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# FROM THE DIRECTOR

## Literacy Corner

### Infants

- ◇ Talk to your baby throughout daily activities such as diaper changes, feeding, play time, etc. Notice and talk about the things your child is doing. For example, during meal time, "Eat, eat, eat. You're eating your cereal. Here comes a big spoonful!"
- ◇ While you are doing chores at home, sing songs with your baby. Even before your baby can babble or coo along, sing fun songs to him/her. Notice your baby's responses. Are there smiles, chuckles, or happy wiggles? If so, repeat those songs.
- ◇ Pay attention to your baby when you read a book to him/her. Watch for smiles, giggles, coos, or focusing closely on the book. These actions may tell you this has become one of your baby's favorite books! Take it along on errands and daily activities so that your child can enjoy exploring it on his/her own.
- ◇ Encourage your baby to hold and explore books. Babies can enjoy playing with and even mouthing sturdy board books and plastic books. You may need to provide some support based on your child's development, such as holding the book while your baby touches pictures or turns pages.

### Toddlers

- ◇ Introduce your toddler to seasonal songs that have special meaning for you or your family. Encourage your child to sing and dance along to the tunes. Let your child make up new words to the songs.
- ◇ Song songs and read books with your toddler about "feelings." Ask about his/her feelings. Sing songs with your child such as "If Your Happy and You Know It." Visit a public library to find books that explore emotions such as Eric Carle's book, *The Grouchy Ladybug*.
- ◇ Make instant pudding with your toddler. Point to the words and any pictures on the box as you read aloud the step-by-step instructions. Encourage your child to do as many of the recipe tasks-such as pouring and stirring-as possible.
- ◇ Make a painting together with your toddler. Help him/her choose the colors of non toxic paint as you point to and read the color names on the paint jars. Encourage him/her to draw or paint lines and circles onto large sheets of paper. If your toddler prefers markers or crayons, use them instead of paint.



### Pre-school/Pre-K

- ◇ Read books with your preschooler about emotions and feelings. Read stories about characters who express happiness, sadness, anger, etc. Ask your preschooler and his/her feelings and what he/she can do when having these feelings. "What can you do when you feel angry? What makes you feel better when you are sad?"
- ◇ Invite your child to "act out" feelings using stuffed animals, dolls, or puppets. Ask your child to "make faces" in a mirror that express happiness, sadness, anger, fright, surprise, etc.
- ◇ Encourage your preschooler to draw or paint a "happy," "excited," or "sad" picture. Ask your child to tell you about the feelings shown in the painting. Write down what he/she tells you.
- ◇ Let your preschooler make his/her own "feelings book" by drawing or cutting pictures out of magazines that express different feelings. Write your child's responses to these questions: "How is this person feeling? What makes you feel happy, angry, sad, excited, etc.?"

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### October-December Closings

Veteran's Day  
November 11th

Thanksgiving  
November 28th & 29th

Christmas  
December 24th & 25th  
December 31—Closing  
at 3pm

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## FLU SEASON

Please  
remember to  
have your child  
vaccinated for  
the flu as early  
as possible.

### Vision Screening

Tuesday November 12

9:00am

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# Question of the Quarter

## What is Happening at the Center on Teacher Workdays?

Creative Academy uses these days to provide time for teachers to:

- switch out toys
- thoroughly clean the classroom
- switch out bulletin boards
- prepare for upcoming lessons and activities.



Creative Academy also uses these days to provide trainings for teachers on a variety of topics to enhance the overall educational environment your child participates in on a daily basis. New strategies, new ideas, and new developmentally appropriate practices are provided to the teachers. Topics may include:

- Pro-social skill development
- Large and small muscle development
- Cognitive development
- Early literacy and language development
- Early writing development
- Outdoor learning
- Learning through music

## Parent Handbook Policy Highlight

### Inclement Weather

#### Closings

For closing information, families will receive a REMIND notification via email or text. Notifications will occur by 10:00pm the night before a possible closing. If the closing is unable to be determined the night before, a REMIND notification will be sent out by 6:00am the morning of.



#### Delays

When the Wayne County Public Schools call for a delay, Creative Academy will follow the delay time schedule below:

The center will open at 8:30am for early care on days that the Wayne County Public Schools calls for a delay. These classrooms will be appropriately blended ages until 9:30am. Parents must call in or have your child arrive by 9:45am in order to receive lunch. Children must arrive by 10:30am to attend for the remainder of the day.

If WCPS is delayed due to cold weather only, Creative Academy will operate on a regular schedule.