



CREATIVE ACADEMY  
EARLY LEARNING CENTER

April-June 2021

# FROM THE DIRECTOR

## Literacy Corner

### Infants

- ◇ During times of waiting such as a doctor's waiting room or in a store check-out line, introduce finger plays such as "Pat a Cake" or "Itsy Bitsy Spider." Help your child perform the different finger and hand movements for each game's song or spoken rhyme.
- ◇ Hold your baby so that you are positioned face to face. Talk to him/her using various tones of voice, such as a high pitch or a low deep pitch. Notice to which tones your baby pays the most attention. Which kind of voice makes him/her smile and babble more? Does your baby try to imitate your tone of voice?
- ◇ Provide blocks or other toys for your baby to stack. This helps develop the hand and finger muscles that he/she will use later to hold a pencil. If blocks aren't available, your little one can have fun stacking lightweight or empty food boxes from your kitchen, such as pasta and cereal boxes. Read aloud the food labels on the boxes and point to and talk about the pictures as you play together.
- ◇ Encourage your baby to explore scribbling with jumbo crayons or fat sidewalk chalk. You might need to help him/her hold the writing tool in his/her hand.



### Toddlers

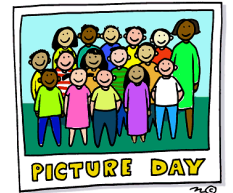
- ◇ Let your toddler talk with you about animal toys and books about his/her favorite animals. Imitate the sounds each animal makes, such as "moo" and "baa." Encourage your toddler to make the animal sounds with you!
- ◇ Play turn taking games such as blowing bubbles to encourage your child to use words and expressions such as mine, my turn, and all done. You can model this for your child by touching your chest and saying "my turn" and then his/her chest and saying "your turn" as you play back and forth.
- ◇ Add to the fun of drawing and scribbling by matching words with actions. For example, as your toddler draws a line you can say, "Up, up, up and now down, down, down goes your line" or "Squiggle, wiggle," as your child makes wavy lines.
- ◇ Write your child's name on his/her favorite cup, jacket, toys, etc. Point to the written name from time to time while going about daily activities and ask your child whose name it represents.

### Pre-school/Pre-K

- ◇ Make up stories along with your child during routine trips to school, the store, etc. Start stories with interest-catching but incomplete statements such as "If I were a cat....." See if your child can finish the opening sentence and add more information to create a story. You might also decide to take turns adding new sentences to make a story.
- ◇ Add the fun of dress-up play and pretend to do some of the daily routines you experience with your child. For example, you could each pretend to be a different animal on your walk to a neighborhood park. Ask your child about his/her animal. What does it eat? Where does it live?
- ◇ Look at alphabet books together. Invite your child to trace the large letters with an index finger to say the letters' names, and to imitate the sound each letter represents. Ask your child to help you think of words that start with a particular letter's sound.
- ◇ Send greeting cards and notes to favorite family members. Invite your child to draw a picture on the card and "sign" his/her name to the card.

### PICTURE DAY

Monday May 10th



### APRIL-JUNE 2021 CLOSINGS

Memorial Day

May 31

Teacher Workday

### TUITION PAYMENTS AND MENUS

All tuition payments should now be paid through ProCare. Monthly menus can still be accessed on Creative Academy's website under the Parent's Corner.  
[www.creativeacademync.com](http://www.creativeacademync.com)

### SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE!

Please remember to provide your child with spray bug spray and spray sunscreen as we begin spending more time outdoors.



# Question of the Quarter

**When will Creative Academy move back to typical operations?**

Creative Academy follows the NC Child Care Strong Public Health Toolkit as required by the Division of Child Development and Early Education. This outlines requirements as well as recommendations for operation during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Until we are instructed otherwise, we are required to continue following these guidelines to ensure the safety of your child while in care. We know some of the rules can be very difficult for families, (i.e. -quarantining) which is why we have developed a new system that allows you and your child's pediatrician to determine if the symptoms exhibited may be related to COVID-19 and what course of action should be taken. We hope that as we move forward with more of our population becoming vaccinated that restrictions will begin to ease up, but for now we are doing our best to keep your child as safe as possible while in our care.



The Child Care Strong Toolkit was recently updated on April 1, 2021. You can access this toolkit on our website or visit the link below:

**<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/220/open>**

## Parent Handbook Policy Highlight

### COVID-19 Updated Return to Care Policy

Please note that there is a new protocol in place for returning to care with COVID-19 symptoms. If your child exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 as listed on the health screen from when they arrive or throughout the day, you will be given the following options for returning to care:



1. Get a PCR COVID-19 test (2-3 day turn around for results). Test results must be negative and results provided to Creative Academy.
2. Schedule an appointment with your child's pediatrician and have them complete the form provided by Creative Academy that outlines an alternate diagnosis for their symptoms. The form provided by Creative Academy must be signed by the physician and returned.
3. Quarantine for 10 days.

Child must be fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to care in addition to the above criteria completed.

