



Horsham Montessori Children's House Family Newsletter

JULY 2011

Montessori Quote

"...a child is in search of every possible means of expression because no one language is rich enough to give expression to the gushing life within him. He speaks, he draws, he sings like a nightingale warbling in the springtime..." -Maria Montessori

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

The word summer triggers a sense of freedom in children, a chance to play and learn in a more relaxed and fun atmosphere. A Montessori Summer offers a variety of exciting and stimulating choices, encouraging children to discover new friendships and explore new experiences, while creating an environment that allows them to feel safe enough to be themselves and to follow their personal path of creativity and curiosity. The summer program is designed so that the philosophy and methods of our regular Montessori program are implemented in a fun, relaxed summertime atmosphere. And it is a great opportunity to make friends and learn new things! The classes will be taught by our very own Montessori staff members. Our caring staff will provide a consistent, respectful and nurturing environment for your child.

Montessori Children's House's summer program is characterized by creative learning experiences throughout the summer months. From the toddler through the primary levels each week has promised something new and exciting to learn and explore. We invite your child to join us for these wonderful and unique opportunities.

We are so excited to have begun our summer session at Camp Discovery at Montessori Children's House. There are so many fun things going on at camp in each of the Montessori classrooms. Please look on the calendar each month for all the exciting happenings this summer. Please remember to check outside of your child's classroom for updates, notes and reminders. Please don't forget we have a Camp Discovery policy that all children should have closed-toe shoes (NO FLIP FLOPS) on the playground for their safety.

Important Dates

June 20th: Camp begins

June 21st: First Chicken Tenders and Fries lunch

June 22nd: Virtual Whale Show

June 23rd: First Pizza lunch

June 29th: WaWa comes and makes Hoagies with the children

July 4th: Closed for July 4th Holiday

July 6th: International Story Teller

July 12th: Science Tellers

July 14th: Picture Day

July 18th: Paulie's Ice Cream Truck

July 20th: Zumba for the Adventures

July 22nd: SPCA visits

July 26th: Planetarium

SO MUCH MORE IN AUGUST!

August 3rd Mystic Drummers
August 10th Puppet show About Teeth Cleaning
August 11th Stranger Danger for the Primary
August 12th Huge Water Slide
August 15th Stubbie the helicopter
August 18th Book Mobile
August 19th Horsham Fire Truck
August 23rd Travelling Farm
August 26th Last day of Camp & a Camp Carnival.

Hello and welcome to Camp Discovery! We have planned a fun-packed summer! The **themes** this year include: Bon Voyage-A Week at the Sea, American Adventure, Friends from Around the World, Going Green: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, My Five Senses, Creative Campers, Wonders of Nature, Body Works, When I grew Up, I want to Be, and Camp Carnival, We will also spend time enjoying stories, cooking, crafts, music, games, time in the Montessori classroom and activities related to each theme. The summer will be filled with many exciting activities and in house-field trips.

Summer Activities

Though summer can be a time of fun, relaxation and rest for a Montessori student, for a parent, summer can be daunting. As a parent of a Montessori student, it is important to find balance between the freedom and bliss of summer without losing the routines and knowledge for which you and your child worked so hard during the school year. Of course it is acceptable to ease up on schedules and routines during the summer months. Bedtimes and rising times can be adjusted slightly and often, numerous opportunities for spontaneous activities can present themselves. Simply remember to ease back into your regular school schedule and other transitions a couple weeks before Montessori school starts again in the fall. Here at Living Montessori, our preschool summer camps are designed to give students a change of pace, yet still provide learning and consistency in alignment with the Montessori Philosophy.

