



Looking ahead at C.A.R.E.S. in September

Character Value of the month: Cooperation

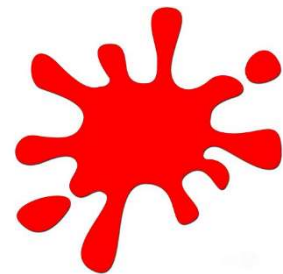
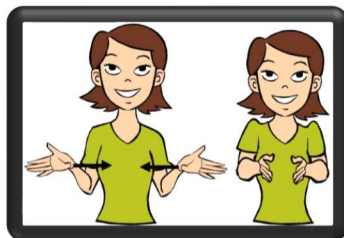
The themes for this month are All About Me, Apples, Pets, and Wild Animals! The students will participate in many learning activities, such as making a family tree, doing an apple taste test, sorting animals, and making wild animal art. They will also work on handwriting and sight words!

Infant and Toddler Innovation

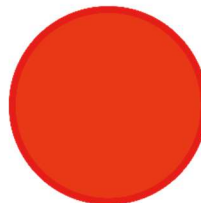
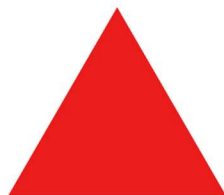
This month, our toddlers will be learning about Little Animals! They will make handprint zoo animals and put on a puppet show! The Infants will learn about Big and Little with a variety of hats, shoes and boxes.

The signs of the month are **BIG and LITTLE**

The color of the month is **RED**



The shapes of the month are **TRIANGLE and CIRCLE**



REMINDER: Our new school year begins on Tuesday,
September 3rd!

Please refer to your child's class
roster that was sent out for your
new assigned classroom
number and teacher.

Toddler I – Room 4
Toddler II – Room 5
Twos I – Room 6
Twos II – Room 8
Threes – Room 9
PreK I – Room 10
PreK II – Room 11

Our quarterly **Lockdown Drill** will happen this
month! We will make a school-wide
announcement when it begins. The children will
go to a designated spot in their classroom and
the teachers will turn off the lights, close the
window shades and block the door. A Lockdown
Drill lasts approximately 2-3 minutes.

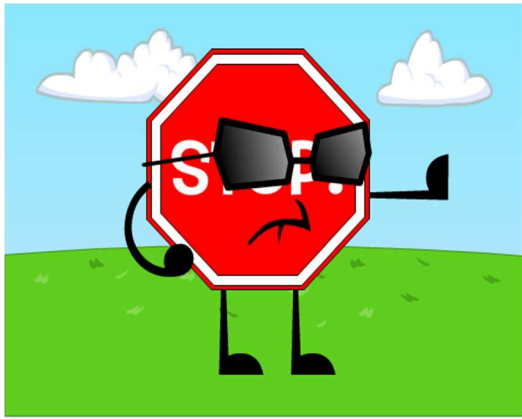
All About Dance is a local dance studio that provides classes for children starting at 18 months. For the month of September, they are providing complimentary dance classes here at Childrens Lighthouse! Ms. Lisa, one of their instructors, will be coming once per week to offer classes to our Twos and older classrooms.

For more information:

All About Dance Chicago
www.allaboutdance.org

*New north Center location
coming soon!

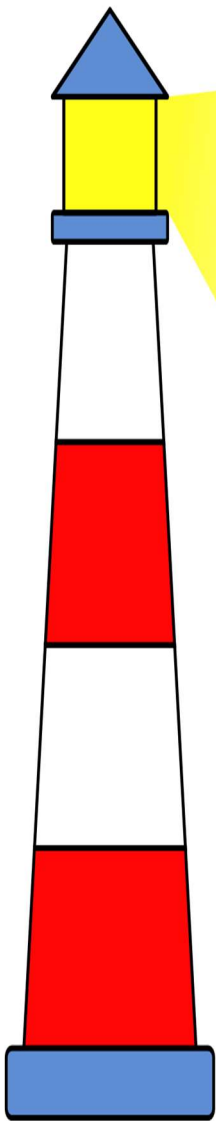




Important Reminders!

***Please sign your child's classroom attendance sheet at drop off AND pick up! It is a DCFS requirement that we have these sheets filled out.**

***The cool weather will sneak up on us! Please check your child's cubby for weather-appropriate clothes that fit.**



Neighborhood Events

What: Childrens Lighthouse Fall Fest!

When: Saturday, September 7th, 9:30am-11:30am

Where: Our back parking lot

Join us for some early Fall fun! We will have a performance by Miss Jamie, we will have a visit from the Colgate truck and many other local businesses, and will have some interactive games and activities for all ages. Complimentary snacks will be provided. Bring your friends and come say hello!

What: The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show

When: Beginning September 28th

Where: Chicago Children's Theater, 100 S. Racine Ave

Cost: \$27 per ticket

Based on author/illustrator Eric Carle's book, this is the story of an insatiable herbivore munching its way towards butterflyhood. Featuring 75 puppets, the production includes three additional Carle stories: *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*, *10 Little Rubber Ducks*, and *The Very Lonely Firefly*. Recommended for all ages.



Appropriate Expectations for Learning Academic Skills

Many child development specialists believe that the foundation for learning is built during the first three years of life. This may be scary though because the academic experiences we remember start at age 5 or 6. We think we have no idea how to teach other children, but everything parents do with their children is teaching! You actually have been teaching your child for quite some time. You started by teaching your child that you love him or her. Then, you taught your baby to depend on you. Then, you helped him or her figure out how to play with objects. Then, you helped your baby learn how to scoot to get something, and so forth. What you may not realize is how important these early skills are for later learning. Each time you interact with your child, you are teaching. And each positive, playful experience a child has builds potential for academic readiness and success.

Here's a list of activities that are guaranteed to lay the foundation for academic skills after age six. Do these now, before your child is ready for direct instruction in an academic environment!

- ❖ **Read** to your child every day.
- ❖ **Share** your work with your toddler. Toddlers want to do real work all by themselves. So, let them work with you. When you sort laundry, give your toddler a pile of socks to play with. Then ask him or her to put the socks in a different pile from the towels. They can also count out forks at the table, count plates as you take them out of the dishwasher, or even count stops signs as you drive along to school.
- ❖ **Comment** on what you are doing and why. It offers children ideas about connections that will have meaning later on.
- ❖ **Use** empty cereal boxes, cartons, and cans to create fun play things.
- ❖ **Hold** your child every day. Take time to reconnect emotionally. Eye contact is very important. Emotionally stable children make good students. Supporting emotional development is one of the most important things parents can do to prepare their children for academic success.