

UNO Child Care Center Chronicle

October 2025



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UNO Child Care Center Happenings and Reminders

Friday, October 24, 2025, is Picture Day. Picture forms will go out the week of October 13. The Photographer will begin taking pictures at 8 A.M. The photographer is very efficient and is done within a couple of hours. Please make sure your child is here no later than 9 A.M. If you want their picture taken. Please complete the picture form and turn it in no later than Friday morning, October 24. You will pay for pictures when you order what prints you want. A composite classroom picture will also be available for purchase.

Friday, October 31, 2025, is the UNO Child Care Center's Annual Costume Parade across campus. We will be leaving the Child Care Center at 9:15 A.M. to parade down the middle of campus towards Roskens Hall. Departments on campus will be greeting the children/staff with treats as we walk by. If your child is here for breakfast, please bring in their costume and the staff will help them change into it. If your child is here after breakfast, you can have them wear their costume. Please make sure you bring extra clothes for them to change into after the parade. All children need to be here by 8:30 A.M. Parent and/or Grandparent volunteers are encouraged. Dress-up is optional. We will be back at the Child Care Center no later than 10:30 A.M. We hope you can join us.

It is time for child assessments and Parent/Teacher Conferences. The conference sign-up sheets are located on the front desk counter in a folder labeled with your child's classroom. You can sign up for conferences with one of the following options: phone calls, zoom meeting or in person. If you sign up for a zoom meeting, the link will be sent to you the day before the conference date. Please make sure you sign up with the correct teacher/group. Here is the schedule by classrooms:

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 – Toddlers (Mr. Fred)

Thursday, October 23, 2025, and Monday, October 27, 2025, AM only – Transition (Ms. Alecia)

Monday, October 27, 2025 – Preschool (Ms. Monica)

Tuesday, October 28, 2025, and Wednesday, October 29, 2025, AM only – Pre-K (Mrs. Patty)

The children do play outside and will go for walks on campus both in the mornings and afternoons. The weather is starting to get cooler. Please make sure your child has a jacket, sweatshirt, or coat for outside play. We do not have enough jackets/coats for every child. You can leave one here on your child's hook. Please make sure to label it. If you know that you will be picking up early, please let Dawn, Monica or your child's Lead Teacher know, so that your child can stay back if you pick up before 4 P.M.

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 prepare meals and staffing for the day. Reminder that if your child has been diagnosed with an illness to please let us know. Depending on the type of illness, we may need to inform families of the illness. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lead Preschool Teacher ~ For the fall semester, Monica Dey, the Assistant Director, will be filling in as the interim Lead Preschool Teacher. This is an easy transition, as the children already know Ms. Monica. Monica's email address is mdey@unomaha.edu. We will re-evaluate in January 2026 what the next steps will be for this position.

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. The staff thank you.

Happy Birthday!

12 - Reagan B.
12 - Miss Anna
21 - Miss Sophia
23 - Eloise L.
26 - Osten W.
28 - Miss Katrina



November

Aviation History Month

2 - Daylight Savings Ends
4 - Election Day
8 - National STEM Day
10-14 - Together Inc. Food Donation Drive
11 - Veterans Day
26 - No UNO Classes, UNOCCC is open
27-28 - Thanksgiving Break, UNOCCC is closed



Reading Fun!

Book Orders for this month will be due on Friday, October 17, 2025.

Books are an important part of a child's development and can help your child gain pre-literacy skills. When you order your child's books through Scholastic Book Orders, the center earns points to use towards free books and educational materials we can use in the classrooms!

Please visit <https://orders.scholastic.com/GKXFX> to order.

If this is your first time ordering online, you will need to create an account using our center's code GKXFX. This is the center's account under "Dawn Hove." Please make sure you are using this account, or your order may not be processed. You will be able to pay online, and the books will be delivered to the center.

Happy Reading!

October

National Pizza Month

5 - World Teacher's Day
13 - Columbus Day, UNOCCC open
15 - Toddler Pumpkin Hunt
16 or 17 - Transition Pumpkin Hunt
20-21 - UNO Fall Break, UNOCCC Open
22 - Parent/Teacher Conferences; Toddlers
23 - Parent/Teacher Conferences; Transition
24 - Picture Day; 8-11 A.M.
27 - Parent/Teacher Conferences; Tran AM; Pres
28 - Parent/Teacher Conferences; Pre AM; Pre-K
29 - Parent/Teacher Conference; Pre-K
29 - World Cat Day
31 - Costume Parade Across Campus; 9:15 AM



Baby News

Congratulations to the Manzari Family! Joe, Stephanie and big sister Cora welcomed Joseph Thomas to the family on September 29, 2025!

Joseph weighed in at 8 lb. 3oz.

Recommended Books for the Month

It's time for some spooky fun! Here are some books to celebrate reading during the month of October! The days are shorter and cooler, perfect for cuddling on the couch with a good book. We found a variety of books that you can read with your child when it is time to settle down.

