

April  
2021

UNO Child Care Center  
Helping Parents and Children  
Learn Together  
402.554.3398

# Child Care Chronicle

Dawn Hove-Casart—Director

Monica Dey—Assistant Director

## Feature Facts from Dawn

As we reflect on this past year and what challenges and changes we have endured. I can say that the UNO Child Care Center Family has stayed "Maverick Strong". We are grateful for all the family support and staff's hard work as we have worked through all the challenges and the new paths we had to take. I want to thank everyone, you truly are the best.

As we continue to move forward, I want to remind everyone that we are still following our COVID Policies and Procedures. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

I would like to thank all the families who participated in Parent/Teacher Conferences and returned the Family Surveys. The results of the family survey will be emailed out shortly. We only had 69% of families who completed the survey. This is below the 75% required by NAEYC for our re-accreditation process. Surveys will come out again in the fall semester. Let us strive to have 100% participation.

As the weather gets warmer, the children will be spending more time outside. Please make sure that your child has up-to-date non-aerosol sunscreen. Must be cream or lotion only. Also, as a reminder that if you will be picking up before 4 P.M. please let the teacher know, so in case the group goes for a walk in the afternoon, that we have your child stay back.

This year, Week of the Young Child is April 12-16, 2021. The UNO Child Care Center will be doing special activities and events during this week. There will be themes for each day of the week. Here is a list of the activities to mark your calendar for:

### Monday, April 12; Music Monday

The children will be doing a variety of activities that involve music and movement.

### Tuesday, April 13; Team Tuesday

Let's show our team spirit.

Wear their favorite team t-shirt or color on this day. Let's see how many teams and sports we can represent.

### Wednesday, April 14; Family Day

#### Bedtime Story Night Zoom 6:15 to 7:15

Bedtime Story Night with the UNOCCC Lead Teachers. Lead Teachers will be reading bedtime stories to the children via Zoom. A Zoom link will be sent out to families on Monday, April 12 for you to participate. You can listen to one or listen to all the different stories. We hope you can join us for some fun story time.

#### Schedule for the evening:

6:15 to 6:20 PM ~ Introduction  
6:20 to 6:30 PM ~ Ms. Effie  
6:30 to 6:40 PM ~ Mr. Fred  
6:40 to 6:50 PM ~ Miss Allison  
6:50 to 7:00 PM ~ Ms. Roni  
7:00 to 7:10 PM ~ Miss Megan  
7:10 to 7:15 ~ Closing

### Thursday, April 15; Artsy Thursday

Think, Problem Solve and Create ~ S.T.E.A.M. Activities

### Friday, April 16; Fun Friday

A day to celebrate fun.

### April 16, 2021 is also Preschool 2 Graduation Day.

Help us to congratulate our 8 graduates that will be going to Kindergarten in the fall. Graduation is for Preschool Graduates and their parents only. A zoom link will be provided to families to share with extended families and friends to watch via zoom. Graduation will take place at the Thompson Alumni Center from 10:30 to 11:30 A.M. Graduates need to be at the child care center by 9 A.M.

Our kitchen renovation and concrete work outside front area has been confirmed for this summer. While the work is being done, the UNO Child Care Center will need to move to the Milo Bail Student Center. This summer we will be on the second floor in the back of the food court area. Signs will be posted. There will be 5 parking stalls reserved in front of the building. In order to facilitate the move and do set-up at the Student Center, **the UNO Child Care Center will need to be closed on Thursday and Friday, May 15 and 16, 2021.** We will re-open on Monday, May 19, 2021 at 6:30 A.M. in the Milo Bail Student Center. We will continue to follow our COVID Policies and Procedures while we are at the Student Center.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 402-554-4936, e-mail me at [dhove@unomaha.edu](mailto:dhove@unomaha.edu) or stop by my office.

Until next month: "No one has yet fully realized the wealth of sympathy, kindness and generosity hidden in the soul of a child. The effort of every true education should be to unlock that treasure." - Emma Goldman (A Russian-born American writer & speaker)



# Happy Birthday!

5 - Eli A.  
7 - Sophia A.

24 - Miss Trinity  
26 - Miss Hanna M.

