

University of Alberta

Child Study Centre

Junior Kindergarten

March 2016

Special points of interest:

- Thank you in advance for sharing with JK the following items: full body photos of pets, clean pet supplies to use for dramatic play (leash, empty shampoo bottles, leash, pet toys) and Petsmart flyers
- Dress your children for outside play on Tues & Wednesdays

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Pet Inquiry

The magical part of the pet inquiry is about to unfold—the children begin to represent and share their new understandings and this creates a new class understanding of the topic of study.

Jenn has recorded each of the children's questions and will work with small groups to assist with the research and representations.

The dramatic play area typically transforms with the children's new knowledge. Presently, it is a forest and the children can dress up as wild cats and dogs. Frieda is also

exploring the topic of cats with Eric Carle's book "Have You Seen My Cat?"

At this point Jenn, Ann and Frieda have dis-



Children represent and share their new understanding of pets.

cussed potential trajectories the inquiry may take, and will now follow the children's lead.

The big reveal will happen at the Celebration of Learning, Thursday, March 2016!

Presently, we are looking for a few items we could borrow till April. If you have any of the following items, please consider allowing us to gently use them for a month:

Clean Pet Toys

Pet Supplies (brush, shampoo, leash, toys, bed etc.)

Pet Store Flyers

Photos of your pets

Music with Frieda

Music is for every-BODY! Human bodies and animal bodies can move to music! This month we will be talking about music our pets might like or kinds of music that make us think of ani-

mals. Words like fast/slow, high/low, loud/soft, and short/long will describe the music we imagine and with which we dance and play. Have fun acting like pets while you are

listening to music with your child!



Celebration of Learning—Thursday, March 24



The children are beginning to participate in leading our visual and monthly calendars: BRAVO!!

“We will participate in a ‘sense-sational’ safari tour to learn about how animals use their five senses to survive.”

This month the children will be practicing the skills they will showcase at the next Celebration of Learning—Thursday, March 24!!

During this very special occasion your children will proudly: lead several activities we participate in daily (like calendar time), dialogue about our Pet inquiry, meet with the teacher to review one’s goal & learning story, share their binders and participate in a music ac-

tivity.

Thanks in advance for ensuring a trusted adult will be able to attend JK with your child on Thurs, March 24 during your scheduled time, listed below:

9:00-10:00

Andy, Coraline, Arianna, Dalton, Eden, Kenneth, Penny, Micah, Lingkhaam

10:15-11:15

Violet, Lilianna, Amyrah,

Nixon, Andrew, Cheyenne, Naomi, Maya, Alexander

12:30-1:30

Liisa, Maia, Alicia, Gavin, Ginny, Ryden, Fandui

1:45-2:45

Baylee, Mohsin, Arwen, Milan, Duncan

If your time needs adjusting, please tell Jenn or Ann.

The Edmonton Valley Zoo— Wednesday, March 16, 2016

“Have you ever wondered how animals use their senses to find lunch, or warn others about a predator?” We will participate on an “sense-sational” safari tour at the Edmonton Valley Zoo to learn about how some animals use their five senses to help them survive.

We will meet inside the front gates, in the grand outdoor entrance for drop off and pick up.

Morning Class:

9:30-11:30

Volunteers include:

Susie (Penny)
Carol (Naomi & Maya)
Pheap (Lilianna)
Sonya (Amyrah)
Amanda (Kenneth)
Natasha (Micah)
Analia (Arianna)

Afternoon Class:

12:30-2:30

Volunteers include:

Glen (Ryden)

Last month at JK I learned so much! Now I can ...

I can share something I know about pets with the class

I can articulate a question I have about pets

I can research my question about pets by: talking to an expert, reading a book, using the iPad, observing pets, taking photos, or asking at the zoo, museum or pet store

I can represent a new understanding of pets in a way that makes sense to me and share with my classmates

I can participate in stations, focusing on a specific teacher-led activity for 5-10 minutes

The four stations are:

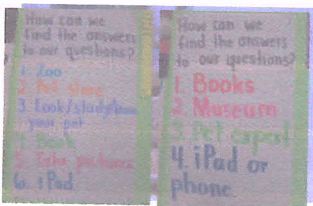
1. *Write/Draw in journal*
2. *Practice Printing*

3. *Play a Number/Speech Game -focusing on s, f, and l sounds*

4. *Listen to a CD Story*

I can understand we have been at JK for 85+ days and we are getting closer to the 100th day

I can recognize, and maybe say the sound for: U, u, O, o, R, r, L and l



Where the morning and afternoon classes think they could find answers to their questions.

