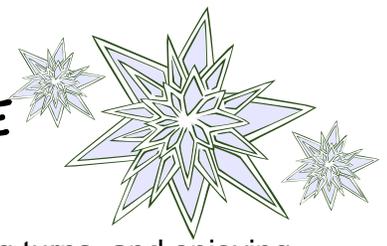


# CHILD CARE CHRONICLE

January 2021



We hope that you had a great holiday season. Let's hope that 2021 is a less stressful year!

Reminder:

You are not charged for the week between Christmas and New Year's. You are charged for New Year's day. If you would like to use a free day for Jan 1, just email Elaine and let her know. [eshutt@etownchildcare.org](mailto:eshutt@etownchildcare.org). You receive your new free days for the year on Jan 1.

Please remember to send hats, mittens and boots for your children. We do go outside almost daily. Boots are nice even if there is very little snow. The playground tends to get very muddy! Also, it is very helpful if you label all items with names.



## The Power of Playdough

Squishing, rolling, sculpting, molding . . . young children love to play with playdough. Add some props from around the home and playdough play becomes a powerful way to support your child's learning. This simple preschool staple lets children use their imaginations and strengthen the small muscles in their fingers—the same muscles they will one day use to hold a pencil and write. Using playdough with you, a friend, or siblings supports your child's social skills

such as sharing, taking turns, and enjoying being with other people. Playdough also encourages children's language and literacy, science, and math skills—all at the same time!

Homemade or out of a can, playdough can provide hours of fun and learning at home. Besides the playdough, all you need are a clear surface, a few household items, and lots of time for fun. Try adding birthday candles, cookie cutters, feathers, plastic silverware, combs, straws or whatever fun thing you find.

When children use playdough, they explore ideas and try different approaches until they find one that works. They compare and contrast objects ("Mine's a fat pancake and yours is skinny"), actions ("No, don't cut it! Scrape it, like this"), and experiences ("We're not making a snake—we're making a road"). In their experimenting, children come up with their own ideas, satisfy their curiosity, and analyze and solve problems. These are all skills that help children learn and succeed in school.

## Playdough Recipe:

2 cups flour	3/4 cup salt
4 tsp cream of tartar	2 cups lukewarm water
2 Tbsp of vegetable oil	Food coloring

Stir together the flour, salt and cream of tartar in a large pot. Next add the water and oil and food coloring. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly. Continue stirring until the dough has thickened and begins to form into a ball. Remove from heat and then place inside a gallon sized bag or onto wax paper. Allow to cool slightly and then knead until smooth. Store inside a zip lock bag to keep soft. Keeps for up to 3 months.

Inchworm News  
January 2021



Dear Families,

**December Recap**

December was a fun month, as we learned about Christmas and counting. We read books and sang songs about fun Christmas activities. We spent time outdoors enjoying the brisk winter weather. All of the babies enjoyed counting, and bouncing along as the teachers sang counting songs.

**Personal Achievement**

**Reignsley** has honed her walking skills, moving swiftly around the room with very few stumbles or falls. She enjoys playing with the stacking rings/stars, putting them on with minimal help, then asking the teacher to dump them so they can do them again. Reignsley giggles as she walks around the room with Carson “chasing” her as he also laughs. We will miss her, as she will become a Firefly after the holiday break.

**Olivia** can now stand up without support in the middle of the floor, and can squat and stand over and over. She likes to play with the phones and cameras, pushing the buttons to hear her favorite sounds. Olivia gets very excited when the teachers sit down for circle time, requesting more and more songs.

**Carson** has mastered crawling on his hands and knees, as well as pulling up to stand at tables and saucers, and getting back down safely to his bottom. He spends a lot of time exploring the people, cars, and animals bin. He especially likes playing with the balls, trying each of them out to see if they bounce and how they taste.

**Brinley** has mastered sitting up, and enjoys exploring toys and watching the other babies. She scoots backwards on her tummy, finding new things to explore along the way, even though she often is frustrated because she moves farther from the teachers and other babies. Brinley likes to play with any toys that make noise when she shakes them.

**SPECIAL DATES:** ECCC will be closed on Friday, January 1, 2021, and we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday, January 4, 2021!

**Looking Ahead:** In January, we will be learning about winter, fun winter activities, and colors. There will be a lot of books read, and many songs sung. We will paint or color, and move and dance. We will continue to work on our large and fine motor skills, and learning signs and words and songs. We will spend as much time outside as we can, looking for signs of winter and chasing bubbles and balls. We will be gaining Arthur as a new Inchworm in January.

