

UNO Child Care Center Chronicle

July 2025

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UNO Child Care Center Happenings and Reminders

- The UNO Child Care Center will be closed on Friday, July 4, 2025, in observance of Independence Day. We will re-open on Monday, July 7, 2025, at 6:30 A.M. Thank you.
- It is time once again for you to complete the Federal Food Program Forms. These will be emailed out to you on July 1, 2025, and are due back by July 8, 2025. Hard copies will be available at the front desk. ALL families must have a current year on file and every family needs to complete the form annually.
- Please make sure you check your child's summer schedule, as the groups continue to do a variety of activities and field trips throughout the summer.
- The children do play outside and will go for walks on campus. If the temperature is below 100 degrees, including heat index, children do play outside. If groups go for walks in the afternoon, they are back by 4 P.M. If you will be picking up your child before that time, please let the lead teacher know so that your child does not go on the walk. We also monitor air quality. If air quality is above 100 AQI, the children do not play outside until it drops below 100.
- Please let us know if your child(ren) will not be in attendance for the day. You can call the child care center at 402-554-3398 or email Dawn (dhove@unomaha.edu) or Monica (mdey@unomaha.edu) to let us know. This helps us for preparing meals and staffing for the day.
- The UNO Child Care Center closes promptly at **5:30 P.M.** Please make sure you pick up your child by 5:30 P.M. If you are late picking up, your account will be charged a \$1.00 per minute starting at 5:31 P.M. Please make sure you are here on time. The staff thank you.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dawn at 402-554-4936 or by email at dhove@unomaha.edu.



Happy Birthday!

9 – Wolfgang T.
16 – Farhang S.
26 – Miss Romy



August

Family Fun Month

1—SNG Foam Party Preschool & School-age
2 – National Ice Cream Sandwich Day
4 – National Water Balloon Day
8 – Gifford Farm on the Go; Toddler, Transition & Preschool
22 – Ice Cream Social; End of Summer Family Event
4:30 to 5:30PM
25 – Fall Semester Begins



Reading Fun!

Book Orders are done for this academic year! We will resume in August.

Meanwhile, please check out the list of some of the recommendations we have for you!

Your local public library may have some of these titles available, plus other titles that are fun and appropriate for young learners.



July

National Picnic Month

2 – Field Trip to Maplewood Lanes; School-age
4 – Independence Day, UNOCCC Closed
8 – Rose Theater Workshop; Preschool & School Age
11 – Field Trip to Omaha Children’s Museum; Pre/SA
15 – UNO Planetarium; Transition and Preschool
17 – Dr. Oxygen; School-age
18 – Field Trip to Joslyn Art Museum; School-age
22 – UNO Planetarium; School-age
23 – Toddler Walk to MBSC for Ice Cream
25 – Field Trip to Prehistoric Putt; School-age
30 – Transition Walk to MBSC for Ice Cream



Recommended Books for the Month

July is hot and full of excitement! We have selected some great, books to enjoy reading with your child.

“How to Send a Hug” by Hayley Rocco

“Pool Party” by Amy Duchêne

Stella’s Stellar Hair” by Yesenia Moises.

“Land Shark” by Beth Ferry

“I Am La Chiva! The Colorful Bus of the Andes” by Karol Hernández

“Come On, Rain!” by Karen Hesse

“Hats off for the Fourth of July” by Harriet Ziefert

“Red, White, and Boom!” by Lee Wardlaw

“Summertime” by Jane Foster

“Goldfish on Vacation” by Sally Lloyd-Jones

“Summer Color!” by Diana Murray

“Blue Sky, White Stars” by Sarvinder Naberhaus

Talk With Toddlers

Welcome to July!

We will be kicking off the month with some fun Independence Day activities. We will then experiment with sounds and music throughout the rest of the month, so be prepared for the volume to go up!

Some reminders for the month include:

- The center will be closed on Friday, July 4 and will re-open on Monday, July 7.
- We have a toddler picnic planned for July 16. Please watch for more details coming soon.
- July 23 is our next Ice Cream Wednesday. We will be walking to the Milo Bail Student Center, so please have your child at the center no later than 8:50 AM.
- Please remember to check your child's mailbox and coat hook daily.

Enjoy the summer!

Mr. Fred and the Toddler Teachers



Time With Transition

Happy July Transition Families!

Summer is in full swing! That means that this month is going to be busy.

Just a couple of reminders for the month:

- July 15, we will be walking to the UNO Planetarium. We will be leaving at 9:30 AM and will be returning to the center by 11:15 AM. Please have your child here no later than 8:45 AM.
- July 30, we will be walking to Milo Bail Student Center to enjoy some ice cream. We will be leaving at 9:30 AM. Please have your child here no later than 8:45 AM.

We will continue to have our water play days on Tuesdays until August 5. We start our water play at 9:30 AM and finish around 10:30 AM.

We will continue to visit the library every Thursday at 9:40 AM. Our last trip will be on July 31. To ensure we arrive on time, please have your child at the center by 9:20 AM.

As a reminder, please check your child's mailbox and coat hook every day. "Please Bring" reminders may be present, indicating items your child might need at school. Additionally, please keep in mind that we do a lot of walking/ playing on the rock surface outside. The most comfortable option for footwear for your child is socks and closed-toed shoes.

