

Child Development Center Connections

June 2013
Volume 3
Issue 7

Graduating Kindergarteners of 2013!



CCDC Kindergarten
Class of 2013



Kindergarteners of CCDC graduated on Friday, May 24th at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Parents, grandparents, brothers, and sisters were all there to watch the students receive their diplomas. They started with a ceremony, processing to the track. A prayer was said with Pastor Mike Newlin, blessing the students and their future endeavors in their educational journey. Then Stefani Christopher led the Pledge of Allegiance and held up the American flag. All students received their diplomas, released a white balloon, and tossed their caps in the air: the traditional way to end a graduation celebration!

After the graduation ceremony, students performed a couple of special dances for their families that they had been working very hard to learn. When all of the graduation festivities were complete, the students and their families moved under the white tent to enjoy a catered meal from Puccini's and a graduation cake from Take the Cake. We are so proud of all the graduates and wish them, and their families, lots of luck in their future!



Graduating Kindergarteners releasing their white balloons after receiving their diplomas.

New to the Classrooms

Welcome to all of our new Infant, Early Preschool and Preschool students.

Infant 1

Kavya Shanbhag

Infant 2

Gabriel Gilda

Infant 3

Arya Kichambare

Infant 4

Arnav Kulkarni

Early Preschool 1

Ameya Singh

PreKindergarten 1

Elizabeth Nother



Congratulations to all of those students that are graduating to the next level.

Infants to Toddlers

Sanvika Singh (T3)

Jessica Kou (T4)

Toddlers to Early Preschool

Mahi Nimmagadda (EPS1)

Early Preschool to Pre

school

Peyton Asher (PS1)

Drake Myers (PS2)

Preschool to Pre-

Kindergarten

Miller Higdon (PK1)

Andrew Bays (PK2)

Caroline Tuell (PK2)

Alexia Denny (PK2)

PreKindergarten to Kinder-

garten

Calla Myers

Anika Sarkar

Riley Sims

Spotlight on New Staff

Spotlight on staff is Miss Chelsea Hamm! She is 23 years old and she has 2 beautiful children! Her oldest is three, his name is Ayden, and a little girl named Brayleigh, who is one. They definitely keep her on her toes! She was raised by her grandparents.

She started babysitting kids when she was 12 years old. The ages of the children she babysat were 6 weeks, 3 years, and 4 years old! She took child development, advanced child development, and teacher education throughout high school. She worked at Kids First Daycare with the two year olds and several other age groups.

She loves playing softball! She has been playing since she was five years old. She has also been bowling since she was 4 and really enjoys it! She played powder puff football in high school. She loves doing things outside like camping, fishing, hiking, etc.

As a recently single mom, she is looking forward to raising her children. She is looking forward to starting a new career with Cummins Child Development Center and making new friends with her co-teachers, parents and children. Please stop by Toddler 3 and welcome Miss Chelsea!



Miss Chelsea Hamm
Toddler 3

Infants Inch by Inch



Infant 4 student tasting raspberries.

The babies in Infant four have been engaging in sensory activities. They made mud by adding crushed oreos to chocolate pudding. The kids loved the feel of it and of course the taste of it. The babies were also able to explore a real pineapple. The looks on their faces were priceless after tasting the pineapple. Now that the weather is changing, they are excited to be able to take the babies outside in a buggy to enjoy the fresh air and change of scenery. Last month they worked on activities that promoted physical development. They took the older infants out to practice walking with a walker. They also encouraged the middle aged infants to crawl to play gyms and other outdoor activities. With the younger infants, they sat them in worm seats and bouncy seats to help them strengthen their backs and develop better head control while they watch the older infants play. Since infant 4 has all girl babies they all were queens for a day. Infant 4 had of fun activities to do in the month of May.



Infant 4 student tasting raspberries.

Toddling Tots



Toddler three students gathering on the carpet to sing songs with their teachers.

During the month of May, the Toddler 3 class participated in a lot of fun activities. One of the activities involved the girls dressing in a crown and a pretend robe to be queens for Q week. Breanna Griffith was very excited about playing dress-up! Toddler 3 also made patch work Q's to learn about quilts. The toddlers recognized the upper case letter R by making rabbits out of the R shape. The children also made footprint rockets. They loved painting their feet! The toddlers made mother's day gifts by cutting paper plates into basket shapes and placing flowers in them. They made a card with handprint roses and also framed a poem for their wonderful mothers. Toddler 3 has been practicing routine guidelines for R week. Toddler 3 would also like to welcome Miss Chelsea to their room as a new teacher alongside Miss Debbie!

Toddler three student playing Queen dress-up for letter "Qq" week.



Keeping Busy in Early Preschool

Early Preschool 3 was very busy during the month of May! They learned all about restaurants by working and dining in a pizza parlor in their classroom. The students could play a customer, a waiter/waitress or a chef. They practiced their writing skills by taking orders from the customers and giving them to the chef to make. When the food was finished, the students passed it out! Then the customers used money to pay for their pizza when they were finished "eating"! Early Preschool 3 also made very special Mother's Day gifts for their extra special moms.

Early Preschool three students eating in a pizza parlor



They started off by painting on craft sticks that said "Recipe for a Good Mommy!" and these became recipe holders. The students came up with all of the ingredients for a good mommy. Potholders with artwork and handprints were also a part of the special gift.

Early Preschool three students working in a pizza parlor



Staff Birthdays

Alisha Ploeger – June 4th
Amy Redlin – June 10th
Becky Bunch – June 14th
Cindy Bilbrey – June 29th

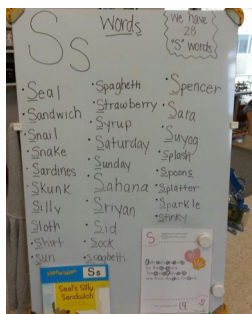
Robin May – June 7th
Victoria Baker – June 14th
Cassie Butler – June 25th

What's New in Preschool?

