

Kountry Kids Learning Center

May 2008

Changes made in infant room

In the month of May we will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo and Mother's Day and studying facts about bugs and plants. We have been saving milk cartons so all of the children can plant flowers on the toddler and preschool playgrounds.

The teachers have also been busy planning for the summer program. The staff will be utilizing the Las Animas Public Library, park, and swimming pool. We will also be doing intergenerational projects with elders and neighbors.

The school-aged children will be attending activities with the elders and neighbors while the younger children will have swimming here at KKLC on the playground. As more details become available, we will send a schedule home so parents will know what we are doing on a daily basis.

We are pleased to announce that Lori How, who has been our lab student in the infant room, graduated April 26 from Otero Junior College! Lori has been hired as the infant teacher and Miss Bobbie is now teaching in the toddler room.

Please remember to send extra clothes for your child. Some of the children are in the process of being encouraged to use the toilet on their own. There will be accidents, so please send the needed clothing.

Toddlers plan busy month

The toddler room is very excited for May to begin. We are looking forward to the many activities that will be going on in our classroom. Our class will be learning many things in the following weeks.

We will be learning how to properly wash our hands, stand in a straight line, learn our classmates' names, help clean our room, learn to use our manners while eating, eating with spoons instead of fingers, and how to use the toilet on our own! It will be a busy month!

This month will go by quickly, so we are starting on a run and hope to keep that pace all month long. If parents have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to ask. We are always here for you.



Who is this little girl?

Preschool gears up for summer

This month the preschool room will be busy learning about Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, bugs, and plants.

The last week in May we will be gearing up for our summer program! It is hard to believe that the school year is almost over, and we have some preschoolers that will be starting school next year! Best wishes to them!

KKLC looking for artists to win cash

The 15 year anniversary for KKLC is coming up in July, and we want a new logo! New logo designs will be accepted until June 15, and the person who designs the winning logo will win \$50! Talk to Myrna or any parent advisory council member for more information.

Infants practice skills

In the infant room we are working on using sippy cups, walking, crawling, self-feeding, fine and large motor skills, and playing on the floor. We will be reading books and singing.

Happy birthday to Janaya, who turned one May 5. We plan on having a great month full of fun activities! Thanks for all the support, and we hope you continue to support us!



Happy Birthday!
Janaya - May 5

Spring fundraisers a success!

So far this spring, KKLC has had two fundraisers, and both were very successful. The Midland fundraiser netted \$884, half of which is our profit, which is a total of \$442.



We also sold pop and water during the Santa Fe Trail Day Parade and made a total of \$77.

Money from these fundraisers will allow us to improve classroom materials and activities. Thanks to all the parents, staff, community members, and children that helped with these fundraisers!

Summer gear needed

Can you donate any of the following to the center for summer?

- * Time to volunteer for field trips
- * Wading Pools
- * Squirt bottles, Water toys
- * Towels, Hats
- * Plants, Gardening Supplies
- * Shovels, Buckets
- * Any other materials we could use for summer activities!



Gracie enjoys play time at KKLC while learning about bugs and plants.



Enjoy the weather!

Summer Safety Tips...

- * Always wear a hat!
- * Whenever possible, wear long sleeves or stay in the shade!
- * Apply sunscreen to uncovered areas at least 30 minutes before going outside!
- * Drink lots of water!
- * Have fun!



May Celebrations

National Smile Month

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

- 1 - May Day; Lei Day (Hawaii)*
- 5 - 9 National Pet Week; National Wildflower Week*
- 5 - Cinco de Mayo (Mexico)*
- 8 - No Socks Day*
- 11 - Mother's Day*
- 12 - 16 Children's Book Week*
- 18 - International Museum Day*
- 23 - World Turtle Day*
- 25 - National Tap Dance Day*
- 26 - Memorial Day*



May Music & Poems

Duck Action Poem

Recite the following poem and have your children join you one by one as they pretend to be the ducks in the poem.

One little duck, swimming in the sun.
She called another duck to join in the fun.

Two little ducks, swimming in the sun.
They called another duck to join in the fun.

Three little ducks, swimming in the sun.
They called another duck to join in the fun.

Four little ducks, swimming in the sun.
They called another duck to join in the fun.

Five little ducks, swimming in the sun.
Waddled ashore one by one.

One, two, three, four, five!



Great Big Rainbow

Sung to: "I'm a Little Teapot"

There's a great, big rainbow
In the sky,
With pretty colors
Way up high.
When it starts to rain
And the sun comes out-
A beautiful rainbow
Will pop out!



I See Rainbows

Tune: "Frere Jacques"

I see rainbows,
I see rainbows,
Way up high
In the sky.

They are red and orange,
Yellow, green and blue.
Purple, too.
What a view!

I see rainbows,
I see rainbows,
Way up high
In the sky.

They are made from sunshine,
Shinning through the rain.
What a view
In skies so blue!

Gardening With Kids

- * *Grow a pumpkin for your child to watch grow*
- * *Marigold seeds are usually the easiest for children to grow*
- * *Let your child help you water indoor plants using a spray bottle of water*
- * *Experiment growing plants without water or sun light... See what happens!*
- * *Grow grass seeds on top of a sponge, water regularly.*

Seed Nursery

- * Give your child the bottom half of an egg carton.
- * Have her fill the cups with dirt or potting soil.
- * Then give her some marigold seeds and have her place 2-3 seeds in each cup and press them into the dirt.
- * Have her water every day or two
- * When the seeds have sprouted and grown into hearty seedlings, help your child transfer them to a larger pot inside or place them in a garden outside!

Attracting Butterflies

- * Set out a pan of water in your garden to attract butterflies
- * Watermelon rinds also seem to attract butterflies
- * Plant special plants that attract butterflies - Attract butterflies to your home with plants that provide food and shelter for them, such as the butterfly plant, asters, black-eyed Susans, coreopsis, purple coneflowers, sweet alyssum, and verbena.