



hello  
SPRING

# UNO Child Care Center Chronicle

## March 2024

Dawn Hove-Casart - Director

Monica Dey - Assistant Director

### UNO Child Care Center Happenings and Reminders

#### Happenings: Mark Your Calendars

##### 1. Dr. Seuss and Read Across America Week: March 4 to 8, 2024.

Monday—Hat Day; Tuesday—Wear Red or Blue; Wednesday—Wear Your Clothes inside out or Mis-matched; Thursday—Crazy Sock Day; and Friday—Center Wide Pajama Day and bring your favorite Dr. Seuss Book to Share.

See the last page of the newsletter for more information about this week and all the fun activities.



##### 2. Lead Teacher Announcement

I am pleased to announce that Ms. Patty Johnson is the new Lead Preschool 2 Teacher and Ms. Alecia Keller is the new Lead Transition Teacher. Patty's hours are from 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., desk duty is from 2 to 3 p.m. and email is pattyjohnson@unomaha.edu. Alecia's hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., desk duty is from 1 to 2 p.m. and email is aleciakeller@unomaha.edu. Please take time to stop by and introduce yourself and meet the new lead teachers.

We continue to advertise for the Preschool 1 Lead Teacher and the Toddler Assistant Lead Teacher. We will keep you updated on the progress of these positions. I want to thank Ms. Monica, Ms. Effie and Mr. Fred for all their hard work and flexibility over the past several months. As we move forward in the next couple of weeks, Ms. Monica will continue to oversee the Preschool 1 group, Mr. Fred will move back to toddlers as the Lead Toddler Teacher and Ms. Effie will move back to the kitchen. Please help me "Thank" them.

##### 3. Parent/Teacher Conferences Week of March 18-22, 2024

Conferences can be scheduled in person at the child care center, over the phone or via a zoom link.

Toddler/Transition Conferences are on Monday, March 18 or Tuesday, March 19.

Preschool 1 & 2 Conferences are on Wednesday, March 20, Thursday, March 21 or Friday, March 22.

Please see the folders on the front desk counter to sign up for a conference with your child's lead teacher.

Toddlers—green folder; Transition—yellow folder; Preschool 1 & 2 red folder.

If you are unable to schedule a time on these dates, please see your child's lead teacher to schedule an alternate date/time the following week.



#### Reminders

- The children do play outside and will go for walks on campus. With the weather getting cooler, please make sure your child has a jacket/coat, hat and/or gloves for outdoor play. As long as the temperature, including wind chill, is above 32 degrees, the children will be able to play outdoor.
- The UNO Child Care Center **closes** promptly at **5:30 P.M.** Please make sure you are picking up your child by 5:30 P.M. The staff thank you.
- UNO spring break is the week of March 11 to 15; the UNO Child Care Center is OPEN regular business hours. Childcare tuition will still be Charged even if your child is not in attendance.
- Upcoming Spring Semester Event Dates:
  - Week of the Young Child; April 8-12, 2024
  - Preschool 2 Graduation: Friday, May 3, 2024, 10 A.M. at The Thompson Alumni Center
  - Stretch-N-Grow Dance Recital: Wednesday, May 13, 2024, 3 P.M. at The Thompson Alumni Center
 Please watch for more information about each of these events, closure to the dates.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dawn at 402-554-4936 or by email at dhove@unomaha.edu.

"The more you **read**  
the more **things** you know.  
The more that you **learn**  
the more **places** you'll go."  
-Dr. Seuss

# Happy Birthday!

- 10 - Sofia H.
- 12 - Frankie H.
- 13 - Scout F.A.
- 18 - McKinley S.
- 22 - Miss Emma K.
- 27 - Junior T.
- 30 - Kai B.



