



HEAD START NEWS

Deltona Lakes Newsletter



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FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Jeamary Garcia

"It is hard to believe that this is our last newsletter. Our preschool year is winding down and many of our preschoolers will be off to kindergarten in the fall. Remember, going to school is a natural progression for children and most will be very ready to go. To help your child look forward to a new school, be sure to talk positively about attending kindergarten. Talk often about making new friends, learning new things, growing up, and becoming a "big boy or girl." Plan to attend your school's orientation with your child, visit your public library and read, read, read to your child over the summer months. Head Start "transition bags" contain some terrific ideas for learning new things and having big fun.

We thank you for entrusting your child to us this year. We have enjoyed working with all of the children in our care and have seen growth, development and skill acquisition in all of the boys and girls. We have also witnessed how the children have grown in the way they deal with frustration and the care and concern they express for one another.

Thank you for being your child's first and most important teacher and working with us on behalf of your child. We thank you for your support throughout the year. We feel a close partnership with our parents and send you our best wishes.

Hoorah for preschoolers!!! We appreciate your support. Have a wonderful and safe summer!



CONTACT US!

CDS: Jeamary Garcia (352) 279-2420
Family Advocate: Anna Triplett
(386) 337-4820
Teachers: Ms. Lorraine & Ms. Olga Center:
Deltona Lakes rm:101 (386) 681-7617



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Early Release: 5/11, 5/18, 5/25
Parent Meeting : 5/10 at 3:00 pm
May 25, Museum of Arts in DeLand
No School: 5/30 Memorial Day



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start

Let's Get
Connected!



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Anna Triplett

"Gardening with your child

Engage them through the Entire Process, From Seed to Table: They will learn that gardening can be fun and that they are contributing to the family. Be sure they alone do the harvesting and preparation of their crop for the table, no matter how modest the offering.

Cheat a Little: You may need to help out a little 'behind the scenes'. Not every garden task is pleasant, and the child may not be ready at all times for all chores.

Child friendly plants:

Sunflower: A must for a child's garden, plant just one or two, since they take a lot of room. Sunflowers will sprout in one week, becomes a small seedling in two weeks, and should be 2' tall in a month. In eight weeks, the buds will flower revealing hundreds of seed kernels.

Lettuce/ Mesclun: Greens are a quick and reliable crop to give the child fast results, and also a good way to interest kids in salads. Lettuce likes part shade; The seeds will germinate in 7-10 days; growing season is 40-50 days. You

Cherry Tomatoes: These may be the most fun crop for a child, plant in full sun and use seedlings rather than planting from seed. Cherry tomatoes can also be grown in containers.

Nasturtiums: Grow and yield results quickly. Nasturtiums bloom about 50 days after the seeds are planted. The flowers are also edible, and can be used to add colour to a fresh garden salad.

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

HEAD START

This month we are doing the study Kindergarten. Exploring the Topic: What is kindergarten? Who goes to kindergarten? What goes on in kindergarten? How do we get to kindergarten? Where is Kindergarten? When we are in kindergarten what do we do? We are also reviewing all the wonderful things we learn all year long. Thank you for all you do with your children. Have a safe and fun summer.



PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Deltona Lakes Parent meeting:
Family Advocate Anna Triplett
greeted parents.

Update on what's happening in the classroom; we have been learning about insects and how they affect our environment. We have live caterpillars in the classroom right now and we're observing them to see them grow. We're also exploring seasons and how they change.



CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

Adventures Annie goes to Kindergarten
<https://youtu.be/IEM7Ai9vMI>

OFF top Kindergarten
<https://youtu.be/naa5YOJUzuk>

HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Scavenger hunt

Take any theme, such as patterns, letters or colors and hunt around the house.

Make it official with a clipboard and check off items as you go. Crawl around, reach up high and get down low!

POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

April Policy Council met via Zoom on April 28, 2022. Quorum was established with 13 present.

Annette Becklan, Head Start Mental Health Consultant, presented and trained the members with a thorough presentation on Social and Emotional Mental Health.

The March meeting minutes were approved. The Budget and Credit Card statements were approved. The Enrollment, Attendance and Snack reports were approved.

Jennifer Fowler presented request for Parent Activity Funds that were approved.

Heidi Rand presented on ACF-PI-HS-22-02 on Head Start Funding Increase. This was presented for information purposes only and voting not required. Heidi stated that the focus for the pay increase will go the Teachers and Teacher Assistants. Management is working on the budget to eliminate center positions to help divide the funds.

Staffing Reports were presented for information purposes. All Service Area and Center Reports were presented and approved.

Seth Williams shared the update on writing the No Kids Hungry Grant. He shared that the grant was submitted before April 15th and waiting to hear if the program receives the funding. Until funding is received we do not at this time have funds to provide backpack meals at this time. If approved the program will run for 25 weeks. Seth explained that the Sunshine Health grant was not approved.

Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, May 26, 2022.