Our Learning Themes for the month of July are Stars and Stripes, Recycling, The Wild West, Outer Space and Dinosaurs.

Ms. Alecia and the Transition Teachers.



Preschool Perspective

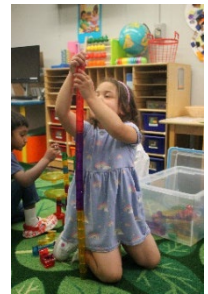
Make no mistake, summer is here! We have many fun activities planned as well as a couple of field trips. The theme for the month is Outer Space! Our weekly themes include How We Get To Space, Planets, Stars and Earth.

Some dates to remember are:

- July 8, the Rose Theater will be here for a workshop with the children from 2:30 to 3 PM.
- Week of July 8 we will be doing a project from the Pottery Place.
- July 11, we have field trip to the Omaha Children's Museum. Your child will need a peanut/tree nut free and sunflower free disposable lunch and drink. We will be leaving the Child Care Center at 9 AM and return by 1 PM.
- July 15, we will be visiting the Mallory Kountze Planetarium here on campus from 10 to 11 AM We will be leaving the Child Care Center at 9:45 AM and return by 11:20 AM.
- August 1, we will be having a foam party!

We look forward to having a blast this month!

Ms. Erin and the Preschool Staff



School Age Press Release

School Age Parents,

Can you believe that we are halfway done with summer?

In July we will be continuing our art journey by learning about Pop Culture Art, Theater, Classical Art, Art in STEM, and Photography.

This month, we will be taking field trips to Maplewood Lanes to go bowling, the Omaha Children's Museum, the Joslyn Art Museum, Prehistoric Putt for some mini golfing and walking to the Mallory Kountze Planetarium here on the UNO campus.

The Rose Theater, Dr. Oxygen and Stretch and Grow's Foam Party will be coming to the center for some additional fun. We will also have a movie day this month, so please be on the lookout for more information!

As a reminder, please have your children wear either close-toed shoes or sandals with a heel strap. During field trips and outdoor play, it is important for the children to have shoes that are comfortable and maximize safety.

Let's make summer last, school is just a little over a month away!

Mrs. Patty and the Summer School Age Staff



Parent Corner

Meaningful Art Projects Parents Can Fit Into a Busy Day

By Richard Rende, Ph.D.

Art projects offer children and families many benefits. Child development and pediatrics experts agree that even short spurts of creative time greatly impact social, cognitive, and emotional development of children in their earliest formal years and create long-lasting memories. It's important to remember that a meaningful art project doesn't need to take a lot of parent preparation time.

Here are a few tips to help busy families engage in meaningful art projects.

1. Eliminate the pressures that make art projects difficult

Art projects don't need to take a lot of parent prep time. Use items that you already have around the house – like paper towel rolls or cotton balls – to eliminate time needed to go to the store and purchase special supplies. And keep staple items on-hand that can be used for a variety of art projects - such as paper, paint, tape, crayons, and glue. You can take them out and add in other items you have to the mix.

2. Let children take the creative lead

Parents promote creativity, thinking, planning and other important skills when they let kids take the lead on art projects. The creative spark is lit when kids try to figure out how things work on their own.

A number of recent studies have shown that young children display more advanced cognitive skills when adults use less instruction. One of the key reasons is that this allows kids to practice what's known as "counterfactual" reasoning, the process of mental "trial and error" that is an early emerging aspect of innovative thinking. For example, 'What happens if I paste this piece of fabric here instead of there?' or 'What if I paint this dog green?' By hanging back and encouraging kids to try out their own ideas versus giving a strict pattern to follow, parents can support the roots of innovation.

3. Allow children to use their hands to create their project

Art projects also offer many ways for children to build their small muscles and improve their fine motor development. When children use scissors, squeeze a glue bottle or mold clay they strengthen the muscles needed to master using a pencil at school later on.

4. Support but don't take over

The benefits from doing art projects independently are critical for academic readiness.

Parents can support their children by encouraging them, helping with suggestion, and stepping in only when really needed. While it might take your child longer to open a glue bottle or paint tube, these are important ways children can develop the muscles they will need for school.

5. Praise their efforts, not the product itself

It's clear from research that praising children for their effort, not the quality of the final product, supports the future mindsets that underlie success in academics, sports, and arts.

Art projects offer a perfect platform for encouraging and reinforcing effort rather than focusing on outcome.

For example, parents can acknowledge something specific a child spent time on like making a particularly interesting color when mixing paints or acknowledging a specific skill like cutting with scissors instead of focusing on how the final project looks.

6. Remember – you're creating happy memories

The fact that you're supporting your child's creativity and spending time together is important. One of the most important benefits children and parents both reap from arts and crafts is that, years from now, it won't matter what was created, just that it was created as children and parents spent time together.

Interesting materials, smiles, laughs, and some silliness keep kids engaged. Not only will this lead to cognitive benefits but also bonding time with parents. Kids will form lasting memories that will stay with them for years to come.

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/meaningful-art-projects-parents-can-fit-busy-day>