26 - Miss Katlyn  
28 - Mr. Spencer



## Dates To Make Note Of...

**April** National Autism Awareness Month  
11-17 - Week of Young Child  
13 - Zoom Bedtime Story Night; 6:15-7:15 PM  
14 - Preschool 2 Graduation Practice 10-11 AM  
16 - Preschool 2 Graduation; Alumni Center  
16 - Book Orders Due  
21 - Administrative Professional Day  
22 - Earth Day  
30 - Arbor Day

**May** National Physical Fitness & Sports Month  
1 - May Day  
3-7 - Teacher Appreciation Week  
4 - National Teacher Day  
5 - Cinco De Mayo  
7 - Book Orders Due  
9 - Mother's Day  
10 - Summer Session Starts  
15 - Move to MBSC Building  
15-16 - Child Care Center Closed for Move  
15 - Armed Forces Day  
24 - Summer School-age Program Begins  
31 - Memorial Day, center closed

**June** Pride Month  
14 - Flag Day  
19 - Juneteenth  
20 - First Day of Summer  
20 - Father's Day  
21 - World Music Day

## Cooking with Rick

For April's recipe, I found one perfect for leftover ham!

### Ham and Cheese Sliders

#### Ingredients:

1/4 C. yellow mustard  
1 Tbsp. honey  
4 Tbsp. melted butter  
1 Tbsp. poppy seeds  
1/4 C. mayonnaise  
12 slider buns  
12 slices of deli ham or left-over ham  
12 slices of swiss cheese

#### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. In small bowl, combine the

mustard and honey and using a whisk to combine.

2. To make the poppy seed dressing: Using a medium bowl combine the butter, poppy seeds, and 1 Tbsp. of the previous honey-mustard mixture. Whisk together.
3. Next split the slider buns horizontally and placing the bottom half on the baking sheet. Spread the mayonnaise on the bottom layer of the slider bun. Add a layer of ham and cheese to each of the slider buns. Next spread the top half of the slider bun with the honey-mustard mixture and place onto the bottom half.
4. Using a basting brush, spread the poppy seed dressing onto the top of the buns until all the buns are covered.

## Rick Jacobsen—Kitchen Tech

5. Bake the slider buns for 10 to 12 minutes. Serve.

Mr. Rick

"Here comes the sun, I say it's all right."  
—The Beatles



## Books We Recommend..

Here are some books that we would recommend in honor of Earth Day and Arbor day! All of these books are available in April's Scholastic Book order!

- [The Earthbook](#) by Todd Parr
- Protecting Our Environment Pack
- [The Earth Gives More](#) by Sue Fliess
- [Hey, Little Ant](#) by Phillip and Hannah Hoose

- [Garden Day!](#) By Candace Ransom
- [Being a Bee](#) by Jinny Johnson
- [Little Sunflower](#) by IglooBooks

## Book Orders

The University of Nebraska at Omaha Child Care Center continues Scholastic book orders for the academic school year.

Books are an important part of a child's development and can help your child gain pre-literacy skills. Scholastic also offers free books and educational materials to the Child Care Center when you order. Please visit

[scholastic.com/bookclubs](https://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs) to order. If this is your first time ordering online, you will need to set up an account with Scholastic using our **class code: GKXFX. The center account is under Dawn Hove.**

Please make sure you are using this account or your order will not be processed. You may pay for your order using a credit card through Scholastics secure web site.

**April book orders are due  
Friday April 16, 2021.**

**Happy Reading!**



## Talk with Toddlers 1 & 2

Effie Swinarski and Fred Abram—Lead Teachers

Welcome to April!

Thank you to our parents who were able to sign up for a conference. Your input is important.

Just a reminder that you can always get a hold of your child's teacher during their desk duty time.

Mr. Fred 2 P.M. to 3 P.M. MTWR

11 A.M. to 12 P.M. F

Mrs. Effie 1 P.M. to 2 P.M. MWF

7:30 A.M. to 8:30 A.M. TR

Thank you to those who have shared pictures from home with us. Please continue to share them.

The theme for this month is: Environment; the letters V, W, X; the number is 9, the color Purple and the Oval shape.

We are planning some fun activities during the Week of the Young Child. More information to follow.

Parent Reminders:

A sunblock permission form will be going home with your child if they do not already have one on file. We ask you bring in a bottle of sunblock for your child by April 16. The sunblock must be non-aerosol. Cream or lotion only.

