



Children's Lighthouse

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www.childrenslighthouse.com/cedarpark



Dear Parents,

Did you know that we have a school Facebook page? Like us on Facebook to see current events and great photos. You can find us by searching Children's Lighthouse – Cedar Park.

Thank you,

Lisa Tate, Director

Curriculum Corner

January Character Value

diversity

recognizes and accepts differences

January Sign Language & Spanish



cold
frio



snow
nieve



play
jugar



stars
estrellas

January Classroom Themes

Infants: Competent Me

Toddlers: Space

Preschool: Seasons, Weather, Polar Animals and Magnets

Pre-K: Seasons, Weather, Polar Animals and Magnets

School-Age: Middle Ages

"Play is the highest form of research."

-Albert Einstein

Dates to Remember

January 1st

Lighthouse Closed

January 2nd

Pajama Day

January 8th



Football Frenzy – wear your favorite NCAA spirit gear before the National Championship Game

January 12th

Fuzzy Sock Day

January 15th

MLK Jr. Day - Lighthouse Closed for Staff Development

January 18th

Winnie the Pooh Day – bring your favorite plush or book to share



January 23rd

Bring your favorite book to share with the class

January 26th

Winter Hat Day

January 26th

Pajama Day



For updates and photos please like us on Facebook!



Spatial Reasoning Skills

Adapted from "Steps to Help Foster a Preschooler's Spatial Reasoning Skills" by Deborah Farmer Kris

Spatial reasoning skills play an important, sometimes overlooked, role in academic and career success. And preschool, it turns out, is a key time to foster children's spatial cognition.

Spatial skills encompass far more than having a good sense of direction, according to Nora Newcombe, a Temple University professor who helps lead the Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center. They include the ability to read maps, diagrams and charts; to correctly identify, transform and manipulate shapes; to understand how objects relate to one another in space; and to maintain a stable mental representation of an object as it moves.

By teaching spatial reasoning skills to young children through language and activities, caregivers can help prepare kids to develop those senses for developing other skill sets.

"There is growing evidence that strong spatial reasoning skills in preschool help support math learning in elementary school," said Newcombe. "Beyond math, spatial thinking is important in and of itself for fostering interest in science, math and technology."

Use spatial language — Children who are exposed to more spatial language during their preschool years outperform their peers on spatial tests years later.

Engage in simple mapping activities — Research suggests that children as young as 3 years old can appreciate the relationship between a map and the physical world.

Invest in blocks and puzzles — Children who regularly play with blocks and jigsaw puzzles have more advanced block design scores than children who play with such toys less often.

Read spatially challenging books — Look for books that include pictures from various angles or perspectives that contain maps and abundant spatial language.

For the complete article please visit:
<http://ww2.kqed.org/mindshift/2015/12/16/steps-to-help-foster-a-preschoolers-spatial-reasoning-skills/>

Enhancements

Did you know several vendors visit our school on a weekly basis to provide enrichment classes? Below are links to each of the classes offered.

Mon. – Multi-Sport Program: www.mygymstation.com

Tues. – Kinderdance: www.austindanceandgym.com

Wed. – TinyTykes Soccer Program: www.challengersports.com

Fri. – Flippers Gymnastics and Fitness Program: www.mygymstation.com

Congratulations

Last month we had our annual employee Christmas party and award ceremony at Lone Star Café and Amphitheater in Cedar Park.

Please join us in congratulating Ms. Debbie

2017 Teacher of the Year

Debbie Carlson Sea Lions

Teacher of the Year is given for excellence in the classroom and being the kind of teacher that children will remember the rest of their lives.



Would you like a FREE week of tuition?

We offer a **referral credit** to any family who refers another family to our school that enrolls.

You can earn a free week for your oldest child after the new family has been here for one month.