



Summer
time!



UNO Child Care Center Chronicle

June 2024

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UNO Child Care Center Happenings and Reminders

Announcements/Reminders

1. The **School-age program** will run from June 3 to August 9, 2024. There is a \$110.00 summer activity fee for each child. This fee covers the cost of field trips (transportation & fees), t-shirts, etc., and is non-refundable and will not be prorated for any missed field trips. Please make sure that you have received a packet of information from Ms Patty. The **Preschool** summer packets have gone out and the summer activity fee is \$65 and covers the cost of field trips, t-shirts, etc. and is non-refundable and will not be prorated for any missed field trips. Please see Ms. Monica for packet information. The **Transition** summer packets have gone out and the summer activity fee is \$25 and covers the cost of t-shirts, ice cream, and summer activities. Please see Miss Alecia for packet information. The **Toddler** summer packets will be going out the week of June 3. The activity fee is \$12 and will cover the costs of ice-cream and summer activities. Please see Mr. Fred for packet information.
2. The children do play outside and will go for walks on campus. With the weather getting cooler, please make sure your child has a jacket/coat, hat and/or gloves for outdoor play. As long as the temperature, including wind chill, is above 32 degrees, the children will be able to play outdoor.
3. Water Play for each group will begin the week of June 3. Your child will need a swim suit, towel, and water shoes. If you child is a toddler or transitioner in diapers/pull-ups, they will need swimmers. Water days are as follows: Mondays: Preschool; Tuesdays: Toddlers; Wednesdays: School-age; and Fridays: Transition. Time of day will depend on the temperature. Either mornings at 9:45 A.M. or afternoons at 2:30 P.M.
4. Thursdays is Library Day. Each group will be walking to the UNO Library for story time and check out books. Toddlers will leave at 9:05 A.M. for story time at 9:20 A.M. Transition will leave here at 9:25 A.M. for story time at 9:40 A.M. Preschoolers will leave here at 9:45 A.M. for story time at 10 A.M. and School-agers will leave here at 10:15 A.M. for story time at 10:30 A.M.
5. Summer Contracts will be due on Friday, June 7. If your schedule as changed and/or your school-age child has come back for the summer, you will need to sign a new contract. These will be handed out on June 3.
6. Please let us know if your child(ren) will not be in attendance for the day. You can call the child care center at 402-554-3398 or email Dawn (dhove@unomaha.edu) or Monica (mdey@unomaha.edu) to let us know. This helps us for preparing meals and staffing for the day.
7. Stretch-N-Grown Summer Fitness Fun Program will be on Tuesdays beginning June 4, 2024 from 9 to 9:30 A.M. It is a combo class of Games, Yoga and Dance with the Summer Olympics Theme. Cost for the 8 week session is \$80.00. Please see Stretch-N-Grow website to sign-up and pay. Please let Dawn know if you sign your child up for the class.
8. The UNO Child Care Center **closes** promptly at **5:30 P.M.** Please make sure you are picking up your child by 5:30 P.M. The staff thank you.
9. We continue to advertise for the Lead Teachers positions. Help spread the word.
10. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dawn at 402-554-4936 or by email at dhove@unomaha.edu.



Happy Birthday!

- 5 - Miss Laney
- 11 - Miss Katie
- 15 - Hudson H.
- 19 - Dawson C.
- 22 - Jacoby M.
- 26 - Sebastian S.
- 30 - Miss Devin

July

National Blood Donor Month

- 3 - Pre/SA Field Trip to Elmwood Park
- 4 - Independence Day; **Child Care Center Closed**
- 10 - Tran Walk to MBSC for Ice Cream
- 12 - Pre/SA Field Trip to Children's Museum
- 16 - Tran/Pre Field Trip to UNO Planetarium
- 17 - Toddler Walk to MBSC for Ice Cream
- 19 - SA Field Trip to Prehistoric Putt-Putt
- 21 - National Ice Cream Day
- 23 - SA Field Trip to UNO Planetarium
- 26 - SA Field Trip to Durham Museum
- 26 - Pre Walk to MBSC for Ice Cream
- 28 - Parent's Day

Reading Fun!

Scholastic Book Orders will return in August.

