

THE SPOTTED ZEBRA

Learning Center

October 2025

Reminders:

- Our 20th Anniversary celebration will be on 10/11 from 1-4 PM!
- The center will be closed on 10/13 in observance of Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day



Admin News

Happy Fall! We have loved getting to see everyone acclimate to new environments, routines, and people, and have especially loved getting to see personalities and friendships emerge. A huge thank you to all of our parents for helping to ease transitions and helping the start to our year go smoothly.

Spotted Zebra Learning Center first began in 2005, which means this is our 20th year! Please join us for a celebration of everything we have been, are, and will be on 10/11 from 1-4 at the center! There will be snacks, cake, and even some special shirts for the event.

As the leaves change and the air cools please send your children in with appropriate labeled clothing for outdoor play. We want to spend as much time outside as we can before Winter keeps us inside!

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

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

What is Happening in the Classrooms...



Teal Room News

Hello Families,

We are off to a wonderful school year! We have enjoyed getting to know you and your families. During the month of September, we began becoming familiar with our classroom environment, schedule, routines, and new faces! Our classroom schedule offers a balance of structure and flexibility, with plenty of opportunities for movement, to provide children with the chance to engage in activities they enjoy in a variety of ways. Children are learning how to engage with peers (e.g., play together, take turns, share), how to appropriately use classroom materials, and how to explore new activities with growing confidence and independence.

In September, we especially enjoyed exploring the sensory bin, playing outdoors, and engaging in open center activities throughout our school day. It has been wonderful to see the children grow more confident each day and begin to build new friendships.

As we move into October, we are excited to explore all things Fall! We will be learning about pumpkins, leaves, weather, and the changes we see in nature. The children will have opportunities to participate in hands-on activities such as leaf rubbings, pumpkin exploration, and sensory play with fall-themed materials. We will continue to support children as they grow in their social skills, expand their play skills, build independence, and discover a love for learning through a variety of playful experiences.

At home, you can support this learning by talking with your child about the signs of fall you notice together—such as cooler weather, changing leaves, or pumpkins at the store.

Reminders:

- Please be sure your child has weather-appropriate clothing as we will continue to go outside daily (weather permitting).
- We will continue sending home a daily sheet to share about your child's day—please take a look and let us know if you have any questions!

If you have any questions, please always reach out to us at tealroom@spottedzebra.org. We are so excited for all the learning and fun that October will bring!

-Teal Room



Violet Room News

It's been a wonderful start to the school year here in the Violet Room! September has absolutely flown by, but we are already having so much fun together. We have spent lots of time adjusting to the classroom schedule and routines, learning each other's names through songs & games, and exploring many different toys, activities, and areas of the classroom. We've been learning how to play with many different types of toys and new activities as we all get to know each other. We've discovered that our favorites so far are music time, sensory activities, and the playground! Everyone has already begun to have so much fun together, learned many new things, and have even started making some new friends! We are working on beginning self-help tasks like wiping our noses and washing our hands, and are excited to build upon these independence skills more as the year progresses. We've started to notice the weather shifting as the season is changing, and with that comes new learning opportunities.

Happy Fall! During the month of October, we have many fun and exciting seasonal activities planned to take advantage of this beautiful time of the year. Our themes for the month of October will include apples, pumpkins, fire safety, and Halloween. In the coming weeks we will distribute information about upcoming special activities and events that will take place later in the month.

As the weather cools down, we ask that you please begin to send in warmer clothing such as long sleeves and pants, jackets/coats, and hats. Children should also be wearing comfortable footwear that does not hinder movement, e.g. sneakers or tennis shoes, each day. We will continue to go outdoors, weather permitting, through the season. We appreciate you taking the time to label everything to avoid mix ups/lost items.

Finally, we'd like to wish a very Happy Birthday to Daxton (8th) and Ms. Terry (25th) this month, and Happy Belated Birthday to Raeyla (Sept. 28th)!

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



Blue Room News

Hello Families,

It has been an amazing start to our school year and we are so excited for fall and the Halloween season. It has been wonderful to get to know all of your children and learn more about them each and every day. We love seeing the kids form new friendships and find new interests.

This month we will continue to practice our routine and classroom expectations. Additionally we will focus on fall related topics such as apples, leaves, pumpkins, fall colors, and fall animals, etc. We are also planning our Halloween celebration/party so stay on the lookout for more info to come in the next few weeks.

Thank you to all parents for an amazing start to the school year. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our team if you have any questions or concerns.

Ms. Jackie and Ms. Katina



Green Room News

Fall Greetings!

