys that are meant for older children can be dangerous for younger children.



### All Aboard for Perfect Attendance

"Please remember if your child will not be attending for the day to call and let your teachers know."



## CONTACT US!

CDS: Jeamary Garcia: (352)279-2420

Family Advocate: Anna Triplett | (386)337-4820

Classroom Phone Number:

Ms. Lorraine & Ms. Olga Center Deltona Lakes Rm:101

Phone # (386)681-7617



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Early Release: 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26

No School: 1/17 Martin Luther King birthday

Parent Meeting: 1/11 at 3:00 pm

HAPPY  
NEW YEAR



Head Start  
Mid Florida Community Services  
Early Head Start

Let's Get  
Connected!



@MFCSHHeadStart



## FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

*By: Anna Triplett*

### Holiday Time with toddlers

1. Keep your routines: If at all possible, keep your routines the same during the holiday season. It may not be a big deal to you, but a wacky schedule can wreak havoc on your little people and their sense of peace. Whether you are at home or away, try to have regular naps and bedtimes.
2. Stay home: Try not to drag your kids all over Kingdom Come. They'll do better if they're in calm, quiet surroundings. Be willing to say, "no," to one too many Christmas parties or other holiday events.
3. Lower the volume: Christmas can be noisy. Make an effort to keep noises low. Avoid the noises that will make your holiday less peaceful for you and your children.
4. Limit the presents: Most children don't need half of the presents that they get at the holidays. Too many toys make it hard for them to choose. It adds confusion to their minds.



## A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

### ROOM 101

This month we are doing the study of Pets. Exploring the Topic: Do you have pets? Which animal is a pet? (for example, a hamster in a cage and a zebra in the wild.) How many pets do you think we'll see on our walk today? Have you ever seen a pet like this? (Display photos of two pets that you have not yet discussed, such as a parrot and a hermit crab.) Did you see any pets on your way to school today? Do all pets have tails?



## HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

### Build a simple bird feeder

To attract more feathered friends to your yard, here are two quick ideas for DIY bird feeders. You'll need birdseed, peanut butter, empty toilet paper rolls or cut-up empty paper towel rolls, an orange or a grapefruit, and twine.

To make the first feeder, sprinkle birdseed on a container that has a rim, like plate or pie tin. Help your child spread a thin layer of peanut butter on the outside of the paper rolls, then have him roll the peanut butter coating in the birdseed until it's well covered. Slip the feeders right over tree branches or use twine to hang them up. You can make two feeders from an orange. (You can also use a grapefruit.) Parent prep work: Cut the fruit in half and carefully scoop out the fruit, leaving plenty of thick rind. Use a skewer to poke a small hole in opposite sides of each orange half, about a half inch from the top. Then thread a long piece of twine through both holes, and knot the ends of the twine together to make a hanger.

## POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

December Policy Council met via Zoom on December 16, 2021. Quorum was established with 13 community reps present. Heidi Rand, requested a change to the agenda to place Denise Mercado, Inclusion Coordinator on the agenda to present a training on Inclusion. Denise explained the process of the Inclusion Team reviewing every screening conducted on children and then reviewed with families and referred when needed. The inclusion team educates parents on the entire referral process to empower them to advocate for their child. If a child is under 3 they are referred to our partner Early Steps. If the child is over 3 they are referred to our partner Fiddlers on the Hernando County side and Child Time in Volusia. These partners come directly onsite and work with the teachers and child in the Head Start classroom. The Inclusion team also goes directly into the classrooms to observe students and work with teachers to assist with strategies and material usage through modeling. Denise mentioned that a higher number of children on the autism spectrum are being seen and due to this the inclusion team is being proactive and going through an autism spectrum navigator training through UCF to provide the highest quality support. The November meeting minutes were approved. Amy Thomas, Deputy Director of Children's Services, introduced Michelle Hann the new Education Manager for Hernando/Sumter County. The Budget and Credit Card statements were approved. The Enrollment, Attendance and Snack reports were approved. Tanya Hall, Deputy Director of Program Services, presented the Recruitment Action Plan and was passed. Heidi Rand presented and discussed the Temporary COVID-19 Vaccination, Testing, and Face Covering Policy. She stressed that this is a temporary plan and subject to change and be put on hold based on any changes from the Office of Head Start. Following an open discussion the vote was 8 yes and 6 no. The majority passed the temporary policy. Seth Williams, Health Manager, stressed that all of our regular health prevention strategies and our procedures with students currently in place would not change if the temporary COVID-19 policy is to be implemented or put on hold. Heidi Rand presented the Criteria for Selection of Children for 2022-2023 program year and was passed. Staffing Reports were presented for information purposes.

All Service Area and Center Reports were presented and approved. Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, January 27, 2022.



## PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Deltona Lakes Parent meeting notes Dec 2021

Greeting: FA Anna Triplett

Classroom update: Lorraine

- The class has been learning about Music and musical interments. What they look like and how they sound. We've been learning about different musical notes and how they make up music.

Lesson: Anna Triplett

- Topic: Traditions help bond us to those we love: traditions create positive memories for children. Children crave the warmth and promise that comes with traditions. They anchor family members to each other and provide a sense of belonging.

Book drawing: Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett;  
Winner Jace.



## CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

Duck on a bike

<https://youtu.be/wJvx5Oc9k6E>

The very busy spider

<https://youtu.be/TfL0g-XRxnA>