**Special note:** We said goodbye to Miss Amy in December, and we wish her well as she begins another adventure in her life.

The Inchworm Staff--  
Miss Chris, Miss Susie, and Miss Nicky



# Firefly January News

Happy New Year. We are hoping everyone had a great winter break. With the New Year comes just a few reminders. The first is with winter upon us remembered to listen to the designated TV and radio channels for closings and delays. With that in mind I also wanted to add that we do go outside in all-weather so please bring in boots, hats, mittens and snow pants so we can have some fun in the snow. Please be sure to label everything. The children love to get into others baskets and things get mixed up. If everything is labeled it helps us to figure out where they belong. Also please have at least one spare face mask at the center so we can change them if they get wet and dirty. Since we are wearing them to go out side now little noses run in the cold weather and they do get grimy.

What's coming up?

Since winter is upon us we will talk about what happens during this time. Since we have to wear hats in winter this is a good time to talk about all the different hats people wear and the reason they wear them. This is also a good time to talk about the animals that live in snow. We will also talk about dinosaurs.

Things we enjoyed last month

Gracie, Gracelyn, Henry K, Henry T, Silas and Waya had a great time using the bells and singing the Christmas song we learned.

Amira, Killian, Bentley, Easton, Sebastian and Bryce really enjoyed making the gingerbread house. They worked hard getting all the pieces on the roof.

Song of the month

Snowflakes falling from the sky.  
(Sung to Mary Had a Little Lamb)

Snowflakes falling from the sky, from the sky, from the sky.  
Snowflakes falling from the sky, to the earth below.  
Watch them as they dance and twirl, dance and twirl, dance and twirl.  
Watch them as they dance and twirl to the earth below.

Chipmunk Chatter  
January 2021  
Happy New Year

We would like to welcome Bentley to the Chipmunk classroom! We also would like to say goodbye to Xander who moved up to the Bluebird room. We will miss you, Xander!

**Units of Study**

January 4 - Happy New Year & Hot Chocolate

January 11 - Penguins & Ice

January 18 - Winter & Snowmen

January 25 - Bears & Hibernation

We want to wish Carter a Happy Birthday! He will turn 4 on January 4th!.

We asked the Chipmunks:

**“What do you like about snow?”**

**Anna** -Um I like skating board

**Ben** - Flowers

**Carter** - Presents

**Carson** - Play in it

**Gavin** - Jumping in it

**Hadassa** - To jump in it

**Wyatt** - The snow

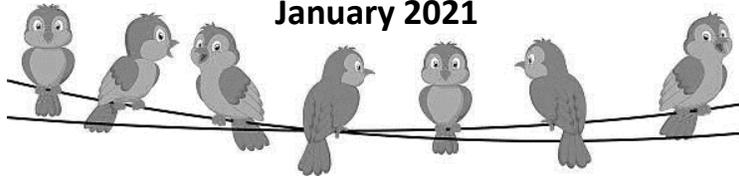
**Xander** - I like Christmas Trees



Welcome winter, we are supposed to go outside anytime the wind chill is above 24F... please dress accordingly. Thank you

# Bluebirds Newsletter

January 2021



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! December was a busy month of learning and fun! For our first theme, we read the stories of five different Fairy Tales and did activities related to the stories. For most of the Fairy Tales, we read the story and then the children helped retell the story along with the teacher while some of the children acted out the story with props and costumes/animal masks for the different characters. The children did such a great job acting out the different roles! For the following week, the theme was Gingerbread Men & Cookies. We read stories such as, The Gingerbread Man, Gingerbread Baby, and Gingerbread Mouse. We even decorated and ate our own gingerbread man cookie! Christmas was the theme for the last week of class in December. We read books related to Christmas, sang our favorite Christmas songs, painted paper plate wreaths, hung numbered ornaments in order from 1- 10, and matched letters on plastic bottle cap "ornaments" to letters on a paper Christmas tree.

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, one of the Chipmunk children, Xander, will move up to the Bluebirds class! Welcome Xander!

## Question of the Month: "What do you like to do in the snow?"

**Amelia** – "Play in it. I like to make snowmen."

**Blake** – "Make snow angels, jump in it."

**Brandon** – "Throw snowballs, roll in the snow."

**Cash** – "Make snowballs. I also like to eat the snow."

**Jacob** – "Build a snowman."

**Julia** – "I like to go on my sled and Daddy pushes me in the snow. I like to roll in the snow. I like Mackenzie to come over and she goes in the sleigh with me and Daddy pushes us and Sissy watches us."