Please visit your local library during the summer for reading enjoyment. This is a fun family summer activity.

The UNO Child Care Center will be participating in the **Summer Reading Program** through the Omaha Public Library. Each child will earn points to receive a **free book at the end of the summer**.

In addition the UNO Child Care Center is also a part of the **Nebraska Growing Readers** and families will be able to pick up **free books** to take home to read to your child and build your child's home library.

Books are an important part of a child's development and can help your child gain pre-literacy skills. Happy Reading!



June

National Pride Month

- 1 - National Say Something Nice Day
- 5 - World Environment Day
- 7 - Pre/SA Field Trip to Zoo
- 7 - National Donut Day
- 12 - Toddler Walk to MBSC for Ice Cream
- 14 - Flag Day
- 14 - SA Field Trip to Gifford Farm
- 16 - Father's Day
- 18 - SA Dr. Oxygen Science Guy
- 19 - Juneteenth Day
- 20 - SA Field Trip to Lauritzen Gardens
- 21 - Summer Begins
- 28 - SA Field Trip to Bellevue Berry Farm
- 28 - Tran Field Trip to Elmwood Park
- 29 - International Mud Day



Recommended Books for the Month



Please watch for the shipment of the Nebraska Growing Readers book series that will be coming out soon for the month of June.

These are free books that families can take and read to their children to keep or pass along to other families.

For May we sent home books with each child. Beginning in June, you will have the opportunity to choose which book or books you would like to take home. Books will be located in the Multi-purpose room.

Books are designed to use language and cultural references appropriate for your children. In fact, many will speak to Nebraska specific topics that will engage your child.

Build your own Nebraska Growing Readers library and help your child flourish as readers and thinkers.



Talk With Toddlers

Welcome to June!

The official start of Summer at UNOCCC!! Here are some activities we have planned for this month:

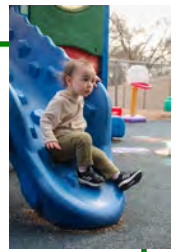
- Toddler Water Play will be on Tuesdays June 4, 11, 18 and 25. Please bring a swimsuit, towel, and swimmers for your toddler. Water shoes are optional.
- Toddler Library days are Thursdays June 6, 13, 20 and 27. We will be leaving the center for the library at 9:00 AM and return to the center by 9:45 AM. Please have your child here by 8:50 AM.
- Toddlers will also have an Ice Cream field trip on Wednesday, June 12. We will be leaving the center at 9:30 AM and returning to the center by 10:30 AM. Please have your toddler here by 9:15 AM.

We will be spending more time outdoors either playing, taking walks or wagon rides. So, please consider swapping out winter clothes for summer clothes in your toddler's tubby and bringing a hat for your child to wear while playing outside if they need one. Do not forget to turn in your Toddlers permission slip for our summer activities by Wednesday, June 5. The permission slip is in your summer packet. If you need a new one, please talk to Mr. Fred or Ms. Dawn.

This month, we will be reviewing our shapes, colors, numbers, and letters, along with our theme of Summer Fun!

Let us laugh, have fun, and play in the sun!!

Mr. Fred, Ms. Effie, Mr. Fred, and the Toddler Assistant Teachers



Time With Transition

Summer is here!

Transition will have library story time this summer every Thursday morning starting June 6 from 9:40 AM to 10 AM at UNO Criss Library. The librarian will read a story and after we will pick out some books to read back at the center. We will leave the center by 9:20 AM to make it on time. Please have your child at the center no later than 9 AM, so that we can go potty and get ready for our walk to the library.

Our water play is here as well! We will be having water play every Friday morning starting June 7, weather permitted. Your child will need a swimsuit, water appropriate shoes, a towel, and a swimmer if they are not yet potty-trained for your child to participate. You are more than welcome to bring a hat, sunglasses, and other sun protections items at your discretion.

Friday, June 28, will be our Elmwood Park Field Trip. We will walk as a class to the park, play, and enjoy a sack lunch together before walking back for nap time. We will leave for the park at 9 AM, so please have your child at school no later than 8:45 AM. Your child will need a peanut/tree nut free and sunflower free disposal sack lunch and drink. Grownup volunteers are encouraged, so please let us know if you will be joining us at the park. Your child's permission slip will need to be signed and returned for them to join us on the field trip.

