



The Spotted Zebra Learning Center

April 2024



Reminder:

April 1-5 is Spring Break!
Preschool/Childcare still open!

Happy April from the Admin Team! We have just a couple of updates about happenings at the school. There will be a new comment box set up in the back vestibule of the Spotted Zebra Learning Center! Any feedback you have (good, bad, or just saying hello!) is always welcome and appreciated. We strive to provide an environment that allows our families and children to grow the best way they can, and would love to incorporate more community interaction into that process.

Mark your calendars! SZ will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair from 4/19-4/26! We will have a variety of books available for purchase during this time. We will be accepting cash and checks, and will also be using a digital E-Wallet that will allow you to pre-load funds for your child to use at the fair (extra money will be turned into a Scholastic E-gift card that can be used online at the end of the fair). Here is a URL to our fair's homepage:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/spottedzebralmgctrinc>

We will be celebrating the Week of the Young Child from 4/8-4/12! This was founded by the National Association for the Education of Young Children in 1971 and features themed days that promote educating different facets of the mind. We will be starting off by learning about the solar eclipse on 4/8 and safely viewing it with protective glasses.

As always, please reach out with any comments, questions, or concerns!

Ms. Sheri, Mr. Matt, Ms. Shannon, and Mr. Derek

What is Happening in the Classrooms...



VIOLET ROOM NEWS

Happy Spring! Though it doesn't quite feel like it yet, we in the violet room are so excited to welcome this new season and many sunny days ahead of us.

The month of March was packed with fun in the violet room. We talked about transportation and vehicles, which was a great segue into thinking more about the many different jobs that community helpers do for us every day. We greatly enjoyed dramatic play this month as we took the roles of chefs, construction workers, artists, and postal workers! We also had oodles of fun exploring St. Patrick's Day, hunting for leprechauns and focusing on color. Also this month, our friends have all been working very hard tracing their individual names, and have been doing wonderfully. We are getting better every day! We are also continuing to practice our self-help skills in the classroom. As many of our friends become more adept at tasks such as opening packages, we see a lot of helping hands around the classroom, which is always a welcome sight!

During the month of April, we will be talking about Easter, Spring, Insects, and Earth Day. As it warms up outdoors (hopefully), we will be going on outdoor walks and spending more time on the playground. As warmer weather draws near, please send in a labeled bottle of sunscreen if you have not done so already this year. As always, please also send in labeled, weather-appropriate clothing as the seasons shift.

Lastly, we would like to wish a very happy birthday to Sadie (April 29th)!

Miss Brittany, Mrs. Laura, and Ms. Terry



Blue Room News

Spring has Sprung! We are ready for warmer days and spending more time outside. If the weather cooperates, we will be going on walks and will spend time on playground daily.

March was a very busy month! We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday, St. Patrick's Day, Egg and Ovals, and learned about the Life Cycle of a Butterfly. The children have been graphing Lion or Lamb days for the month of March. Our dramatic play area has been transformed into Caring for Babies and being gentle with babies. We are all looking forward to the return of Max the Monkey on April 8th, 2024 Max has been busy in the Jungle visiting his family.

In April we will dive into Spring. We will focus on Bunnies, Space/Solar System and The Lunar Eclipse, Baby Farm Animals, Plants, Flowers, and Earth Day. Our next dramatic play area will be Outer Space.

The Week of the Child April 8- April 12, 2024 We will take every opportunity to celebrate all the amazing children and achievements we see every day! We look forward to seeing all your creative ribbons displayed in the hallway.

Letters of the Month

C, O, G

No Special Education Program April 1 - April 5, 2024

Happy Spring!!

Ms. Katina, Ms. Maria, Ms. Paige



Bizzy Beez News

Bizzy Beez is hoping that April showers bring the most beautiful May flowers! We are looking forward to sunshine and warm weather ahead!

As a reminder, Bizzy Beez will start off the month with our spring break from April 1st through the 5th.

When we return from the break, we will dive into the topic of insects and discuss the life cycle of a butterfly! Our caterpillars started their chrysalises during the 2nd to last week in March, so we will be able to see our butterfly's once they have completed their metamorphoses after we get back from the break.

