



# Takoma Park Child Development Center Monthly Newsletter

May 2011

Takoma Park Child Development Center  
310 Tulip Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
301-270-6824  
tpcdc1111@yahoo.com



**May 2-6**  
**Staff Appreciation Week**  
*Show your appreciation to the TPCDC staff!*

**May 30**  
**Memorial Day**  
**TPCDC Closed**

**June 3**  
**Explorer Graduation**  
**Parents Day Cookout**

**July 4**  
**Holiday!**  
**TPCDC Closed**

## Director's Report

Happy Spring!

The focus for this month is "Staff Appreciation." During the week of May 2-6, we will have our annual Staff Appreciation week. The teachers and support staff at our center are incredibly important to us and our children. They are dedicated, creative, energetic and loving people who have a huge impact on our lives. Let's show them how much they mean to us! Here are suggestions for ways to show the staff how much you appreciate them.



Monday May 2: Breakfast will be provided by the Board.

Tuesday May 3: Bring flowers or gifts for staff

Wednesday May 4: Bring cards or notes for staff

Thursday May 5: Bring treats or goodies for staff

Friday May 6: Lunch will be provided by TPCDC (if you would like to make a monetary donation towards the lunch, you may do so)

Week of the Young Child was lots of fun. The children had a blast, especially when the staff performed for them, and they also enjoyed the special time with parents. It was nice to celebrate our precious children.

Staff News: Ms. Raina Vasquez (Teddy Bear room) is back to work from maternity leave. Saba Asrate from the Rainbow room has decided to move on with her career and she has left TPCDC. Vivian Kim is training to replace Saba. Our staff continue to train to sharpen their skills.

Enjoy the Spring!

- *Nalini*

**Don't forget sunscreen!** Children should come to school with sunscreen applied each morning. Please sign the notices to give teachers permission to apply sunscreen. And please be sure a set of season appropriate clothes are in cubbies!



Our Staff	Our Parent Board of Directors
<p>Director: Nalini Jeevaraj</p> <p>Office Administrator: Joan Byrd</p> <p>Teddy Bears: Ana Rodriguez, Martha Talento, Mary Moxley, Raina Vasquez, Usha Rawat</p> <p>Munchkins: Cecilia Gallagher, Arly Reyes, Indhira Hill, Dora Mariaca, Olga Cruz</p> <p>Rainbows: Selvi Vijaykumar, Pat Frazier, Teresa Abanto, Ada Cruz, Saba Asrate</p> <p>Explorers: Sherri Smith, Yanira Salgado, Brenda Roberts, Samantha Encarnacion, Pat Frazier</p> <p>Shining Stars (K and 1<sup>st</sup>): Brenda Roberts, Lindsey Hicks, Arly Reyes</p> <p>Looney Tunes (2<sup>nd</sup> and Up): Phi Thi Thach, Jonathan Berrios, Mikea Hall</p>	<p>Co-Chairs: Chris Daw, Patty First</p> <p>Board Members: Cary Burnell, Dara Corrigan, Joy Gerdy Zogbi, Fred Hargrove, Christine Hill, Matt Hobbs, Elizabeth Keyes, Kate Killberg, Carla Komich, Ann McCarthy, Terri Pendleton, Stephen Rahaim, Maria Roeper, Noam Unger, Devki Virk, Lisa Vogel, Caroline Wadhams</p> <p>Classroom Coordinators:                      Teddy Bears: Noam Unger/Caroline Wadhams                      Munchkins: Malawi Welles                      Rainbows: Matt Hobbs                      Explorers: Chris Daw</p> <p>The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month.</p> <p>The center can always use project volunteers. If you are interested in fundraising, promotion, programming or have a creative idea, please contact one of the Board members.</p>

**Join the TPCDC Listserv!**

Send a blank email to [TPCDC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:TPCDC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) or go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TPCDC>

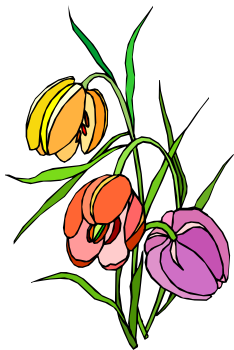
**Classroom Updates**

**Teddy Bears**

For the month of May, we will talk about flowers, taking advantage of the fact that we will see flowers everywhere!

We will focus on the colors yellow, red, orange, blue and purple. We will do art related to daisies, sunflowers, marigolds, carnations, tulips and zinnias.

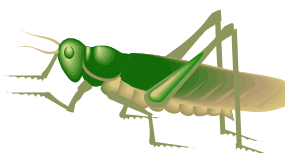
To enhance our topic, we will take the children to Brookside Gardens, where we hope to be able to see as many flowers as possible!



**Munchkins**

Did you know that all bugs are insects, but not all insects are bugs? Our theme for the month of May is insects and bugs. We will explore the world of bugs. We will learn about the life cycle of

insects, where they live and what they eat. We will read the book, "The Hungry Caterpillar." We have many interesting



activities planned for the month of May. We will create beautiful butterflies, and make yummy ants on a log. A field trip to Brookside Gardens is planned. The month of May will prove to be fun-filled!



## Rainbows

For the month of May, the Rainbows theme will be plants and flowers. We will discover how plants and flowers grow. We will also learn the names of different plants and flowers.

