



September 2010

Play and Learn at Scribbles
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From the Director

Welcome to the super month of September! We are excited to begin another award-winning school year and look forward to the opportunity to enrich the lives of your children.

We will kick off the school year with a great fundraiser. The Kid Stuff Coupon Books will be sold from Tuesday, September 7th, through Friday, September 24th. Coupons are always a welcome addition in this economic climate, so purchase one for your family or sell five and receive a free Kid Stuff Coupon Book!

We will be hosting a "Back to School Social" for all ages on Thursday, September 9th, starting at 6:00 pm. Please join us in the classrooms to meet the teachers, network with other families, learn more about the curriculum, and enjoy light refreshments.

The Abilities Network is partnering with Play and Learn to provide a free workshop for staff and parents on Monday, September 13th, from 7:00 - 9:00pm, at our Hunt Valley center. The title of the workshop is "Exploring Myths about ADHD". Please consider joining us to learn more about this important topic. Please RSVP to Angie Robinson by Friday, September 10th, at 410-785-7077.

Show your team spirit every Friday at Play and Learn! Help us kick off football season in Baltimore by celebrating Purple Passion Fridays. Allow your child to wear their Ravens attire to school or wear lots of purple to show your pride. Go Ravens!

The preschoolers will be taking a field trip to the Fire Museum on Thursday, September 23rd, to coincide with our Little Treasures' curriculum. Parents are welcome to attend. Permission slips will be distributed in early September.

Summer is fading and staffing will be modified in order to reflect the needs of our children and families. A staff schedule will be posted on each of the center entrance doors. Ms. Noel will be teaching in the preschool classroom daily, between 9:00 am and noon. Please be aware that she will be unavailable by phone during these hours. She will return messages after noon each day. Thank you for your understanding during this important time of the school day.

Wacky Wednesdays will continue throughout the month of September. Check with your teacher for specifics!

Enjoy the final days of summer!

Ms. Noel and Super Star Staff

Parents' Corner

Play in the Early Years: Key to School Success (an excerpt)

There is a well-established consensus among early childhood professionals that play is an essential element of developmentally appropriate, high-quality, early education programs.

- ◆ Play is not a break from the curriculum; play is the best way to implement the curriculum.
- ◆ A growing body of research shows that every competency important to school success is enhanced by play. For example, high-quality pretend play is related to children's abilities to begin to think abstractly and to take the perspectives of others. Connections between the complexity of children's pretend play and early literacy, mathematical thinking, and problem-solving are documented in research literature.
- ◆ For example, through dramatic play with objects, people, and imagined situations, children develop their oral language skills and capacity for narrative, or "thinking in stories." Oral language skills and narrative form the foundation for reading comprehension, the ability to produce coherent writing, and the ability to understand subjects such as history, social studies, and science.
- ◆ Teachers use keen observation to assess and support children's learning and development through play.
- ◆ Teachers facilitate play through responsive interactions with children, based on an understanding of how play contributes to academic and social learning.

<http://www.4children.org/images/pdf/play07.pdf>

Important Dates

(See Calendar for more information)

September 6 - Labor Day - Center Closed