June Themes (Weekly Themes): Insects; Vacation and Travel; Camping; Bodies of Water

If you have any questions, please reach out to me in person, email me at aleciakeller@unomaha.edu, or call the center during my desk duty (1-2) to chat.

Ms. Alecia & Transition Assistant Teachers



Preschool Perspective

Welcome Summer!

We are so happy to be able to go outside as much as possible! For the most part, the weather has cooperated and will continue to be favorable for outdoor activities. With the end of summer, we said goodbye to some friends. Some will back for the fall semester, and we hope they have a wonderful summer. We did say a final goodbye to our friend, Ella. We are going to miss her silly jokes, but wish her the best in her new adventures! We also want to welcome Nylah to the group! She has made a smooth transition downstairs to the Preschool classroom. We are excited to have her join us!



Now that summer is upon us, we will be looking forward to the month of June. The theme for this month is "Looking Forward to Summer!" Our theme's include: Zoo Animals; Dinosaurs; My 5 Senses and It's Summer. We will be reviewing letters, numbers, shapes and colors throughout the month.

Now that summer has begun, here are few reminders for you!

- Please make sure your child has a change of clothing in their tubby that is appropriate for summer, including shirt, shorts, shoes and socks.
- Please return field trip permission forms no later than June 5.
- We will start Wet and Wild water play day on Monday, June 3. For children to participate, they need to have a labeled swimsuit and towel. Water shoes are optional.
- Library day is every Thursday, starting on June 6. We will walk to the library at 9:45 AM for story time at 10AM and check out books. So please have your child here at the center no later than 9:30AM.
- Our first field trip is on Friday, June 7. We will be going to the zoo. The bus leaves promptly at 9:00 AM. Please have your child here no later than 8:30 AM. Please bring a peanut/tree nut free and sunflower free sack lunch and drink for your child. The sack lunch needs to be completely disposable, as we will not be bringing anything back with us.
- Please check the calendar in the summer packet that was sent home for all of our field trips and activities that have been planned for the summer!

Here's looking forward to a great summer!

Monica and the Preschool Assistant Teachers



School-age Press Release

Summer has officially begun!!!! Our summer program is starting on June 3 and will run through August 2. Our weekly schedule will be the following. Monday we will introduce our theme for the week, Tuesdays will be cooking day, Wednesdays will be splash day, Thursdays will be Library day, and Fridays will be field trip day. We love it when parents come on field trips, please let Mrs. Dawn or Mrs. Patty know if you would like to volunteer for an upcoming field trip. If you have not already, please remember to bring in water clothes and towel, sunscreen with permission slip, water bottle, and field trip permission slip.



For June, our themes are zoo animals, farm animals, insects, and famous artists. We are continuing to take care of our pizza garden and we are starting to see little tomatoes on a couple of the plants. On June 3, we will kick off our summer with an ice cream party. We will be walking to the Milo Bail Student Center to enjoy a frosty treat! We will be tracking the reading our school-agers do during our drop everything and read time in the afternoon. To see our progress keep an eye out on the board in the block area. The children are excited to see our butterflies emerging. Our first field trip will be to the Zoo on Friday, June 7. Please bring in a nut/peanut free and sunflower free disposable sack lunch and drink. Please make sure to track our summer happenings on our monthly calendars that went out in the packet.

We are looking forward to a summer of fun!!!

Mrs. Patty and the school- age Assistant Teachers



Parent Corner

This is the second article in [Preschool Play Plans](#), a TYC series. The plans get children moving, interacting, and laughing—without electronics. These are ideas for open-ended indoor and outdoor activities that use inexpensive or free materials—bubbles, mud, chalk, playdough, and cardboard boxes. The activities are appropriate for preschoolers of all abilities. Share the plans with families—they're enjoyable for all ages!
[Teaching Young Children](#); April/May 2018; Vol. 11, No.4

International Mud Day, sponsored by the World Forum Foundation, is celebrated every June. Mud Day's mission is to connect children around the world through playing in mud! Find out more at connect.worldforumfoundation.org/mud-day.