# March

## Women's History Month

- 2 - Read Across America Day
- 2 - Dr. Seuss' Birthday
- 10 - Harriet Tubman Day
- 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- 18 - Parent/Teacher's Conf. Tod/Tran
- 19 - Parent/Teacher Conf. Tod/Tran
- 20 - First Day of Spring
- 20 - Parent/Teacher Conf. Pres 1 & 2
- 21 - Parent/Teacher Conf. Pres 1 & 2
- 22 - Parent/Teacher Conf. Pres 1 & 2
- 24 - Palm Sunday
- 31 - National Crayon Day
- 31 - Easter Day



# April

## Autism Awareness Month Celebrating Week of the Young Child

- 1 - April Fool's Day
- 3 - National Rainbow Day
- 8-12 - Week of Young Child
- 9 - Last Day of Ramadan
- 11 - National Pet Day
- 14 - National Gardening Day
- 22 - Earth Day
- 23 - National Picnic Day
- 26 - Arbor Day



## Recommended Books for the Month.

- "Broken Crayon's Still Color" - Toni Collier
- "I Can Eat A Rainbow" - Olena Rose
- "There was An Old Lady Who Swallowed A Clover" - Lucille Colandro
- "Dr. Seuss's Spring Things" - Dr. Seuss
- "Great Women Who Changed The World" - Kate Pankhurst
- "The House That She Built" - Mollie Elkman
- "Girls Can do Anything" - Caryl Hart
- "She Persisted" - Chelsea Clinton



## Book Orders

Book Orders for this month will be due on Friday, March 15. 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 [scholastic.com/bookclubs](http://scholastic.com/bookclubs) 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!



## Talk With Toddler 1 & 2

### Welcome March

Spring is just around the corner. As the weather starts getting warmer, the children will be spending more time outdoors. An updated sunscreen permission form will be in your child's mailbox on March 4, 2024. Please make sure to read the Safe and Approved Sunscreen List.

The children will be learning how to brush their teeth this month. We have provided the toothbrushes. The children will start brushing their teeth on Monday, March 4 after naptime each day.



Themes for this month: Health; color is green; shape is circle; number 8; letters S, T, & U.

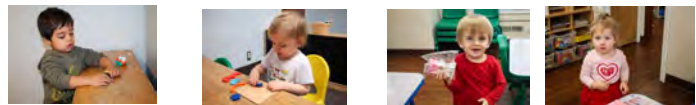
We will also be celebrating Dr. Seuss birthday and Read Across America week on March 4 to 8. Please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more details.

### Parent/Teacher Conferences:

The dates for the parent/teacher conferences are Monday, March 18 and Tuesday, March 19. The sign-up sheets are located on the front desk counter in the green folder. Progress reports will go out on March 15.

### Parent Reminders:

- Provide extra change of clothes, including shoes, socks. If your child is wearing underwear, please provide at least 5 extra pairs of underwear.
- Light jacket for outdoor play.
- Check both your child's hook and mailbox each day.



Ms. Effie and the Toddler Teacher Assistants

*Children who grow up feeling loved deeply become adults who are prewired to love deeply. - Karen Salmansohn*

## Time With Transition

New Lead Transition Teacher is Ms. Alecia Keller.

Alecia's hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., desk time is from 1 to 2 p.m. and email address is aleciakeller@unomaha.edu.

Happy Spring!



### Family Reminders:

The Transition class is hoping for some more spring weather so we can get outside! As the temperatures change, please make sure your child has appropriate clothing to go outside. This includes socks, closed-toed shoes for the playground, and a light jacket if needed. As it warms up and we are outside more often, we will need a bottle of sunscreen lotion for your child (no aerosol sunscreen allowed). Due to a severe Sunflower Oil allergy in the child care center, brands of sunscreen that **are safe** to bring include Cerave, Aveeno, Neutrogena, Coppertone Kids, Banana Boat Kids, Sun Bum, and Blue Lizard. If you choose a sunscreen of another brand, please check the ingredient list to ensure that Sunflower Oil is not included, thank you!

### Family Events:

March is full of activities!

First, we are excited to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with a focus on language and literacy in the classroom and at home.

