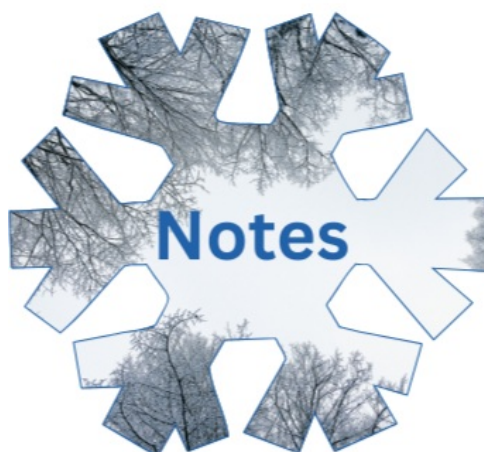


January 2024



Can you believe that it is 2024? Man time flies. Just a couple reminders:

- Bring warm clothes, labeled for your kids please.
- Please be here by 9AM for drop off, this ensures we don't get our preschool lessons interrupted.
- If you attend on Monday and your kid goes to gymnastics, you need to be here by 8:45 at the latest. The van will leave at 8:50. If you arrive after this time, your child will not be able to stay due to staff being at gymnastics with the other kids.
- We are closed on Monday the 15th for Civil Rights Day.



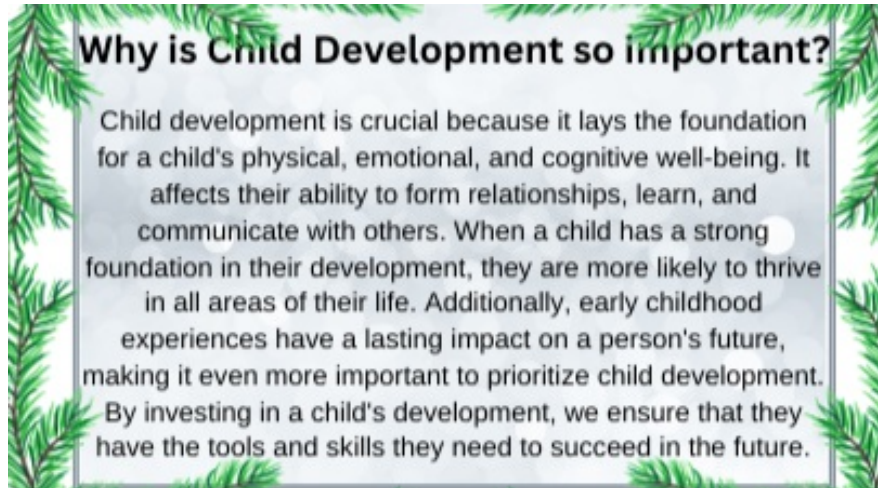


You may not be aware, but part of my passion is advocacy. I spend a lot of time serving on committees, boards with voting rights and board where only in option matters (some times, lol). I recently spent two days in a conference in OHIO with the National Parents Union learning all the fine nuances of helping parents comfortably 'stand in the road' for real change. I serve as the President of the Utah Private Child Care Association UPCCA and work closely with the Office of Child Care, Child Care Licensing and Department of Workforce Services and those department heads.

The next subsidy increase was slotted for October 2024. The UPCCA worked very hard with those departments and are extremely happy to report that the subsidy increase will happen January 2024 instead! Now, some of you will see a very minimal increase but infant care was the huge win. Many providers have struggled to offer infant and toddler care because of the financial loss we take when doing so. The subsidy rate is based off of a market rate study and stays put for three years. January 2024 - March 2024 they will conduct another market rate study that should help many families for a long while.

It takes a lot of time and effort to try and educate and empower the masses. I sure appreciate all of my families that stand firmly in the middle of the road either behind me or next to me and ask for help this legislative session. If you are willing, I would love for you to reach out to your legislators to help them see that funding in Early Childhood Education is a community necessity. The state of Utah currently uses only Federal Funds to help families afford the most expensive years of child rearing with child care costs at a time when a child's brain actually develops the most out of any time in their life 0-5 years. I am willing to help you find your legislators and create you a template to use and you can email them or even text them. Reach out on the app or in email and I will respond with whatever you need. We elect them into their positions and they should work for us!

I sure hope your holidays were wonderful! I greatly appreciated the time I got to spend with friends and family and hope you did as well.



FARM
Infant-Young Tods

Sensory & Math

Snow Bucket-



Fill a medium tote up with clean snow. Lay out a large towel and place the tote on top of it. Gather some measuring cups, spoons, shovels to measure and dig. Let your infant or toddler feel the cold temperature and fluffy texture of the snow!

OCEAN Olders Todds-2's

Fine Motor & Science

Snow Painting-

Bundle up and get outside to play in the snow! Bring along some spray bottles filled with cold water and food coloring.

Have the kids squeeze the nozzle and color the snow.

Talk about what colors they're making and how mixing the colors they have can create new ones.



Little City 3-4YRS

Large Motor

Snowman Bowling-



Decorate several white cups like snowman faces. Have your child help you Stack the cups up in a triangle shape on the floor. Let your child roll a ball into the stack of cups to see how many they can knock down!

Big City 4-5YRS

Small Motor

Snowman Playdough-

Start with white playdough and have your child roll three medium balls. Let them stack the balls onto each other to make a snowman. Have some buttons, small sticks, googly eyes, etc. available for the kids to decorate their playdough snowman!



Why is Physical Activity important?

Here at Progressive Preschool, we believe physical activity is very important because it helps promote the overall health and development of young children. Not only does it improve their physical fitness and coordination, but it also boosts their confidence and self-esteem. By engaging in regular physical activity, children learn the importance of teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship.

Snowball Fight!



Get all bundled up and head out to have a snowball fight!

Who uses the pyramid model?



- Early educators
- Early childhood special Education personnel
- Families
- Other professionals

If you are agitated or stressed by a behavior, then P-A-R.



Pause and Reflect

- Take a deep breath.
- Think about what happened before the behavior occurred.



Ask

- What is the child trying to tell me?
- Do they want/need something? What do I know that will help me figure out the reason for the behavior?



Respond

- When I respond, I ensure the child feels validated, listened to, understood, and safe.
- I guide the child to use an appropriate alternative behavior.

Each month we will add in something we have learned about the Pyramid Model or some information about what it's all about. You can use these things at home if needed, and we will be implementing these things here at the center as we learn about them as well!