The Toddler Teachers

*Children need to practice feeling wonder to develop curious minds*



## Time with Transition

Allison Johnson—Lead Teacher

Happy Spring!

Thank you to everyone who signed up for conferences. I loved talking with all of you. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any concerns, please email me at [anjohanson@unomaha.edu](mailto:anjohanson@unomaha.edu), or call the center during my desk duty (12-1) to chat.

Our friends are loving the warmer temperatures because it means we can go outside! As we begin to have more playground and campus walk time, please make sure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather, this includes appropriate shoes and light jackets. We have a lot of fun nature walks and outside activities planned for this month. With all of

this outdoor time, please make sure to bring in sunscreen and sign sunscreen permission for your child(ren)! Sunscreen must be either cream or lotion.

This month's themes are: Plant Life and Cycle, Rain and Water Cycle, Change in Nature, Growth and Development. The color of the month is pink; the shape is oval, the numbers 18 & 19 and the letters U, V, & W.

As we move into warmer temperatures, a water bottle is encouraged for your child to keep at school. We sanitize our water bottles daily, and keeping one at school makes it easier for your child to stay hydrated on

walks and during other outside play times.

Happy April.  
Transition Teachers



## Points to Ponder with Preschool 1

Ronita Bolton—Lead Teacher

Hello Parents,  
Welcome to April! This month, we will have fun activities centered around April Showers. Our themes for this month are: It's Raining, It's Pouring; A Rainbow of Colors; Taking Care of Our Earth; Backyard Birds & Other Feathered Friends. Our letters for this month are V, W, and X, and the numbers are 17 and 18. Our shape is Oval and the color is Yellow. The nursery rhyme is "Humpty, Dumpty".

Thank you to all the families that took time out of their busy schedules to meet with me during conferences! It was nice being able to visit with everyone! If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please feel free to contact me by email:

[ronitabolton@unomaha.edu](mailto:ronitabolton@unomaha.edu) or you can call the center during my desk duty

time from 8:30 to 9:30 A.M., Monday through Friday.

Since the weather is getting warmer, please remember to bring appropriate clothing for your child! We also need families to bring sunscreen and make sure you have a sunscreen permission slip on file! Cream or lotion only. No aerosol cans, please.

Thank you and have a great April!  
Ronita Bolton & the Preschool 1 Staff



Hippy Hoppy April~

This year has gone by so fast!!! I can't even believe that in a two short weeks it will be time for preschool graduation!!!! Ahhhhhh!!

I have just a few reminders and announcements to make before then.

First, graduation will be on Friday, April 16, 2021 at 10:30 A.M. Children will need to be here by 9:00 A.M. to get to the Alumni Center on time to prepare for graduation. Also, the rehearsal for graduation will be on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 from 10 to 11 A.M.

Second, I am still missing baby pictures for a few children for the graduation video. Please submit them to me by no later than Thursday, April 8, 2021, so that we will be able to get the video together on time.

Finally, the summer packet will be released by late April, early May. It will give more information about the summer session as well as explain any requirements for participation in certain summer activities. Please let Miss Dawn or Monica know if you plan to enroll your child in the summer session.

If you have any questions, please contact

me at [mmliu@unomaha.edu](mailto:mmliu@unomaha.edu) or at the center phone number: 402-554-3398.

Thank you for all you do,  
Miss Megan & Preschool 2 Staff



## C.H.A.M.P.S

CHAMPS does not have any meetings schedule for this month due to health mandates. We are hopeful that we will be able to get together at some point.

We will continue to find new ways for our families to be involved in the program. This may include virtual events!

Until we can meet again, please continue communication with the staff and other parents!

We hope everyone has a great semester!

## Focus on Policies and Procedures

HEALTH POLICY On Cold, Heat, Sun, and Insect

The UNO Child Care Center encourages and participates in outdoor classroom play. It is a natural learning environment for children to explore, learn and be a part of. It is the UNO Child Care Center policy for children to be able to play outside, weather permitting, under the following conditions:

1. All children will participate in outdoor activities unless there is a medical reason with a physician's note stating otherwise.
2. Not raining, lightening, thundering, or snowing.
3. Temperature above 32 degrees; including wind chill.
4. Temperature below 100 degrees; including heat index.
5. The playground, front area, Alumni Center, and campus areas/walks are cleared and safe for children to play.