"1-2-3 monsters" by Larissa Honsek

"Creepy Sheepy" by Lucy Ruth Cummins

"The Wishing Leaf" by Kallie George

"Nighty Night, Little Green Monster" by Ed Emberley

"Grumpkin" by Nicola Edwards

"I Don't Wanna Hibernate!" by Anna Ouchchy

"On Our Way! What a Day!" by JaNay Brown-Wood

"Between Two Windows" by Keisha Morris

"The Scarecrow" by Beth Ferry

"Too Many Pumpkins" by Linda White

"More, More, More Said the Baby" by Vera B. Williams

"Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story" by Kevin Noble Maillard,

Talk With Toddlers

Welcome to the fall fun month of October, Toddler Parents! With the arrival of cooler weather, we would like to remind our families to provide a warm jacket for outdoor play and swap in warmer change of clothes for accidents.

This month, we will be exploring ways to be safe. The letters for the month of October are D, E, and F. We will also learning about the numbers 4 & 5. The colors for the month are orange & black, and our shape is the triangle.

Here are a few dates to remember for October:

On October 15 the toddlers will have our annual pumpkin hunt. It will be here at the center starting at 10 A.M. We ask that each family pay \$6 in cash to cover the cost of the pumpkins by October 10.

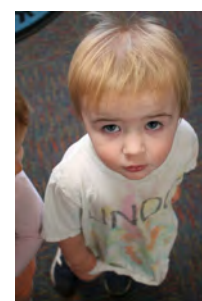
Toddler Parent-Teacher conferences will be on October 22. There will be a sign-up sheet for available conference times at the front desk at the beginning of the month. For your convenience conferences can happen in-person, over the phone, or even via zoom; scheduling a conference is not mandatory but encouraged.

The annual center wide costume parade will be on Friday, October 31. We will be parading across campus! Departments will be handing out candy to the children as we parade across campus. If the weather gets cooler, please remember that you may need to provide a coat, hat, and gloves. Parents, you are more than welcome to join us in the parade for some cute fun! The parade will start at 9:15 A.M., so please have your toddler here by 8:30 A.M. so that we can take them potty and change them into their costume.

Please remember to check your child's mailbox and coat hook at the end of each day. We will be sending your child's sunblock home at the end of the month.

Enjoy The Spooky Season!

Mr. Fred and the Toddler Teachers



Time With Transition

Happy Fall Y'all!

The Transition class is excited about the fall weather, and we have been enjoying it as much as possible. As a reminder, if it is below 60 degrees outside your child will need a jacket. Also, as the temperature gets cooler, please make sure your child has extra weather-appropriate clothes in their backpack or tubby. 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, like extra clothes and diapers/pull-ups.

Here are the October's learning themes: Fall Season, Farming, and Food, This month, our color is orange; the shape of the month is the circle; our numbers are 4, 5, & 6; and our letters are D, E, & F.

I will be sending home a note asking for \$6.00 cash from each family. This fee covers the cost of a pumpkin for our class pumpkin hunt, which will take place on October 16 and 17. If you would like your child to participate, please return the payment no later than Monday, October 13. Cash is preferred, so I can get them from the store myself!

Picture Day is Friday, October 24, so please be on the lookout for more information.

Parent-teacher conferences will be held during the week of October 20 and October 27. Transition's days will be Thursday, October 23 and Monday morning, October 27. Parent-Teacher conference sign-up sheets will be available at the front desk counter.

We will have our annual Costume parade on Friday, October 31. Costumes can be brought to school in a labeled bag, and staff will help friends get changed for the parade after breakfast and potties. Family volunteers are welcome! More information will be provided as the end of the month draws near.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please feel to send an email to aleciakeller@unomaha.edu, or chat with me at drop-off or pick-up!

Ms. Alecia and the Transition Teachers

Preschool Perspective

Goodness, it is finally fall!

October is going to be busy for the preschoolers this month! Our monthly theme is fall and we will be keeping busy learning about Fall and Fall Colors, Apples, Pumpkins, Bats and Spiders and Make Believe. We will be introducing the letters D, E and F; the numbers 4, 5 and 6. Black and orange are our colors this month and we will be adding a new shape, the triangle.

I want to thank all the parents who accompanied us on the field trip to the pumpkin patch last month! Everyone had fun riding the hay rack and picking out a pumpkin.

Some things to remember this month:

- Please make sure to have a jacket and seasonably appropriate clothing for your child, as the weather is starting to get cooler.
- Parent/Teachers Conferences will be held on Monday, October 27. Please watch for the sign-up sheet on the front desk counter.
- Picture Day is on Friday, October 24. More information will be sent home closer to the day.
- Our annual Costume Parade will be on Friday, October 31. Families are more than welcome to join us for this fun event.

