



MCLB Child Development Center Newsletter



Learning with Blocks

Tutor.com

Upcoming Events

- **Respite care 6,13,20,& 27**
- **St Patrick's Day 17th**
- **Story Time at the Library 10:30 18th**

Blocks are open-ended materials that stimulate young imagination, provide choices for discovery and invention, and promote the development of problem solving skills. One day a block may be an airplane. The next day that same block in the hands of the same child might be a sofa for the house he is building. Building with blocks helps develop young children's eye hand coordination, visual perception, and large and small motor skills. It builds self confidence and provides opportunities for creative and dramatic

play. These things occur naturally when children play with blocks. We also find that working with blocks often deepens children's engagement with literature and literacy. A child may be inspired, say, to construct the three bears' beds and chairs, a pirate boat, or a castle. We sometimes take photographs of children's block creations and invite the children to caption the photo. We encourage children to use math and science

in the block area. They can add and subtract blocks., count by twos or threes, and begin fractions this way. Using science they can learn about gravity, volume, and other science related areas. Inviting children to reconstruct buildings and other things they have seen around them is one way to encourage their thinking in relation to social studies. Blocks are engrossing and fun for young children. They are a great tool for promoting a child's development on many fronts.

This is a new resource that is available from MCCS. It is a site that provides professional tutors to help in all subjects. Not only does it have online tutors from professionals, it has a resource library that has thousands of worksheets, videos, and lessons to help your child. The tutor site works one on one with your child; NO EXCEPTIONS. They help them to understand the process and do not just give them the answers. They can provide help in all subjects, and all ages from kindergarten- 12th grade. To access the site you visit www.mccsbarstow.com, you click the child youth & teen link and it is there on the page. You must visit or contact the library on base to gain your password to access the site.

Through these doors with loving guidance, we create life long learners!

Classroom News

The Infants

Remember extra cloths for your child; we do like to play and sometimes we get dirty!

The Pre-Toddler's

Make sure your child wears lace up shoes. We welcome Eris L. to our room. One of the themes this month is community helpers; help us to see them in the community.

The Toddler Room

We welcome John B., Lauren B., & Laila S to our room. We are learning shapes this month help us to see them all around us.

The One Plus Room

Welcomes Ashlynn S. to our room.

The Three/Four Year Class We are learning about community helpers this month; help us see them in the community

The Pre K Class

Wednesday is sharing day and each child is welcome to bring a toy: make sure it is labeled with their name so it does not get lost or misplaced.

From all Classes:

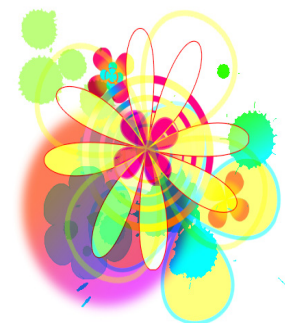
Thank you to all the parents for the treats they sent for Valentines Day. The children love the fun and sharing.



In every real man a child is hidden that wants to play. ~Friedrich Nietzsche

Adults are obsolete children. ~Dr. Seuss

Think what a better world it would be if we all - the whole world - had cookies and milk about three o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankies for a nap. ~Robert Fulghum



**Encourage
Explore
Educate**

MCLB

Learning styles in children

Every person has a preferred way of learning. Some people are visual learners. Some learn better by listening while others have to have to physically hold things before they can understand it. One style is not better than any other, it's simply the way a person learns the best.

AUDITORY LEARNERS— learn the best by listening and are attuned to sounds and words. They solve problems by talking about them. Auditory learners can follow verbal instructions and direction to learn. With auditory

learners you ask open ended questions to encourage children to visualize their thoughts.

VISUAL LEARNERS— learn best by looking, are drawn to color, shape and motion. They actually think in images or pictures, taking in what they see and hear, transforming it into images in their brain. It is as if they have a movie camera in their mind. Visual learners benefit when you show them how things are done rather than just telling them verbally.

KINESTHETIC LEARNERS— learn

best by moving, are generally well coordinated and confident with their bodies. Touching and feeling things, and transforming ideas and information into movement boosts their memory and understanding. As a child twirls around trying to remember something. The physical movement triggers something in her brain to learn. This type of learner benefit from moving around. Since not all children learn the same way, you should take all learning styles into account when working with young children.

Guiding Children to Solve Their Own Problems

Jim Fay teaches us that we should "lock in our empathy, love, and understanding" prior to telling kids what the consequences of their actions will be. The parenting course [Becoming a Love and Logic Parent](#) teaches parents how to hold their kids accountable in this special way. This Love and Logic method causes the child to see their parent as the "good guy" and the child's poor decision as the "bad guy." When done on a regular basis, kids develop an internal voice that says, "I wonder how much pain I'm going to cause for myself with my next decision?" Kids who develop this internal voice become more capable of standing up to peer pressure. Love and logic step one is empathy. Use words like: "I am sad" or "I bet that hurts." Step two is send the power message, "What do you think you're going to do?" The third step of love and logic is to offer choices "Would you like to hear what other children have tried?" Step four is to have your child state the consequences. "How will that work?" The last step of love and logic is to give your child the choice to solve or not to solve the problem." Good luck, I hope it works out." Have no fear even if they choose to make a poor choice. They may have learned a lesson from it all.

Change in Part Day Policy

In an effort to meet the changing needs of our families; the Children, Youth, and Teen Program is revamping its policy on part day hours. Currently patrons who use the part day care for six hours a day are required to use the same six hours each day, However, effective 01 march 2010, the six hour contract care will be based on 30 hours of care per week.

Patrons may use the part day care for any length of time during the day; providing they do not exceed 30 hours per week. Any hours over 30 will be charged at the hourly rate. In changing this policy, for example;; parents may opt to use 10 hours of care 3 days a week or 6 hours per day.

Due to scheduling, the three hour contract will remain the same with patrons having three hours of care from 0830 to 1130 5 days a week.

If you have questions regarding this matter please call the Child Development Center at 577-6287