

THE SPOTTED ZEBRA Learning Center

May 2025

Reminder:

- The center is closed on 5/26 in observance of Memorial Day



Admin News

Happy May! The sun is out, birds and bugs are filling the skies and trees, and our gardens are beginning to take shape! As we venture outside more on the playground and on walks please be sure to send your children in with comfortable shoes for movement, labeled clothes, and a labeled bottle of sunscreen.

Thank you to all of our families that participated in this year's book fair! The children loved seeing the vibrant displays and getting to pick out books that peaked their interest. We are already looking forward to next year's fair!

We want to give a shout out to our amazing team of teachers this month in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week from 5/5-5/9! Without these incredible individuals, the Spotted Zebra team would not be complete. We are tremendously grateful for them every day, and we hope you are as well.

As always, please reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns, and the comment box in the back vestibule is always open!

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

What is Happening in the Classrooms...



Teal Room News

Dear Families,

Spring has sprung! It has been a pleasure watching your children learn and grow throughout the month of April, and with a new month comes new possibilities. Our classroom activities will be centered around springtime, and we continue to teach a Word of the Week to support your child's communication development.

The warmer weather has allowed us to spend more time outdoors on the playground and in the sandbox. Accordingly, we ask that you kindly provide your child with sunscreen, which we will apply at school each time we transition outside. Additionally, if you have not done so already, we ask that you provide your child with spare clothing (at least 2 complete outfits) in case of spills, accidents, etc.

As many of you are likely already aware, Annual Review season is officially upon us. All children who enrolled in the Teal Room in January will have a Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) meeting with Spotted Zebra as well as their home school district before the end of the year to discuss progress, needs, and services for next school year (2025-2026). These meetings will take place virtually, so please be on the lookout for an email invitation from your child's home school district. Your child's providers are in the process of preparing Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for the 2025-2026 school year. You will receive a copy of the draft in advance of your child's Annual Review meeting. Please do not hesitate to contact TealRoom@SpottedZebra.org with questions, comments, or concerns prior to your child's meeting. We are also happy to schedule a parent conference (either in-person, via phone, or virtually) to discuss the draft further.

Finally, we ask that you please let us know if your child eats breakfast at home in the morning. Some of our students are requesting food from the time of their arrival, and while we are happy to provide a light breakfast (Nutri-Grain bars, fruit, crackers, etc.), we also do not want your children to overindulge if they are already eating a full breakfast at home.

Thank you for all that you do for your children!

Warmly,

The Teal Room Team



Violet Room News

April showers have sprung May flowers! We had so much fun dipping our toes into the many changes and new beginnings of spring. We discussed the weather changes we have noticed in the past month, along with what we wear. We learned a lot about the types of insects and flowers we find in gardens and we watched our playground garden come to life. We explored ponds and the animal life that lurks both in and out of them. We have been grateful to enjoy many long walks and sunny days outside on the playground.

In the month of May, we are excited to continue exploring the outdoors, so please ensure that your child is wearing weather appropriate clothing each day, including footwear and two-three sets of extras. Please also ensure that your child has a labeled sunscreen. As we move into May we are excited to cover themes such as birds, the five senses, pets, and camping & picnics. We will be incorporating nature walks and other immersive activities to reinforce the concepts we teach. We will also be introducing beginner cutting skills and building on our handwriting and tracing skills through strengthening activities and repetitive practice.

Graduation is looming (already?!), so please be on the lookout for information in the coming weeks. Additionally, the center will be closed for Memorial Day on May 26th. We would like to wish a very happy birthday to Eli this month (25th)! Lastly, we would like to wish a happy mother's day to all of our violet room mothers; thank you for all that you do!

Ms. Brittany, Ms. Laura, Ms. Terry, and Ms. Allison



Blue Room News

Hi Families, can you believe we're already diving into May? It's going to be an exciting month as the kids get to enjoy outdoor play and explore the beauty of nature, with all the blooming flowers and birds around us. Last month, we had a fantastic time learning about chicks, which sparked curiosity and developed critical thinking skills while laying a strong foundation in science for our little ones. In April, we focused on the letters S, G, A, and I, and this month, we'll continue our literacy journey by learning and practicing four more letters. May is also a special month as we celebrate every day with heroes, including mothers, nurses, and the brave soldiers who have served our country. We'll be reading stories related to these themes and learning more interesting facts to honor their contributions. We will also learn about the lifecycle of trees and gardening. We're looking forward to another wonderful month of learning and exploration!

We are excited to celebrate one upcoming birthday in May.

Ms. Caitlyn – 05/31

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a month full of learning and celebration! We appreciate your continued support and enthusiasm. For important information, please refer to the "N.B. part" within the weekly lesson plans and Class Dojo.