For show and share, you child can bring in a flower from their yard or garden or a book about plants and/or flowers.

Our Rainbows are like beautiful flowers as they continue to grow and “bloom” in every area of development!



## Explorers



This month we're planting in our garden. We will plant a variety of flowers and some vegetables. The children will learn which insects and bugs help and harm the plants, and what makes the soil healthy, as well as all about the life cycle of a plant and how vegetables are healthy for people and animals.

We have two field trips planned this month: Home Depot on Wednesday, May 4, and the National Zoo on Thursday, May 19. More information will be posted at a later date.

Please remember to bring sunscreen for your child. Parents should apply the first application of sunscreen to children in the morning and the teachers will reapply as needed. Written permission is required.

Occasionally some children require bug repellent for mosquitoes. If so, please send a bottle with a note giving us permission to do apply. We will not apply it without written permission.

Our classroom will stop napping on Monday May 2. It takes a little time for some children to get used to this routine so some of them might be cranky at the end of the day.

Many of the Explorer boys have become interested in Super Hero games. This has caused several accidents and some unkind treatment towards others. Because of this effective immediately anything associated with Super Heroes will not be permitted in the Explorer classroom. This includes but is not limited to clothing, toys, stickers, books, etc.

In the afternoon, we use our classroom areas. During this time, parents are arriving to pick up their children. If your child is engaged in an activity when you arrive, your child should clean up the materials they were using without causing a distraction to others.

If your child is picked up during storytime, he/she should leave quietly. If they choose to finish listening to the story, they must do so with respect to others.

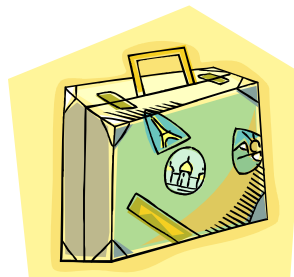


Please check your child's cubby for seasonal clothes. Graduation will be held on Friday, June 3 from 3:30 to 4pm, followed by the Parents Day Cookout.

## Shining Stars/School Ager

As the saying goes, “April showers bring May flowers.” We are excited about the month of May. This is when we really begin our countdown to the end of the school year. This month we will be reflecting on things that have made us happy since the school year started. We will make friendship bracelets and a friendship chain. We will take lots of neighborhood walks and go to area parks to play. We need donations of children's clothing for boys and girls. We will be making spring butterflies to hang around the classroom to bring the outside inside.

The children have been bringing in items to share with classroom friends; if your child has traveled or you have, please bring in something to share, even just a bit of info! Cheers!



# 2011 TPCDC SUMMER PROGRAM

## each session INCLUDES...

- **FIELD TRIPS**
- **SWIMMING ONCE A WEEK**
- **ARTS AND CRAFTS**
- **SPORTS**
- **SNACKS**
- **OUTDOOR PLAY**
- **...AND MUCH MORE!**

## We offer families...

- **FULL DAY COVERAGE**
- **FLEXIBLE ENROLLMENT PLANS**
- **WELL-TRAINED, QUALIFIED STAFF**
- **DISCOUNTS FOR SIBLINGS**
- **QUALITY CARE FOR CHILDREN 18 MONTHS THROUGH AGE 12 ALL YEAR LONG!**



### June 20-24: DC Tour (\$325)

Explore museums, attractions and special events in our nation's capital, Washington, DC.

### June 27-July 1: Kids Café (\$325)

Learn the basics of cooking, how to follow a recipe and create tasty treats. Encourages healthy eating, smart shopping and a taste for ethnic foods.

### July 5-8: Ooey Goopy & Sticky (Closed Monday July 4th) (\$260)

Get ready for a wacky week of icky, silly and messy stuff, too. We will create weird and unusual projects that you will take home and share. This isn't for the faint hearted, so come dressed to get dirty!

### July 11-15: Beach Week (\$325)

Get ready for some summer fun! Campers will enjoy lots of cool and relaxing days on the beach, including yummy desserts, treats and fun games.

### July 18-22: Fairytale Theater (\$325)

In the land of make believe, we will put together and perform a very fun and interesting play Perfect for those who adore acting, role playing and putting on a show.

### July 25-29: Construction Zone (\$325)

Create buildings, roads and whole cities with construction blocks, boxes, and used and recycled materials. We will have lots of fun building masterpieces!

### August 1-5: Party Theme & Dance (\$325)

Learn various aspects of event planning. Plan, decorate and put together a birthday party. Includes a variety of music and dance fun.

### August 8-12: Super Athletes (\$325)

"Take me out to the ball game!" If you are a lover of sports, this is just the right spot for you. We will play cool sports games and tackle sports trivia. Come and hit a home run with us!

### August 15-19: Mystical Garden (\$325)

Explore the outdoors. Bring nature inside and study plants and animals of the garden. Understand and respect Mother Nature and her creations.

### August 22-23: Carnival Party (\$130)

We will bring the carnival to us! We will have a cotton candy machine, play lots of cool carnival games, and have face painting and water balloon fights. It's going to be the coolest of all days!

**NON-REFUNDABLE REGISTRATION fee OF \$15 PER SESSION**

**REGISTER NOW BY CONTACTING THE TPCDC OFFICE AT 301-270-6824**