Our camp includes more outdoor play and exploration, and extra water play from bubble making to running through a sprinkler. Some children will be uneasy about the adjustments ahead, which can cause shifts in children's behavior and anxiety levels. Try to think about each transition as an opportunity to teach your child how to handle new situations. Adults know change is a constant, inevitable part of life. Getting support from you can help your child gain the confidence to manage the road ahead. Summer might also mean vacation travel to visit friends and family. Visit a bookstore as a family on the first day of summer vacation to help your children select a blank book or journal. Encourage them to record something in this book every day during the summer. Journaling helps with creative writing and literacy skills. A journal also has the potential to serve as a keepsake your children will cherish for years to come. As summer sets in and siblings begin to squabble, redirecting your Montessori children toward writing their feelings can also aid with conflict resolution. A summer journal can be an annual tradition for your family. So when you're asking yourself, "Is it OK to take a break?" the answer is, "Of course!" Taking a break means when *back to school* time rolls around again, children are energized and hungry for new learning experiences. Just remember to let them know what to expect and provide plenty of transition time before jumping back into the school year.

A fun Activity for Two Children to do Together:

MIRRORING: This is a great drama activity for preschoolers. Mirroring is funny, but it also provides the children an opportunity to be silly, all the while challenging them intellectually and physically. Mirroring is two children standing in front of each other, facing one another. One child should be told what to do ahead of time, and the other child is faced with the daunting task of doing exactly as the other child does. The physical awareness associated with mirroring is beneficial to the preschool child. This activity also instills the lesson of following the leader, and doing what is appropriate at a certain time. This lesson is invaluable for the preschooler.

Activity taken From: <http://www.helium.com/items/892226-great-dramaactivities-for-the-preschool-classroom?page=2>

Outerwear & Sunscreen

Please send your children in appropriate outerwear each day, as we try to go outside to enjoy the fresh air. Listen to the weather forecast and dress your child in the appropriate clothes. Double check your child's shoebox and be sure there is an extra set of clothes (for the appropriate weather) just in case it's needed. It is essential that every child have an extra set of clothes. Please put sunscreen on your child every morning before coming to school and camp.

The staff at Camp Discovery would like to make this summer a fun-filled experience for your child. Games, water play, cooking, music, storytelling, art activities, spending time in the Montessori Classroom (primary and toddler), picnics, and special guests from the fire House, a Virtual Whale Show, a water slide, an ice cream truck, a traveling zoo, SPCA, a planetarium show, a real helicopter, Science Story Teller, international story teller, and a lot more will make it an exciting summer.

Every toddler should arrive on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday ready for water-play. This means to bring your child wearing his/her bathing suit and water shoes on these mornings. Please send in a towel and a change of clothes (including supportive shoes) on these days. Also **sunscreen should be applied at home** before coming to camp everyday even when it is cloudy. Please send in a water bottle each day with your child's name on it. It should be taken home every day for cleaning. All toddlers will be napping on a daily basis and will need a child size sleeping bag. Please take your child's sleeping bag home every Friday for washing.

Primary children should bring a water bottle daily to camp. Water play for primary children will be on Monday mornings (Please wear a suit to school on Mondays and bring an extra set of clothes to change into.), and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Please be sure your child brings a bathing suit on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On each swimming day your child will need a towel and water shoes. Also **sunscreen should be applied at home** before coming to camp every day even when it is cloudy. Please be sure to **label all of your child's belongings**. It is important that every child has water shoes and supportive shoes for running around outside on the playground. If your child is remaining after 11:45 please provide a bottle of sunscreen to be kept at school which will be reapplied as necessary. Please be sure to "summerize" the clothes in your child's clothes bin ontop of his/her cubby. If your child needs to take a nap, he/she will need a sleeping bag.

Tuesdays and Thursdays your camper will have the option of purchasing lunch. Tuesdays will be chicken nuggets and french fries for \$2.50(from Burger King). Thursdays will be Pizza Day for \$2.00. Please send in juice and any other food you would like your child to have for lunch on the days we are ordering lunches. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays they will need to bring their own lunch (including a beverage). The first day for special lunches will be Tuesday, June 22nd. Please make sure your child's lunch is in a thermal bag or box with an ice pack. It needs to be labeled with your child's name.

Camp pictures will be taken on Tuesday July 14th. Look for information in your child's cubby.

The bulletin boards outside your child's classroom will keep you informed of activities, plans, and all other pertinent information regarding the group; so please make sure you read them! Brochures, newsletters and all other communication will be given out throughout the summer and placed in your child's cubby.