How to Teach Your Child to Appropriately Get Your Attention

Alyson Jiron, Brooke Brogle & Jill Giacomini: adapted by The GRIT Program

It is hard to have a conversation with someone if you do not have their attention. This is true for both children and adults. The ability to successfully capture someone's attention is a fundamental social skill and provides the foundation for future success in social settings and relationships.

You can show your child the way you want him to get your attention (such as tapping you on the shoulder or holding your hand) and then respond when that behavior occurs. When you take the time at home to build on the

skills your child is learning at school, you reinforce these positive skills and create a solid social foundation for your child which will help to reduce challenging behaviors.

Suggestions for Families

~Model the behavior you want your child to learn-often! IF you need your child's attention, tap her on the shoulder, move to her eye level and begin your communication from there.

~Practice, practice, practice! Play with this new skill. Practice with parents, siblings

and friends. Your child can show her grandparent or teddy bear how to tap on someone's shoulder to get their attention.

~Remind your child of the expectation. If you are on the computer and she whines or begins to cry for attention, remind her, "It looks like you need something. I will respond if you tap on my shoulder and ask me."

~Celebrate when your child displays this new skill. "Wow, you tapped me on the shoulder because you wanted some milk. What a great way to get my attention!..."



"I feel you holding my hand. First I'll do ... then I'll give you my attention."

Connecting with the University Community

Volunteers

It is time to say farewell, thank you and all the best to the Education students who have been participating in our program. Darby, Rathey, Taylor, and Elizabeth we're thankful you made our program better by sharing your time, energy and interests with the children. All the best with your Teaching Careers!

Research

Dr. Lynn McGarvey and Nicole Jamison are working closely with Jenn, Frieda, and Ann to develop a better sense of how mathematical concepts can be integrated into a preschool-aged program.

This research involves videoing our routines, participating in professional development, and reflecting on our mindful use of math in our EC and music practices.

Guest Readers

Dr. Lynn McGarvey shared a special and favorite number song, called Fifteen Animals, with the morning class. It detailed all the pets the songwriter had, including his turtle named Simon James Alexander Ragsdale III. Ask your children if they remember what all the other pets were named? (answer—Bob)

"Connecting with our University Students and Colleagues makes our program unique!"

Scholastic

Scholastic book orders are due Thursday, March 10th

Behavior Expectations

At the Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten we have three behavior expectations:

We are safe.

We are friendly.

We are respectful.

We have new children joining our program, it would be helpful for the children to demonstrate what this behavior looks, feels and sounds like. Thanks for continuing these conversations at home.

Charting the Weather

Will the lions or the lambs win?

The weather in March provides a perfect opportunity to discuss the proverb (expression) "in like a lion and out like a lamb" and use a bar graph! When the weather is cold, a lion will be added to the bar graph and when the weather is warm, a lamb. At the Celebration of Learning look to see what the bar graph for March looks like.



Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten

CLASSROOM:

Room B03 Basement
551 Education South, 11210 87 Ave, T6G 2G5
780 492 6518 jkclass@ualberta.ca
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ADMINISTRATION OFFICE:

Room B21 551 Education South 11210 87 Ave
780 492 7341
chstudy@ualberta.ca

*Child Study Centre ~ A love of
learning grows here.*

The University of Alberta Child Study Centre has been an integral part of the Department of Elementary Education, Faculty of Education since 1969. From its inception, the mandate of the Child Study Centre has been to provide early childhood educators with a model of contemporary, research-informed early childhood education practices, as well as to provide a site for both undergraduate and graduate students along with faculty members and researchers to further the field of early childhood theory and practice. The current leadership and teaching staff of the Centre are proud to continue this tradition and build on the history and strengths of the Centre to create a cutting edge early learning environments for the children and their families and to promote practice-based theories of early childhood education. In 2013, the CSC was selected as an affiliated site for the province wide initiative, funded by Alberta Education and Alberta Human services: Alberta Early learning and Child Care Curriculum framework.

View Weekly Blog Posts
<http://uofajk.weebly.com>

Important Dates to Remember



Remember to record
these dates in your
calendar or day-timer!

Wednesday, March 16	Zoo Field Visit
Wednesday, March 23	100th Day Celebration
Thurs, March 24	Celebration of Learning
March 28-April 2	CLOSED—Spring Recess
Wednesday, April 20	Legislature Adventure!
Friday, April 22	Earth Day
Sunday, May 8	Mother's Day
Thursday, May 19	John Janzen Nature Centre
Thurs, May 19 6-7:30pm	Open House for 2016-17
Monday, May 23	JK CLOSED Victoria Day
Thursday, June 2	Yearend Party—Last Day

How to Teach Your Child to Appropriately Get Your Attention

Brooke Brogle, Alyson Jiron, & Jill Giacomini; adapted by The GRIT Program

It is hard to have a conversation with someone if you do not have their attention. This is true for both children and adults. The ability to successfully capture someone's attention is a fundamental social skill and provides the foundation for future success in social settings and relationships.

