



Family Circle



Final Family Gathering

If you have any ideas for our end of the year family gathering please let a Honey Bear teacher know. We'd love your input and help to plan the last family gathering as Honey Bears.

Update on Preparing for Next Year

It is hard to believe but this school year is quickly drawing to a close. Your child's last day in the Honey Bears class will be Thursday, August 21. All of the children are ready for the transition. They have stepped up to each new challenge that we have put forth such as preparing their own lunches and managing the open art centers. Each child has grown from a small, wobbly, young toddler into a confident, independent, chatty toddler in the last year.

All that remains is to prepare the children for the transition. In a couple of weeks we will begin visiting the Turtles classroom and having Melanie, the Turtles Lead Teacher visiting our classroom. We have wonderful news regarding the other teachers in the Turtles classroom. Yjasming will be moving on with these Honey Bears and will be the Assistant Teacher in the Turtles room! Further, the Float Assistant in the Turtles room will be Juanita Beam, a current Kangaroos teacher who all the children see on the playground each day. Having two familiar teachers with them will make this transition a piece of cake.

We are still not discussing the transition yet but will begin to do so soon. We will keep you updated regarding these transition preparations.

Creative Play

The Honey Bears are becoming increasingly interested in imaginative play. They love pretending to cook and serve food in the dramatic play area. At any point in the day you can find several children sitting at the small table in the dramatic play area, handing out plates, pouring ketchup on hot dogs, or offering a cup of milk to friends. In addition to using these dramatic play props in their games, the children have been pretending to hold or see objects and pretending that one object is something else. For example, the children often sit in one of the large tires on the playground and pretend they are on a boat. They pretend to paddle, jump in for a swim, and go fishing.

Engaging in imaginative play is important for development. During creative play, children can explore new ideas and roles in a safe way. They attempt to integrate new knowledge through their play and experiment with different ways of interacting. Further, they develop their symbolic thinking skills as they let one object represent a different object. It is quite common to see children pretending to do the tasks that they see their parents, teachers, and peers do each day. A child may pretend to make pancakes, go on a coffee run, or go to the pool since these are the activities that his family engages in on the weekend. As children get older, these games become more complex as the children more deeply explore social roles, rules, and expectations.

We work to support and extend the children's imaginative play experiences. For example, when a child says, "Bye, I'll see you later!" we would ask the child, "Where are you going?" We would continue to engage in conversation with the child and help him further develop his creative play. Also, we have been helping children join in on other children's games. If we notice a few children are pretending to go

on a train ride, we may announce, “These friends are going on a train ride. Does anyone want to join?” We also help the children interact with each other and build on each other’s ideas. We may ask one child, “Where are we going on the train ride?” Then ask a different child, “What do you see out the window?” At home, as you notice your child engaging in imaginative play, jump right in and go on the journeys with them! Simply playing along will help your child develop their imaginative play skills. If you have any questions, feel free to ask a Honey Bear teacher.

Class Notes



Thank you!

It has been a pleasure spending the year with you and your children. We really appreciate all the support and love you showed towards our classroom throughout the year. We will miss all of you when the year is over and are looking forward to a fabulous last six weeks of the school year!

The Honey Bears Team
Sarah, Pia, and Yjasming