Secondly, be on the lookout for the sign-up for Parent Teacher Conferences on either March 18 or 19. This is a great way to talk to me one-on-one and see how your child is progressing at school. If you cannot make it that week, let me know and I will set up a time that works for you. Progress reports will be going out Friday, March 15 and will need to be signed and returned before your conference.

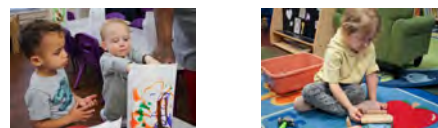
### March Themes:

Different Types of Animals and Habitats; Land & Sea Animals; Different Kinds of Pets; Animal Habitats

Color: Black & White; Shape: Star; Numbers: 16, 17; Letters: R, S, T



Mr. Fred, Ms. Alecia and the Transition Teacher Assistants



## Preschool 1 Pals

## Preschool 2 News & Views

The new Preschool 2 Lead Teacher is Patty Johnson. Patty's hours are 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; desk duty is from 2 to 3 p.m. and her email is pattyjohnson@unomaha.edu.

Ms. Monica will continue to oversee the Preschool 1 group.

Preschool Newsletter

Goodness, it's March already!

Preschool 1 and Preschool 2 are busy as usual! We are excited about the changes that are happening. We are very excited to have Ms. Patty join us as the Preschool 2 Lead Teacher! She has jumped right in and the children are loving the activities that she has planned for them.

The weather is another big change we are either enjoying or not! As is usual for Nebraska, the weather changes often during this time of year and we will go outside every time it is warm enough. Please make sure your child has enough clothing to account for the weather changes!

During the month of March, Preschool 1 and 2 will be have a lot of fun participating in Dr. Seuss activities. Preschool 1 and Preschool 2 will have a week learning about transportation and a week of space! The letters we will be focusing on are S, T and U. Our numbers for the month are 15 and 16. Green is the secret color of the month and our shape is Diamond.

Ms. Patty and Ms. Monica would like everyone to know that we will be starting something new and exciting this month! Both groups will be starting to send home a reading adventure backpack! In this backpack, you will find some books, activity ideas, a stuffed friend and a journal. You are invited to read the books and try the activities. Before returning the backpack, be sure to write a dated entry in the journal to let us know what your family enjoyed doing with the stuffed friend and which activities you tried!

Reminders:

- Bring in extra clothes for your children's tubbies! We are running low on center clothes, so if you have any you would like to donate clothing, we would welcome the extra clothes.
- Preschool 2 will shortening their naps starting this month. We will start with laying down at 1:10 and gradually work at having a 30 minute rest time without sleeping at the end of the semester.
- Please bring sunscreen permission slips and approved sunscreens in as soon as possible. We will start applying sunscreen when the children can wear short sleeves outside! Preschool sunscreen permission slips will be sent home soon!

Ms. Monica and Ms. Patty



## Parent Corner

### Fall In Love With Reading: 10 Simple Things You Can Do At Home (NAEYC On-line Article on Literacy)

There are many ways to enjoy reading with your child. Here are a few ways to make reading a fun part of your everyday life.

#### 1. **Develop family reading routines and rituals**

Find a regular time of day when you can dedicate story time into your day. You can read in the morning, after school, or before bedtime! Making story time a cozy routine makes reading an essential and pleasant activity.

#### 2. **Read what interests your child**

The nutrition facts on the milk box, newspapers, recipes, maps, and game instructions all make great reading material if your child is interested.

#### 3. **Try books that reflect your daily experiences**

Making connections to topics you read about is a fun way to keep children engaged. For example, you can read *You Can't Take a Balloon into the Metropolitan Museum* with your child before or after visiting an art museum. This opens up opportunities for conversations like discussing similarities and differences between the book and the museum visit. Or read Dr. Seuss's *In a People House* and then ask your child if they see any similar items, how they work, or even create a new book based on what's inside your own home.

#### 4. **Let your child select books**

When you visit the library, let your child select books. Try both fiction and informational books and ask the librarian for recommendations based on your child's interests.

#### 5. **Reread your child's favorites**

It's common for young children to request the same book again and again. Re-reading familiar stories offers children a chance to absorb information over time and lets them master the whole story.