Children use a variety of ways to get attention and will often resort to techniques they find most effective, such as yelling or whining. For example, think about a child who wants to get Mom's attention when she is on the phone. He knows that if he continues to yell loudly, Mom will eventually pause her phone conversation and ask what is needed. If yelling and whining gets a child what he needs, he will continue to yell and whine until he learns a new way to get attention. How can you change this pattern? You can show your child the way you want him to get your attention (such as tapping you on the shoulder) and then respond when that behavior occurs. When you take the time at home to build on the skills your child is learning at school, you reinforce these positive skills and create a solid social foundation for your child which will help to reduce challenging behaviors.



Suggestions for Families

- Model the behavior you want your child to learn—often! If you need your child's attention, tap her on the shoulder, move to her eye level and begin your communication from there.
- Practice, practice, practice! Play with this new skill. Practice with parents, siblings and friends. Your child can show her grandparent or teddy bear how to tap on someone's shoulder to get their attention.
- Remind your child of the expectation. If you are on the computer and she whines or begins to cry for attention, remind her, "It looks like you need something. I will respond if you tap on my shoulder and ask me."
- Celebrate when your child displays this new skill. "Wow, you tapped me on the shoulder because you wanted some milk. What a great way to get my attention! I can definitely get you some milk."

Suggestions for Educators

Most peer interactions are started when a child wants to give or get something from a friend. Rather than grab or yell across the room, your child is learning to gain a friend's attention before beginning a conversation by:





1. Moving to stand next to the person.
2. Tapping the person on the shoulder.
3. Looking at the person's eyes to see if they have their attention.

The Bottom Line

Behavior is meaningful and communicates a message. If a child does not have an appropriate way to communicate, he will often use challenging behavior (e.g., hitting, screaming, whining) to communicate his needs. If his needs are then met, the behavior is strengthened and he will continue to use behavior to communicate. When parents show their child how to appropriately get attention, the child will be less likely use the challenging behavior to communicate.

March 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
L Show&Share Child: Weekly topics:	Lingkhiam Letters: Ll Inquiry: Pets	1 Cheyenne 	2 Coraline 	3 Nixon (music)	4	5
	6 Show&Share Child: Weekly topics:	7 Lilianna Letters: Nn Inquiry: Pets	8 Amyrah 9 Maya GUEST EXPERT VISITS @ 9:30	10 Naomi (music) Scholastic Book Orders Due	11	12
	N Show&Share Child: Weekly topics:	13 Show&Share Child: Weekly topics:	14 Kenneth Letters: Jj Inquiry: Pets	15 Eden 16 ZOO FIELD VISIT 9:30-11:30	17 Arianna (music) 	18
20 Show&Share Child: Weekly topics:		21 Andy T Letters: Vv Teamwork & Pets	22 Penny 23 Violet 100th DAY CELEBRATION	24 CELEBRATION OF LEARNING	25 CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY	26
V Show&Share Child: Weekly topics:		27 Show&Share Child: Weekly topics:	28 CLOSED EASTER MONDAY	29 CLOSED SPRING RECESS	30 CLOSED SPRING RECESS	CLOSED SPRING RECESS
						

March 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6</p> <p>Show&Share Child:</p> <p>Weekly topics:</p> <p>L</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Liisa</p> <p>Letters: Ll</p> <p>Inquiry:</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1 Fandui</p> <p>Happy 5th Birthday Liisa!</p> <p>Milan</p>	<p>9</p> <p>2 Gavin</p> <p>Duncan</p> <p>Guest Reader</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3 Maia</p> <p>Ginny</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Show&Share Child:</p> <p>Weekly topics:</p> <p>N</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Ryden</p> <p>Letters: Nn</p> <p>Inquiry:</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Awren</p>	<p>16</p> <p>ZOO FIELD VISIT 12:30-2:30</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Alicia</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Show&Share Child:</p> <p>Weekly topics:</p> <p>J</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Mohsin</p> <p>Happy 5th Birthday Mohsin!</p> <p>Letters: Jj</p> <p>Inquiry:</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Baylee</p>	<p>23</p> <p>100th DAY CELEBRATION</p>	<p>24</p> <p>CELEBRATION OF LEARNING</p>	<p>25</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Show&Share Child:</p> <p>Weekly topics:</p> <p>V</p>	<p>28</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>EASTER MONDAY</p>	<p>29</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>SPRING RECESS</p>	<p>30</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>SPRING RECESS</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>SPRING RECESS</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>SPRING RECESS</p>	<p>Show and Share!</p> <p>Liisa</p> <p>Fandui</p> <p>Gavin</p> <p>Maia</p>