Mud is a raw, everyday material that is messy but available almost anywhere. It offers unique, hands-on sensory experiences, and hours of delight. As children play together with mud, they practice cooperation, turn taking, and problem solving—while also having fun! Support their learning by describing activities and experiences with mud: “You’re scooping the mud into the bucket with a shovel,” “The mud feels wet and cool.”

Ask simple questions: “How many scoops will it take to fill this bowl? Let’s count,” “What happens if we add more water?” Observe children to see what interests them—this will help you think of questions to guide and expand their learning. Playing in dirt inspires children to laugh more, resulting in happier, healthier children.

Engaging families

Some families may be concerned about letting their children play in mud because of dirty clothing and muddy shoes. Let parents know that playing in nature and getting dirty is healthy and positive. Tell them about mud play in advance, so children can wear clothes or bathing suits that can get muddy; keep extra clothes on hand in a big general supply box (if you don’t already) for other common preschool needs (toileting accidents, painting, food spills).

Parents might also worry about children swallowing dirt or mud. Let them know the steps you take to make sure children play safely, like teaching children not to eat mud, what to do if they see something unsafe (trash), and thoroughly washing after playing in the mud, dirt, and sand.

Mud Art

Mud handprints

Find a patch of bare earth, or shovel dirt into a bucket. Add water using a hose or watering can. Invite children to stir together the dirt and water with a stick or spoon until it’s thick and liquid, then use the mud to make handprints on heavy paper or on the sidewalk. Indoors, children can do this at the art center or by filling the sand and water table with mud. Tape a shower curtain or trash bags to the floor under the area, and have children wear smocks to protect their clothing. Let families know ahead of time to send in a change of clothes.

Fancy mud

Sprinkle biodegradable glitter on mud and pretend it’s fairy paint or star mud, or ask the children what they would like to pretend it is. Children can also liven up their mud art with glitter.

Mud painting and stamp art

Using fingers, paintbrushes, or different kitchen tools (like potato mashers or sponges) as stamps, children can decorate outdoor spaces or sheets of construction paper with artistic mud creations! They can paint and stamp with mud individually at easels or together on an unrolled length of brown paper—indoors or out. You can also hang a large white sheet outside and have children throw mud balls at it to create a splatter painting (or “mudding”).

Mud Play

Mud kitchen

Set up an outdoor mud kitchen. Make a stove, sink, oven, and table using cartons, boxes, boards, or parts from old plastic or wooden play kitchen sets. Add pots, pans, bowls, muffin tins, plastic serving platters, spoons, and more. Children can make mud soup, stew, muffins, birthday cake, and, of course, mud pies! Decorate fancy mud desserts with glitter.

Mud pit

Make your own mud pit outside in a plastic swimming pool on a warm day, or if space is limited, make a mini version with a dishwashing tub. Fill the bottom of the pool or tub with a layer of dirt or organic topsoil, add water, and enjoy! Supply buckets and shovels or bowls and spoons for happy digging. Let children take off their shoes and socks and feel the mud squishing between their toes.

Mud track for cars and trucks

Add dump trucks, cars, bulldozers, and other vehicles to a mud patch or outdoor mud pit. Children can create their own scenarios, building roads and landscaping with twigs, leaves, acorns, and stones. When vehicles become coated in mud, create a car wash with a garden hose or bowls of water.

Supporting Children with Disabilities

As with any play activity, consider children’s motor abilities as you plan activities. Try putting mud in a tray so children can easily reach it. Some preschoolers with tactile defensiveness (a heightened sensitivity to touch) may resist touching mud with their hands; encourage these children to touch the mud with one finger, or provide plenty of tools (spoons, spatulas, cups) for mud play until they become more comfortable.

If you have children who need more guidance during play, try using a peer model, or give the children hand-over-hand assistance and get your hands dirty, too!

This information has been adapted from Family Play Plans by TRUCE (Teachers Resisting Unhealthy Children’s Entertainment). A variety of materials are available on the TRUCE website (www.truceteachers.org) that will help parents and teachers counteract the negative impact of media and marketing on children and promote positive play activities.