After insect week, we will move into talking about spring animals! We will revisit some of our favorite critters who we talked about earlier this year that have been hibernating since the beginning of winter.

Finally, we will spend the last week in April discussing Earth Day, and introducing some ways we can help take care of our beautiful planet!

This month, we want to wish our amazing physical therapist, Ms. Megan, a very happy birthday!

Love,

Ms. Hope

Ms. Tami

Ms. Christiana



Green Room News

Spring is in bloom and the Green Room is so excited! As it begins to get nicer and nicer, we try to get outside as much as possible; we are looking forward to taking many walks in The Crossings. As we close out March, we will be talking about weather and looking for signs of Spring.

As we move into April, we will explore the subject of Spring, and continue looking for its signs; learn how to be an "Earth Helper" and do fun Earth Day activities. We will also learn all about bugs and insects! To close out the month we will be learning all about zoo animals. Our Handwriting curriculum continues to be a success! This month we will be working on letters with slanted lines (A, V, M, N). We are looking forward to the science and math activities that can be integrated into this month's themes.

During circle/story time we are continuing to work on patterning, counting, identifying the month of the year and the day of the week, as well as the weather to determine where we will have gross motor play. Guessing what the picture will be for the day is always a favorite circle time activity. All are doing well reading the circle time report sentences with a "loud and proud voice".

As the weather starts to get nicer and we begin to go outside again, please start sending in a water bottle with your child's name clearly labeled, we will be bringing them outside to the playground daily.

We would like to wish Gianni a very happy birthday this month!

We hope everyone has an amazing April!

Ms. David, Ms. Elle



Orange Room News

Happy spring! Although Mother Nature changed her mind and brought us snow and ice recently, we have had opportunities to take walks and see migrating birds, green grass emerging, and buds on bushes and trees. We hope to take a more formal spring sensory walk on Friday, April 12th, and bring our clipboards along to record our observations. In April we will continue to explore spring with units on weather, the solar eclipse and space, Earth Day, maps, life cycles, and baby animals.

In our Learning Without Tears Curriculum, we are finishing the alphabet with Xx and Qq. Then we will take time to learn more about vowels before beginning word families and word building. The kiddos are doing great matching beginning and ending sounds with the corresponding letter in words. We are excited to focus on vowels to get medial sound practice as well. We will continue practicing pre-writing and writing skills. We encourage labeling drawing and are beginning to write/dictate sentences also. As always in our Mat Man letter books and other thematic books, we continue to think about characters, events, problem and solution, fiction vs. non-fiction, and character traits.

We have had so much fun with our geometry lessons and have moved on to building shapes (making a new shape out of smaller ones), making shape pictures with flat shapes, and building with solid shapes. When we return from break, we will learn how to build cubes and other solid shapes using various materials. The next unit in our math curriculum is adding and subtracting within 10.

There are no April birthdays to announce and celebrate. We hope to celebrate accomplishing our mission to work together and show kindness once we complete levels two and three on our chart. We will keep you posted!

Ms. Carol, Ms. Megan, Ms. Meghan, and Ms. Chris

Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

Therapists and Special Educators

Ms. Tonya	Psych
Ms. Marlis	OT (BB)
Ms. Shawna	Speech
Ms. Emily	Speech
Ms. Kaylyn	Speech (G, O)
Ms. Charlotte	SEIT
Ms. Megan	PT (BB)
Ms. Rachael	Speech (Blue)
Ms. Caitlin	OT (Blue)
Ms. Nicole	Speech
Ms. Kathleen	PT
Ms. Rachel	Speech (BB)
Ms. Susan	PT
Mr. Peter	OT
Ms. Rachel	Music
Ms. Carla	OT (V, G, O)
Ms. Abigail	PT
Ms. Allison	Speech (Violet)
Ms. Emilie	Speech
Ms. Sarah	PT

Floating Teachers

Ms. Lauren B
Ms. Lauren C
Ms. Chantal
Ms. Meghan
Ms. Mollie
Mr. William
Ms. Emma
Ms. Alaina
Ms. Leanna
Ms. Tristyn

Admin Team

Ms. Sheri
Mr. Matt
Ms. Shannon
Ms. Amy
Ms. Brenda
Mr. Derek