**Kelsey** – "Make snow angels, play in the snow. I love the snow, it's my favorite season."

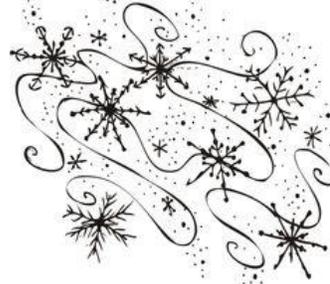
**Leo** – "Sledding."

**Logan** – "I play in the snow, I make snowballs and throw them."

**Mackenzie** – "Ice skating. I like to slide down the hill on the snow."

**Xander** – "I just want to build a snowman and go sledding."

**Zaynab** – "Throw it at Daddy."



## Weekly Themes:

January 4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> :	Snowmen
January 11 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> :	Snow/Ice
January 18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> :	Arctic Animals
January 25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> :	Polar Bears & Penguins

## Special Dates:

January 1 <sup>st</sup> :	Happy 4 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Leo!
January 4 <sup>th</sup> :	Happy 4 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Logan!
January 12 <sup>th</sup> :	Happy 4 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Cash!



## **CUBS NEWSLETTER**

### **January 2021**

We have had such an eventful year, but we have learned a lot about letters, numbers, science, and feelings with our PATHS curriculum. We have not only learned about different kinds of feelings, but how to compliment each other.

**Andrew:** I like your shoes.

**Briella:** I like your necklace.

**Charlette:** I like your pants.

**Ella J.:** I like your crown.

**Zoe:** I like your necklace.

**Harper:** I like playing with you outside.

**Ella S:** I like your shirt.

**Kellan:** You helped me clean up.

**Nevalynn:** I like your shirt.

**Mia:** I like your shoes.

**Dominic:** I like your shirt.

**Liam:** I like the picture on your shirt, Mia.

**Faelan:** I like the way you jump on one foot.

**Reminder:** Winter weather is here so please be sure your child has a jacket, hat, and gloves to go outside. Please check that they also have an extra change of clothing for the colder weather.

#### **Themes:**

**Week 1 & 2:** Winter

**Week 3:** Polar Animals

**Week 4:** Bears (On **January 29<sup>th</sup>**, we will have a teddy bear picnic. Please bring your child's favorite bear that day. Thank you. )

#### **Birthdays:**

**Faelan 1/14**

**Harper 1/18**

**The center will be closed from December 24<sup>th</sup>-January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas from the Cubs Room!

Mr. Jeff, Ms. Cindy, and Ms. Destiny





In the month of December, the Explorers and Investigators worked hard on many activities involving Snow and Ice as we learned about weather changes from Fall to Winter. We even got to watch it snow a couple of days! We talked about how countries around the world celebrate Christmas along with how we celebrate in our own homes. Decorations were made for our classroom tree, and letters were written to Santa and put in the North Pole mailbox. The kids were so excited to come in each day and check if they got a response back from Santa!

In January, we will work on coming up with goals for the New Year and discuss what we would like to learn and accomplish! Our main topics for the month will involve animals that live in the Arctic and work on building their habitats. We will also be starting a Kindness Chart to see how many acts of kindness we can record!

We read the story 'Snowmen All Year' and the children were asked, "If your Snowman didn't melt and could stay with you all year, what is something that you could do together?" Here are their replies!

Avery- "I would take him to the Beach and Hershey Park. We could also go swimming and Grammy and Pappy's pool and he could sit on my shoulders."

McKenna- "I would bake a Chocolate Cake with him."

Hudson- "I would celebrate Christmas with him. We could also play in the leaves, lay in the sunshine, and watch the stars shine at night."

Khaleesi- "I would celebrate my birthday with him and we could play soccer." Landon- "I would have a snowball fight with my Snowman."

Emma- "I would make a Polar Bear out of stuffing with him as a fun art craft." Henoc- "I would play tag in the park with him."

Brianna- "I would have my dog play with my Snowman."

Kennedy- "My Sister and I could play all sorts of fun games with him."

Israel- "I would decorate the Christmas tree with him."

Peyton- "We could go to the water park in Hershey Park."

Isaac- "We could play trains and go play in the snow."