The counselors have been very busy preparing for summer camp. Each week there will be a theme involving exciting activities. You will be receiving more information about summer camp on the first day. Enclosed are forms that must be filled out by your child's first day of camp. The HEALTH FORM needs to be filled out by your child's doctor. His/her appointment had to be within the past 12 months. Please be sure to read the EMERGENCY/CONTACT FORM and be sure that every part is signed and filled out. The third form is called The PARENT AWARENESS FORM. All forms are state mandatory. Please fill out all three forms and send them to me at: Montessori Children's House, Nona Melnick, Principal, 220 Upland Ave., Horsham, PA 19044 or you may bring them the first day of camp. If your doctor would like to fax me your child's health assessment out fax number is 215- 957-1387. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me at 215-957-1571.

What to do During the Summer

Attend Camp Discovery at Montessori Children's House

Start a Hobby

Start a Collection

Set up an Art table-one that can get glue and paint on it. Stay away from craft kits. They don't encourage problem solving.

Cook

Set up a writing table with all kinds of pencils and pens, lined and unlined paper, hole puncher, scissors, tape, old magazines, stapler, clipboard, etc.

Write postcards

Play with a calculator

Start a garden. Germinate seeds in a plastic bag with a damp paper towel.

Make a bug catcher. Catch some bugs.

Get out a 100 piece puzzle and leave it out do over time.

Send me an email. I'll answer nona@MCH2Learn.org

Start a junk box with odds and ends to make junk sculptures.

Get a shovel to dig dirt. Add water and make mud pies.

Make a bird feeder and feed the birds.

Take a long walk in a park or around the neighborhood. Take a bag and collect interesting things from nature.

Try Kitchen Chemistry by mixing different things to make a potion.

Learn a song with the family and change the lyrics to make a song parody.

Play around with different instruments.

Lie on your back and look at clouds and imagine what shapes they could be.

Help out an elderly neighbor by watering her flowers or taking out the trash.

Bake something special for someone who doesn't expect it.

Visit your local Firehouse.

Put on music and dance.

Start an exercise program.



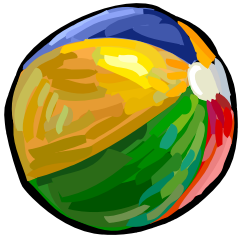
Picture Corner

Check out all the wonderful things happening at Montessori Children's House!
Click the link below to see our photos!

Camp Discovery 2011





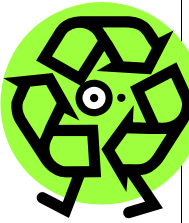








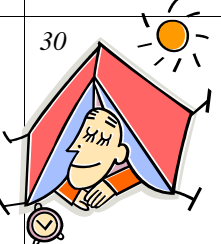
Virtual Whale Show

PLEASE, BOTH MOMS AND DADS READ THE NEWSLETTERS CAREFULLY!!!



July 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Themes</u></p> <p>American Adventure</p>	<p>Label, Label Everything!</p> 	<p><u>Toddlers</u> <u>Water play</u> Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday AM'S</p>	<p><u>Primary</u> <u>Water play</u> Monday AM Tuesday & Thursday</p>	<p>Don't forget your water bottle & to apply sun block before</p>	1	2
<p>3 Friends Around the World</p>	<p>4 No Camp</p> 	<p>5 Chicken And Fries</p>	<p>6 10:30 Bill Wood Storyteller</p>	<p>7 Pizza</p> 	8	<p>9</p> 
<p>10 Going Green</p>	11	<p>12 10:00 Science tellers Chicken And Fries</p>	13	<p>14 Pizza Photos Carriage Studios</p>	15	<p>16</p> 
<p>17 5 Senses</p> 	<p>18 2:00 Paulies' Ice Cream Truck</p> 	<p>19 Chicken And Fries</p> 	<p>20 10:00 Adventures Zumba</p> 	<p>21 Pizza P.M. Book Mobile</p> 	<p>22 10:30 SPCA</p>	<p>23</p> 
<p>24 Creative Campers</p>	<p>25</p> 	<p>26 Chicken And Fries Planetarium</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> 	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> 
<p>31 Wonders of Nature</p>	