6. Children need to wear proper clothing and shoes/boots that is dry and layered for the warmth of cold weather.
7. Children need to wear sun-protective clothing &/or hats, applied skin protections or both for warmer weather.
8. It is encouraged for children to have long sleeves or a light jacket for temperatures between 60 to 70 degrees.
9. It is encouraged for children to have a coat for temperatures between 32 and 60 degrees. Mittens or gloves or hats for temperatures under 45 degrees.
10. Children must have on proper fitting shoes for outside play, this includes tennis shoes or shoes (sandals) with backs. Flip flops are not recommended.
11. Sunscreen or sun block with UVB and UVA protection of SPF 15 or higher is encouraged to be applied to children's exposed skin year-round when outdoors.

12. The use of insect repellent containing DEET can be applied to children no more than once a day with parental permission. Please see separate form.





In developmentally appropriate practice, teachers create a classroom that reflects the diversity of the community and society and involves every child's home culture and language in the shared culture of the group. By showing that each child's family, culture, and language are valued, teachers promote children's positive self-identity and help them to respect and appreciate similarities and differences among people.

As part of the UNO Child Care Center's Curriculum, learning about history and social sciences is built on the children's experiences in their families, school and community. We celebrate these cultural differences throughout the year and build on them during the times of the year that are specific to what events are happening during the different months. Children explore the beginning concepts of history with questions that are important to them. Examples are: "Who are members of my family", "Where do we live", "Who are our neighbors", "Who are important people".

In addition, children develop a sense of civic identity. Meaningful conversations happen spontaneously out of children's play and conversations. The teachers then provide materials and resources to help the children explore their interests of questions. Children listen to a variety of stories about people and events we celebrate in our national holidays and learn why we celebrate them.

A majority of these experience and activities are done through play and the children's experiences with daily interactions with other children and staff. As examples some stories can



include: "Peter's Chair" and "One Love". The books by Vashti Harrison on: "Dream Big Little One" and "Think Big Little One", story by Mem Fox, "Whoever you are". Books about Martin Luther King, Jr., Katherine Johnson, Rosa Parks, George Washington Carver, and many more. Children listen to African American music CD's and variety of different singers and musicians of different ethnic backgrounds throughout the week/month. Activities can also include exploring different types of art and artists and creating these. Learning words from different languages. Learning new math and science concepts and how important people from various cultures and backgrounds influenced the history and what we know today. Children are given the opportunity to experience and learn about the different foods and cultures around the world.

We are always open to new ideas and suggestions that families would like to share. I know that not being able to be present in the classroom due to COVID has been an adjustment for all. We appreciate any feedback that families can provide to help us make our program and curriculum better and more inclusive for all.

There are many different activities that children have enjoyed during the months of February and March. Some of the activities included:

- Reading the book Charlie Parker played bebop by Chris Raschka and dancing to jazz music.
- Setting up a doctors office after learning about Dr. Antonia Novello. Dr. Novello was the first woman and first Hispanic to hold the office of Surgeon General.
- When talking about Martin Luther King, children illustrated what their dreams for the future were.
- Inspired by Harvey B. Grant, an African-American architect,

children designed their own vision of Omaha with blocks.

- Preschool 2 started practicing mental math, just like Katherine Johnson.
- Preschool 1 planted seeds and watched them grow in honor of Kate Sessions, a famous botanist who planted trees and plants in the barren parks of San Francisco.
- Dr. Tanner Freeman became the first African-American dentist in the United States. Children created dental health books.

There were many discussions about famous African-Americans and women as well. Teachers used books to launch these discussions. Some of our favorite books that the children read were:

We March by Shane W. Evans

The ABCs of Black History By Rio Cortez

I am Rosa Parks by Brad Meltzer

Hair Love! By Matthew A. Cherry

I am Jackie Robinson by Brad Meltzer

Charlie Parker played bebop by Chris Raschka

Think Big Little One by Vashtie Harrison

This Little Trailblazer: A Girl Power Primer by Joan Holub

She Persisted 13 Women Who Changed the World by Chelsea Clinton

