

PRE-K SPED NEWS

Fall 2018 • prekese.dadeschools.net • (305) 271-5701

Hello Parents, Caregivers, and Teachers,

By now, you have established your routines and your children have adjusted to your schedule. They know what to expect and can transition more readily from one activity to the next. As we gradually move from the warm weather to cooler temperatures, remember to pack rain coats or small umbrellas for sudden passing showers. In a few weeks, we will begin the hectic holiday season with Halloween and Thanksgiving after that. If you are engaging in activities with your children during Halloween, remember to practice good safety. Make sure children are properly supervised. If providing food items, please verify that they adhere to the allergy restrictions of your classroom and/or household. Costumes should be fun, but not restrict visibility or limit children's ability to navigate the environment safely.

With the arrival of Thanksgiving and the end of year activities, it is important to maintain routines as much as possible so that children can continue to experience success and remain engaged. Routines help children to feel safe, secure and confident. Let children know and prepare them for changes in the daily schedule, avoid sudden changes if possible, communicate with all stakeholders ahead of time and allow children the freedom to communicate their feelings in a safe, nonthreatening manner. Expose children to varied experiences and most of all be safe!

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Instructional Supervisor
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Children's Trust FAMILY EXPO

The Early Childhood Department participated in the annual Children's Trust Family Expo on September 8, 2018. They were able to share important neighborhood resources with families. The children who visited our booth had fun participating in hands-on activities with our staff volunteers.



Communication Counts!

Speech and language are important for the development of social and emotional skills in children. Communication is one of the most important developmental tasks that takes place during early childhood. Difficulty with communication skills can hinder a child's ability to express their thoughts and share ideas with adults and peers. Children are usually inclined to share their thoughts with others. However, they often cannot if they don't have well-developed language skills. Other children may experience speech issues such as poor pronunciation, stuttering, and other unclear speech patterns. This struggle with being clearly understood may cause them to isolate themselves, minimize verbal interactions with peers, or avoid potentially stress-provoking situations requiring them to speak out loud. The following items may assist you with helping your child/children become confident, proficient communicators:

1. Recognize and acknowledge their communication attempts
2. Model speech and/or language in a positive, meaningful way
3. Incorporate play and natural learning activities to motivate communication
4. Allow wait time for responses (at least 5 seconds) so that the child can think clearly and generate an appropriate answer



Social-Emotional Development is KEY!!



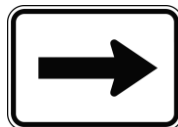
FAMILY CORNER: HOW WE CAN PROMOTE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

It is important for children to build positive relationships with adults as they grow. A child's relationship with a caring parent is the foundation for successful social-emotional development. Here are some easy ways to nurture the relationship with your child on a daily basis:

- Make physical connections with your child every day. Give hugs and snuggle with your child in the morning and at night.
- Play with your child. Laughter keeps you both connected. Aim for at least 30 minutes of uninterrupted fun play per day.
- Turn off technology when you interact with your child. Your child will remember for the rest of his/her life that he/she was important enough to their parents that they turned off their phone to listen to him/her.
- Connect before transitions. If you look at your child, use his/her name, and connect with him/her, then get him/her giggling. You'll make sure your child can manage themselves through a transition.
- Make time for one on one time. Schedule 15 minutes with your child, separately, every day.



Books to share



Tip of the Month:

Miami Children's Museum

FREE the third Friday of each month from 3-9 pm, with interactive activities and crafts. You can also explore hundreds of bilingual, interactive exhibits related to art, culture, community and communication. Also, once a month, the museum holds **Sensory Saturdays** for children with disabilities and reserves the museum from 9 am to 11 am. Admission is offered at the reduced rate of \$6. Preregistration is required by calling 305-373-5437 extension 126, or e-mailing sensorysaturday@miamichildrensmuseum.org.



Glad Monster, Sad Monster – ED
EMBERLEY
My Many Colored Days – DR. SEUSS