#### 6. **Encourage storytelling**

Encourage your child to tell you a story from time to time or to retell a story after you've read it several times. Don't feel the need to correct how she's telling the story. Let her enjoy the experience of storytelling.

#### 7. **Have fun while reading**

Try whatever style feels comfortable for you and your child. Some ways families have fun with stories include:

- Acting out the story while reading by using facial expressions, gestures, body movements, and voices to make the story come to life.
- Making the story relevant to your child's life by adapting the story to include her name, a friend's name, or your pet's name. For example, surprise your child by saying "Olivia, Olivia, what do you see?" when you read Eric Carle's *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*

Finding props to go along with favorite stories and offering them to your child to use in her play.

#### 8. **Change your setting!**

It can be fun to read books in different places in and around your home. Try reading Eric Carle's *The Very Lonely Firefly* in a dark room with a flashlight. I've read *The Lamb and the Butterfly* (written by Arnold Sundgaard, illustrated by Eric Carle) to a group of four-year-olds on the grass, and when they saw a butterfly fly by, they associated it with the one in the story! You can even ask your child where she wants to read a particular story.

#### 9. **Try one of these books that trigger children's interest in reading**

Adam Lehrhaupt's Warning: *Do Not Open This Book!* is a great example of a book that draws children into the act of reading. Children wonder: "Why can't I open this book?" and read on. Here are some others:

- *Don't Push The Button* by Bill Cotter
- *Go Away, Big Green Monster!* by Ed Emberley
- *How To Hide a Lion* by Helen Stephens I
- *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- *Maisy's Fairground* by Lucy Cousins
- *My Granny's Purse And My Mummy's Bag* by P. H. Hanson
- *Press Here* by Herve Tullet
- *Tap to Play* by Salina Yoon
- *The Foggy Foggy forest* by Nick Sharratt
- *Where's Wally?* by Martin Handford

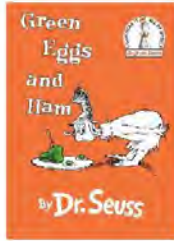


#### 10. **Get to know your child and your own reading style**

- Knowing your child and your own reading style is important for three main reasons:
- It offers you an opportunity to observe what interests your child. Be it science, art, interactive books or wordless books, you will figure out her current interest and support her in appropriate ways.
- You won't impose your preferences on your child; instead, you will share what you like with each other and get a chance to explore those beyond your favorites.

It allows your child to understand and respect that every individual reads differently, and it is okay.

There are lots of ways to encourage and enjoy reading. Try these ideas and do more of what your child enjoys.



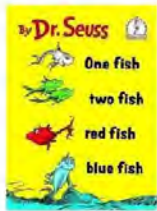
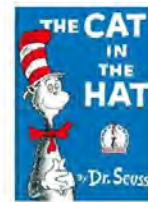
# Dr. Seuss<sup>TM</sup> Week March 4-8, 2024

**National Read Across America Week**

**Monday, March 4**—Celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday

**Wear Your Favorite Hat Day**

Book of the Day: The Cat in the Hat



**Tuesday, March 5**—**Red Blue Day;**

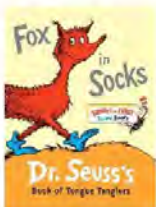
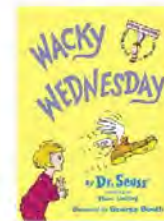
**Wear your favorite Red or Blue Clothes**

Book of the Day: One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish

**Wednesday, March 4**—Wacky Wednesday

**Wear your clothes inside out a**

Book of the Day: Wacky Wednesday



**Thursday, March 5**—Silly Sock Day;

**Wear A Pair Of Silly Socks.**

Book of the Day: Fox in Socks

Please bring in a old sock for your child;

The children will be creating their own sock puppet.



**Friday, March 6**—Pajama Day;

**Wear Your Pajamas to School**

Book of the Day: Bring Your Favorite Dr. Seuss Book To Share