I look forward to having fun with all our friends this month! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to talk to me when dropping off or picking up. I am also in my office in the afternoons and can be reached at 402-554-3398 or at mdey@unomaha.edu.

Ms. Monica and the Preschool staff



Pre-K Press Release

Hello Pre-K Parents,
October is a busy month for Pre-K!

Our themes for the month of October are Apples, Pumpkins, and Make Believe. We will be learning the letters D, E, and F. Our numbers for the month are 4, 5, and 6; the color is orange, and our shape is a circle.

Dates to remember:

- Picture Day is Friday, October 24, 2025, if your child is part time you can still bring them in to get a cute fall school picture taken.
- Parent/ Teacher conferences will be held on Tuesday, October 28 and Wednesday morning, October 29. The sign-up sheets will be located on the front desk counter.
- Friday October 31, 2025 is our costume parade across campus. We will be leaving at 9:15 A.M. and be back no later than 10:30 A.M. We will have a small party in the afternoon.

Just as a reminder we do go out and play at least once a day. With weather getting colder, we ask that you to bring a jacket for your child. It is also a great time to change out their extra change of clothes for the season to put in their tubbies.

Mrs. Patty and the Pre-K Assistant Teachers

Observation: The Key to Understanding Your Child

By Jarrod Green

Young children sometimes behave in challenging or confusing ways. You may occasionally have thoughts like:

"Why does she keep pinching her brother's nose?"

"Why does he put his snack in his hair?"

"Why does she cry when it's time to put shoes on?"

At first glance, young children's behaviors can be downright baffling!

Preschool teachers are taught that all behavior is communication and we are trained to observe, document, and analyze children's behavior to understand what they are "telling" us. With a few tips, you too can start observing your child's behavior like a pro.

Looking for patterns

Any behavior that occurs over and over is happening for a reason. If you can find the pattern in the behavior, you can figure out how to stop it.

The first step is simply to write down what happens. At first it feels weird, right after your child puts a gummi bear up his nose, to pull out a pad of paper and write it down. The problem is, our memories are terrible. Simply making a note of what happened can help you see patterns you may not notice otherwise.

A few years ago the children in my classroom were getting into too many fights. I didn't know why, so I started writing the incidents down. At the end of three days I looked at my notes and saw "9:20, fight over Legos; 9:50, fight over Legos; 10:00, fight over Legos..." I didn't have a problem with fights in my classroom; I had a problem with fights at the Lego table! Once I saw the pattern, I could make a change to improve things. I brought in twice as many Legos and put them at a bigger table. Ninety percent of the fighting stopped right there!

Whatever the challenging behavior is, just start writing it down. You might be amazed what you find.

The ABCs of behavior

To up your game from simple note taking, try what teachers call the "Antecedent-Behavior-Consequence" model—or simply ABC for short. Don't let the big words put you off. Antecedent just means "what happened right before," behavior means "what happened," and consequence means "what happened right after." Basically, ABC means don't just write down what happened—write down what happened right before and after too.

The antecedent is whatever was going on around your child right before she, say, dumped her milk on the couch—again. Was she getting ready for school? Listening to music? Perhaps it was when you left the room to get her teddy bear or told her to put her shoes on. Simple stuff, right? But such observations can be a gold mine for figuring out what's causing a behavior.

I worked with a family who said their 28-month-old would "start screaming, all the time, for no reason." But after a few days of writing down the ABCs, the parents realized that their son started screaming only if he was left alone in a room—a pattern they hadn't noticed before. Armed with this knowledge, they would tell him, "I'm going to go to the bedroom to get a sweater and come right back. Do you want to come with me, or wait here?" Over a few days the screaming all but stopped.

The consequence is whatever happened right after the child spread jam on the wall. Did you yell at him, and he cried? Did you send him to his room and when he wouldn't go, carry him up and close the door? Or did you tell him that's not okay, help him clean the wall, then read a book together? The consequence is often more emotional to write down than the antecedent but just as important to finding the pattern.

A teacher I know once worked with a child who frequently dumped milk or juice on his clothes at snack and lunch time. Once she started writing down the ABCs, she realized that every time the child did this, several teachers would rush to his side, talking to him and cleaning him lovingly. The teacher guessed that the behavior was a bid for attention and care in a crowded classroom. She started giving him more attention when he behaved appropriately, and gave only minimal attention when he dumped his juice. The negative behavior disappeared in a week.

Write it down!

Some teachers seek graduate degrees just to refine their observational skills, but you've got the bones of it right here. When you're stuck with your child's challenging behavior, write it down, along with what happened right before and what happened right after. When you see a pattern, you can work on changing it.

This method is incredibly simple, but surprisingly tricky—the first time you do it, it'll feel really weird. But I promise it gets easier and the payoffs can be huge. That teacher you secretly call "the toddler whisperer"? She started off right where you are. With a little observation and a few notes, you'll start understanding what's going on in your child's head—and things will get a little bit easier.

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/observation-key-to-understanding-your-child>