This month in Preschool 2 they've been doing a lot of awesome things! They learned a lot of things during 'P' week. They made peppers by using their feet. The preschoolers got to paint their feet red and shaped their footprint into a pepper by adding feet, hands, a face and a stem. For another activity, they took pickles and made pickle prints using all different colors of paint! They also got to use their 5 senses with a pickle. The preschoolers predicted what they thought the pickle would taste, feel and smell like. After their predictions, they got to try it out. They were very surprised at the taste of the pickle. They even asked for more! For Q week, the preschoolers made their own classroom quilt! They had lots of exciting things going on last month! Preschool 2 also welcomed 2 new friends to their classroom: Eli McIntier and Garrett Per-



Perfect Peppers made out of the students' feet.



The twenty-eight "Ss" words that Preschool 2 came up with.

Busy Pre-Kindergartners

May was a fun learning month for PreK 1! Letter "Pp" was all about Miss Alisha and Ms. Hannah's favorite animals: peacocks and penguins. The students made peacocks with their hands and feet and made penguins by tearing up paper and piecing it together. They learned many new "Pp" words and even had a popcorn picnic outside! For letter "Qq" the students painted with Q-tips, learned about the "QU" wedding, and talked about what they would buy if they had a quarter.



Pre-kindergarten two students learning about rain clouds through a science experiment.



Pre-kindergarten one student with her finished sponge rainbow painting

PreK1 students also worked very hard on their Mother's Day surprises: they answered a questionnaire about their moms and made them a special keepsake box. Pre-Kindergarten 1 also worked on letter "Rr" in the month of May. They made rainbows by painting sponges and talked about recycling, reptiles, and respect in the classroom towards their friends and teachers. PreK 1 also welcomed many new friends to their class!

The Kindergarten Of The World

Kindergarten students had a lot of work and a lot of play in the month of May. The Kindergartners have been working on a big Science unit that consists of learning all about the ocean! They have studied and researched all of the plants and creatures of the ocean. One of the students favorite parts about the ocean were the sharks, so they decided to make a life size shark! The shark is 10 feet long and made of paper and sewn together with yarn. The Kindergartners hope to see their masterpiece displayed in CCDC soon! In the month of May, Kindergartners have also been learning about the letters P, Q, and R. For letter Q the students got to make their own classroom quilt! Each student brought in a piece of fabric that described their personality, they cut the fabric into squares and sewed them together to make a quilt. Kindergarten also graduated from CCDC on May 24th. Way to go students!



Kindergarten's life-size shark that they made during their Ocean study.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- June 3rd — Water Play Days begin
- June 14th — Flag Day
- June 16th — Father's Day
- June 18th — International Picnic Day/Teddy Bear Picnic
- June 21st — First Day of Summer
- June 25th — "After the Storm" Parent Workshop

5 Star Childcare Update

Indiana Department of
Environmental Management



Eco-Healthy Tip: Lead Poisoning

Dear CCDC Families,

As early childhood educators, it is our responsibility to not only make sure that your children are educated, but also kept safe from all harm. This includes environmental hazards, such as lead.

What is lead? Lead is a naturally occurring bluish-gray metal found in small amounts in the earth's crust. It has no special taste or smell. Lead can be found in all parts of our environment. Most of it came from human activities like mining, manufacturing, and the burning of fossil fuels. Because of health concerns, lead from gasoline, paints and ceramic products, caulking, and pipe solder has been dramatically reduced in recent years.

How might I be exposed to lead?

Breathing workplace air (lead smelting, refining, and manufacturing industries), eating lead-based paint chips, drinking water that comes from lead pipes or lead soldered fittings, ingesting soil contaminated with lead, breathing tobacco smoke, eating contaminated food grown on soil containing lead, or food covered with lead-containing dust, breathing fumes or ingesting lead from hobbies that use lead (leaded-glass, ceramics).

How can lead affect my health?

Lead can affect almost every organ and system in your body. The most sensitive is the central nervous system, particularly in children. Lead also damages kidneys and the immune system. Exposure to lead is more dangerous for young and unborn

children. Unborn children can be exposed to lead through their mothers. Harmful effects include premature births, smaller babies, decreased mental ability in the infant, learning difficulties, and reduced growth in young children. These effects are more common after exposure to high levels of lead. In adults, lead may decrease reaction time, cause weakness in fingers, wrists, or ankles, and possibly affect the memory. Lead may cause anemia, a disorder of the blood. It can cause abortion and damage the male reproductive system. The connection between these effects and exposure to low levels of lead is uncertain.

In 1978, lead-based paint was banned in the United States. To further prevent lead exposure, a law was passed in 1992 which required all sellers or landlords to include information concerning any lead-based materials in a house they are selling or renting which was built before 1978.

Although our building was built well after 1978, as a member of the Five Star Environmental Recognition Program, our facility has fully implemented the following policy:

To reduce the exposure of children and staff to lead, Cummins Child Development Center will:

Not accept donated toys or furniture unless they are tested for lead and determined to be lead-free.

Track recalls. Any recalled item will be properly removed from the facility within five business days of recall notification.

We strongly encourage everyone, especially if your house was built before 1978, to get your child (and yourself) tested for lead. All children should have lead screening at around one year of age, and again at two years of age. This screening is done on a small amount of your child's blood test. You should request lead screenings from your pediatrician, or by contacting the local health department.

Public Health Clinic
1971 State St.
Columbus, IN 47201
(812) 379-1555

Thank you,
CCDC Management