Evelyn- "I would like to draw and do art with my Snowman."

Eddie- "I could play anything I wanted with my Snowman. We could build things together."

### Reminders!!!

- Investigators and Explorers are to bring water bottles for the classroom daily. Please label the bottle with the child's first and last name.

-Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing such as a coat, hat, gloves, etc. as we will be going outside as long as it is above 25 degrees.

- Please make sure your child has an extra pair of clothes, including underwear and socks. It's also a good idea to have an extra mask as sometimes they can get wet. You can send a message on Brightwheel to check what your child may need!

Hope everyone has a great Holiday, along with a happy, healthy and safe New Year! We look forward to seeing everyone back in January!

- Miss Ashley

**Happy  
New Year!**

## LITTLE RASCAL'S JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

### HAPPY NEW YEAR 😊

#### THANK YOU 😊

Thank You very much for the wonderful gifts and yummy goodies! We really appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness! We enjoy spending time with your children and hope you had a fun and relaxing time throughout your Christmas break!

#### IMPORTANT DATES:

JANUARY 1: HAPPY NEW YEAR 😊 (ECCC CLOSED)

**JANUARY 18: EASD MAKEUP DAY – SCHOOL IS NOW IN SESSION**

JANUARY 25: NO SCHOOL (ECCC OPENED)

The following article: [“What Can Kids Do To Promote Peace?”](#) has some suggestions on teaching children to put others first and how to react in a peaceful manner to create unity instead of division! Our program philosophy is to teach the children social skills, respect for self, for others and for belongings. We will encourage constructive, cooperative and respectful attitudes in each child's relationship with his/her peers and with adults! There is too much negativity in the world and hopefully we can continue to focus on peace in any situation! *“Let there be Peace on Earth and let it begin with me!”* 😊

## **What Can Kids Do to Promote Peace?**

by SARA IPATENCO Last Updated: Sep 11, 2017



It would be wonderful if your child lived in a world where children weren't exposed to bullying, violence and abuse, but don't sit back and accept that the world often is not a peaceful place. Instead, help your child learn to show small gestures of peace that can add up to a big difference in her family, school and community.

### **Random Acts**

Teach your child to perform random acts of kindness. Encourage her to smile at others, say nice things to friends and siblings, and to write notes to teachers and grandparents. Once your child is comfortable performing acts of kindness toward people she knows, challenge her to think about strangers, too. Encourage your child to invite a new friend at school to come play with her or to tell the school janitor thank you when he replaces the paper towels or cleans up a mess in her classroom. When you teach your child to show gratitude and love, you're also teaching her to make every effort to live harmoniously with others.

### **Stand Up Against Bullying**

Talk to your child about bullying and children being mean to each other. Remind your child that you expect him to be kind to everyone around him and to keep mean words and actions to himself. Promote peace even more by challenging him to be on the lookout for bullying. If he sees a friend or classmate being bullied or picked on, he can act peacefully by standing up for the victim or by telling an adult who can help. Demonstrate this behavior by taking actions such as standing up for a store employee who's getting yelled at by a customer. Kids learn by

example, according to the National Association of School Psychologists, and setting a good example is a powerful way to promote peace.

## **Help Those In Need**

Help your child get involved in the community. Perhaps she could volunteer to read to smaller children at the library or serve food at a homeless shelter. Serving others can help children learn that the world has all types of people and that no one is better than anyone else. Allow your child to find a friend or sibling to volunteer with her. According to Nathan Otto and Amber Lupton, authors of "Give Peace A Deadline," when humans work together toward a common goal, they're more likely to enjoy it, and make a difference in their community.

## **Teach Conflict Resolution**

Helping your child learn how to solve his own problems is an effective way to promote peace because it teaches him how to function in the real world and how to compromise to retain relationships. According to the National Association of School Psychologists, allowing children to use violence to solve their problems builds hate and a lack of tolerance. When that occurs during childhood, children are more likely to grow up still relying on violence to solve their problems. Role-play with your child so he can practice using appropriate words and learn acceptable ways to treat others.

### **Resources for "Peace"**

<https://www.livestrong.com/article/1000409-can-kids-promote-peace/>

<http://www.kidsforpeaceglobal.org/>

[http://www.kidsforpeaceglobal.org/events\\_kindness.html](http://www.kidsforpeaceglobal.org/events_kindness.html)

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/adventures-in-learning/2014/09/childrens-boo>