Ms. Sunita, Ms. Katina, Ms. Jackie



Green Room News

With the arrival of May, we're welcoming longer days, blooming flowers, and the joy of consistent warm weather. The sunshine and gentle spring breeze have brought a renewed sense of energy to our Green Room community. As we get ready for more time outside, please make sure your child has a labeled water bottle and aerosol spray sunscreen at school. We'll apply sunscreen before outdoor play to help keep everyone comfortable and sun-safe while they explore and enjoy the season.

Inside the classroom, we've been making fantastic progress with our handwriting program. It's been such a joy to watch your children's confidence soar as they master new letters each week—they're doing an incredible job!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the families who participated as mystery readers! Your visits brought so much joy and wonder to our days. The children loved the surprise of guessing who would walk through the door next. We're hoping to start another round soon—stay tuned!

This month, we have an exciting journey of themes ahead. We'll begin by learning all about zoo animals, then head to the garden to explore fruits and vegetables. After that, we'll discover the fascinating world of caterpillars and the life cycle of a butterfly. We'll then turn our attention to pets—how to care for them, what makes them special, and why they're such wonderful companions. Finally, we'll blast off into outer space to learn about the planets in our solar system. It's shaping up to be a month full of curiosity, creativity, and hands-on discovery!

We'd also like to send big birthday wishes to **Ethan, Nora S., and Iris!**

We're looking forward to a marvelous May filled with learning, laughter, and lots of sunshine.

Ms. Michelle, Ms. Elle, and Ms. Jennifer



Orange Room News

Hello Orange Room Families!

May is full of fun and learning in the Orange Room! This month, we'll be exploring sensory materials and learning all about construction through hands-on activities and play. We're also beginning to talk more about graduation and will be practicing our songs—keep an eye out for more info soon!

As the weather warms up, we'll be spending more time outside and taking walks through The Crossings. Please apply sunscreen to your child before drop-off and send in a labeled bottle for reapplication during the day.

We also want to wish a very happy birthday to Greyson and Asher—hope you both have a wonderful celebration!

Looking forward to a great month ahead!

The Orange Room Team



Yellow Room News

How is it already time to say "hello" to May? We have had so much fun learning together this year!

Math instruction has focused on teen numbers - what they look like written and built. We will continue to practice teen numbers by showing one group of ten and extra ones and practice place value. Then, we will move on to measurement - height, length, and weight.

Regarding literacy, we have completed the alphabet with Mat Man and his letter books and have also learned a lot about letters, phonics, and comprehension of simple texts (Meaning Making). We will continue to build on previously learned literacy skills for the rest of the year. As we continue to be "reading detectives"; practice with sight words, ending sounds, and middle sounds will be added to develop further reading and writing skills. In addition, we are learning about end of sentence punctuation, rhyming, word families, and comprehension of text.

Science in April focused on life cycles, signs of spring, and keeping the Earth healthy. In May, we will move on to pollination, farms/gardens/food, and baby animals. The author of the month will be Laura Numeroff.

Before we close, we would like to wish the moms in our families a Happy Mother's Day! Also, Happy Birthday to Ms. Megan this month!

**Ms. Carol, Ms. Megan, Ms. Chris, and
Ms. Khrista**

Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

Therapists and Special Educators

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Ms. Juli | Psych |
| Ms. Marlis | OT (O, V) |
| Ms. Shawna | Speech |
| Ms. Kaylyn | Speech (Yellow) |
| Ms. Caitlin | OT (V, B) |
| Ms. Rachel J | Speech (Orange) |
| Ms. Rachel M | Music |
| Ms. Carla | OT (Y, B, G) |
| Ms. Allison T | Speech (Violet) |
| Ms. Wendy | Speech |
| Ms. Cindy | PT (B, G, O) |
| Ms. Laura | Speech |
| Ms. Allison R | PT (Y, V) |
| Ms. Jesse | Speech (Blue) |
| Ms. Olivia | Speech (Green) |

Offsite Therapists

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|--------------|--------|
| Ms. Shawna | Speech |
| Ms. Nicole G | Speech |
| Ms. Kathi | PT |
| Mr. Peter | OT |
| Ms. Nicole S | SEIT |
| Ms. Sarah | PT |
| Ms. Wendy | Speech |
| Ms. Laura D | Speech |

Floating Teachers

Ms. Chantal
Ms. Alaina
Ms. Nakisha
Ms. Karen
Ms. Emily
Ms. Allison K
Ms. Madison
Ms. Thea

Admin Team

Ms. Sheri
Mr. Matt
Ms. Shannon
Ms. Amy
Ms. Victoria
Ms. Rachael
Mr. Derek