We've had such a wonderful start to the school year in the Green Room! During September, we spent lots of time getting to know one another through name games and fun "getting to know you" activities. We've discovered that our friends love to dance and sing, work together on puzzles, and get creative with Play-Doh. We wrapped up the month learning all about fall and apples.

October is sure to be an exciting month! We will be exploring fire safety, focusing on important skills such as: stop, drop, and roll; stay low and go; get out and stay out; and call 911. Children will get plenty of hands-on practice through role playing—so don't be surprised if your child shows off what they've learned at home! We also have a special visit from a firefighter in the works, which will be such an exciting way to bring our learning to life. In addition, we'll continue celebrating the season with activities about leaves, pumpkins, farms, and Halloween. It's going to be a month full of fun and learning!

Before we close, we'd like to share a few reminders:

- Please make sure all clothing and outerwear brought to school are labeled.
- If you haven't already, swap out the spare clothing in your child's bucket for fall-appropriate attire.

Finally, we'd like to wish a very happy birthday to Navy, Ms. Jennifer, and Ayden!

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



Orange Room News

Dear Orange Room Families,

Happy October! As we settle into fall, we're feeling so proud of how well the children have adjusted to life in the Orange Room. They've grown more comfortable with our routines, are forming strong relationships with their peers and teachers, and are beginning to show so much confidence in navigating the classroom. It's truly a joy to see their personalities and friendships blossom.

This month, we'll be embracing the season with a variety of autumn-themed activities that focus on nature, sensory exploration, and creative expression. Our curriculum will weave in hands-on experiences that invite children to explore the world around them.

Here are some of the seasonal themes and activities we'll be exploring in October:

Leaves & Trees – We'll collect and examine leaves of different shapes, sizes, and colors. Children will use them for leaf rubbings, sorting by attributes, and incorporating them into nature-inspired art.

Pumpkins – We'll explore pumpkins inside and out! For sensory play to measuring, painting, and even using them in science experiments, pumpkins offer endless opportunities for learning.

Harvest & Nature Walks – We'll take walks to notice the changes in our environment. We'll talk about what animals and people do to prepare for colder weather, and gather natural items for our discovery table.

Art & Sensory Play – Expect lots of fall colors in our art this month! We'll be using materials like corn kernels, cinnamon sticks, acorns, and lots of others in our sensory bins and process art projects.

Seasonal Books & Songs – We're incorporating stories and songs about falling leaves, squirrels, apples, and pumpkins to support language development and bring the season to life in the classroom.

As always, we'll continue to balance our days with time for outdoor play, open-ended exploration, and building on children's interests and questions. Please dress your child in layers for the cooler mornings, and make sure they have extra clothes in their cubby just in case.

We're looking forward to all the discoveries this season brings. Thank you for partnering with us and sharing in your child's journey!

Warmly,

Ms. Katie, Ms. Tami, and Ms. Daphne

The Orange Room Team



Yellow Room News

Happy fall! For September we focused on getting to know each other, as well as our classroom rules, routines, and expectations. Over the last days of September and first days of October, we learned about the "power to choose" with the support of the books in the What Should Danny Do? series. There are many choices to make throughout the day, and each choice has a consequence/result. We are practicing making choices that have positive and safe outcomes.

Also introduced in September was our Learning Without Tears literacy program with the Alphabet Parade and A-Z with Mat Man and Me. The introductory math topics focused on counting and writing 0-10 using various materials. We are off to a great start!

In October, thematic units will be fire safety, nocturnal/diurnal animals, pumpkins, and Halloween. Within those themes, we will practice counting and representing practicing 0-10, which is a pre-cursor for addition. Mm, Tt, Aa, and Nn will be the letter learning and phonics focus this month. Social-Emotional Learning will focus on characters, problem and solution, and feelings. We will introduce journaling for literacy, as well as science and math topics. During Morning Meeting, counting the days of school (place value), patterning, observing, recording, and functional language practice occurs daily. We also practice taking talking and listening turns given visual and experiential supports. We use "Turn Taking Sticks" to rotate fairly through helper jobs.

There are no October birthdays to celebrate. Look out for more information on how we will celebrate Halloween.

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

Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

Therapists and Special Educators

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

Offsite Therapists

Ms. Shawna	Speech
Ms. Nicole Ge	Speech
Ms. Kathi	PT
Mr. Peter	OT
Ms. Nicole S	SEIT
Ms. Sarah	PT
Ms. Wendy	Speech
Ms. Laura D	Speech
Ms. Debbie	PT
Ms. Claire	Speech

Floating Teachers

Ms. Alaina
Ms. Karen
Ms. Emily
Ms. Allison K
Ms. Nicole Gr
Ms. Tristyn
Ms. Josilyn
Ms. Cadence
Ms. Jennifer S

Admin Team

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

