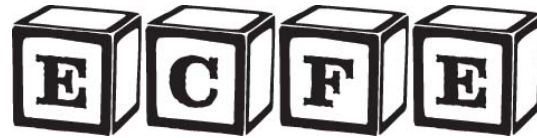


Week of the Young Child April 19-25, 2009



Building Blocks for Family and School Success

In celebration of the Week of the Young Child, Mounds View Public Schools Early Childhood Family Education honors young children, their parents and teachers and all those who make a difference in young children's lives.



Focus on Emotional Development

Young children develop emotional skills through independent explorations and interactions with others. Through these experiences, children learn who they are, what they can do and how to express their feelings and ideas. In addition, parents serve as primary models of the kinds of adults they want their children to become. Take a look at the following tips to encourage your child's emotional development at home.

Learning is expected and cherished. If you establish your home as a setting where learning is supported, your child will identify himself as an able and resourceful learner.

Active learning. Encourage your child to make choices about what to wear, which toys to put away first or what book to read at bedtime. Have conversations with your child as you do things together. Discover how active your child is thinking about the world and how it works!

Consistent daily routine. Children and adults benefit from a predictable daily routine. When your child knows what happens next, she feels more secure and becomes more able to regulate her behavior and to take responsibility for it.

Organization. Your home already has organizational features that support early learning. Your child knows which shelf in the refrigerator holds the milk or which drawer to open to get a spoon. You may want to attach simple labels to your child's toy shelf or containers to help your child sort and store things.

Try the Plan-Do-Review process. Support your child by designating a *choice time* each day. Encourage your child to *plan* what he wants to do. Provide him with the time and materials to *carry out* his plan. Afterwards, ask your child to *tell* you what he did. With your help, the Plan-Do-Review process can become a lifelong—and self-regulating—way for your child to think and act.

from **Me, You, Us**
Social-Emotional Learning in Preschool
by Ann S. Epstein

Focus on Playing

Play helps young children make sense of their world and gain control over the events that touch their lives. Children are active and talkative during play. Playing provides opportunities to cooperate and solve problems. Young children gain information and communication skills via imitation and elaborating on other's play ideas. Visit one of these inexpensive family friendly places to play with your child.



Como Zoo

1225 Estabrook Dr.
St. Paul
651-487-8200
www.comozooconservatory.org

Eagle's Nest

400 10th St. N.W.
New Brighton
651-638-2127
www.ci.new-brighton.mn.us

Harriet Alexander Nature Center

2520 N. Dale St., Roseville
651-765-4262
www.ci.roseville.mn.us

Jackson Street Roundhouse

193 Pennsylvania, St. Paul
651-228-0263
www.mtmuseum.org

Rosebrook Park Wading Pool

2590 Fry St., Roseville
www.ci.roseville.mn.us

Tropics Indoor Water Park

4600 N. Victoria
Shoreview
651-490-4600
www.ci.shoreview.mn.us

New Brighton Neighborhood Parks

Driftwood Park

2705 5th St. N.W.

Freedom Park

2121 14th St. N.W.

Hansen Park

1555 5th St. N.W.

Hidden Oaks Park

1550 29th Ave. N.W.

Innsbruck Park

1150 27th Ave. N.W.

Meadow Wood Park

2081 29th Ave. N.W.

Silver Oaks Park

340 Oakwood Dr.

Sunny Square Park

2200 Sunnyside Ter.

Totem Pole Park

1111 Foss Rd

Vermont Park

150 1st Ave. S.E.

Veteran's Park

803 Old Hwy 8 N.W.

Shoreview Neighborhood Parks

Bobby Theisen Park

3575 Vivian St.

Bucher Park

5900 Mackubin St.

Lake Judy Park

900 Tillerun

McCullough Park

915 County Rd I

Ponds Park

190 Sherwood Rd

Rice Creek Fields Park

5880 Rice Creek Pkwy

Shamrock Park

5623 Snelling Ave.

Shoreview Commons Park

Victoria & Mound

Sitzer Park

4344 Hodgson Rd

Wilson Park

County Rd F & Lexington