

May  
2022

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

Congratulations to all of our graduates, both big and small. From all of us here at the UNO Child Care Center, we wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

I would like to thank all families who provided food and snacks for Teacher Appreciation Week. The staff really enjoyed all the yummy food.

Reminder, the child care center will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2022 in observance of Memorial Day. We will re-open on Tuesday, May 31 at 6:30 a.m.

The UNO Child Care Center is currently preparing for our NAEYC Re-Accreditation visit. We must complete this process every 5 years to stay Accredited. We have not received our 15 day window notification, but it will be scheduled sometime within the next few months. An NAEYC assessor will be here for one day to observe the teachers in the classrooms and view our portfolios. We must meet the 10 standards with over 200 different criteria. To learn more about NAEYC Accreditation you can visit their website at [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org) and click on the accreditation link. We will

keep you posted as we go through the process.

As we prepare for the summer months, we like to remind you that part-time teacher assistant schedules will change and some of the assistants will be out for the summer. We are in the process of hiring additional staff.

We have also received good news, that the Child Care Center has been approved to add 5 full-time Assistant Lead Teacher positions. We will start advertising for these positions within the next week. There will be one assistant lead teacher for each classroom who will work closely with the current Lead Teacher. Our hope is to increase our enrollment back to pre-pandemic numbers and bring in families who have been on our waiting list.

The summer school-age program will officially kick off on Tuesday, May 31. Your child must be 5 years old by July 31 and attending Kindergarten in the fall in order to participate in our program.

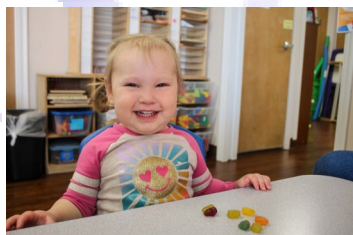
School-agers can start as early as May 31, 2022. Miss Megan and the school-age staff have many fun-filled activities planned for the summer. The activity fee for the summer is \$100. This covers the cost of field trips, transportation and summer activities. If you have any questions, please see Miss Megan, Ms. Monica or myself. Summer packets will go out by the end of May.

There will be no open swim or summer swim lessons due to the H & K pool under construction over the summer. We will be working with the H & K staff to do a water play day with the sprinklers on the soccer field. We will update you once we have dates and times.

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...

We hope that all our terrific “Moms” had a wonderful and happy Mother’s Day!”



# Happy Birthday!

1— Miss Paige

4— Aurora J.

14—Carly S.

19—Miss Sarah F.

20— Emiliano W.

20—Corvus W.



## Dates To Make Note Of...

### May

*Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month*

- 1 - May Day
- 3 - National Teacher Day
- 5 - Cinco De Mayo
- 6 - National Nurses Day
- 8 - Mother's Day
- 9-13 - Final Exams
- 23 - Red Nose Day
- 30 - Memorial Day, Center Closed
- 31 - Summer School-age Program Begins

### June

*Pride Month*

- 3 - Pre & SA Field Trip Henry Doorly Zoo
- 8 - Best Friend Day
- 10 - SA Field Trip OPPD Arboretum
- 14 - Flag Day
- 17 - SA Field Trip Lauritzen Gardens
- 19 - Juneteenth
- 19 - Father's Day
- 21 - Summer Begins
- 24 - SA Field Trip SAC Museum



### July

*UV Safety Month*

- 1 - SA Field Trip Fontenelle Forest
- 4 - Independence Day, Center Closed
- 5 - UNO Planetarium ~ Transition
- 8 - SA Field Trip Bellevue Berry Farm
- 9 - Eid al Adha begins
- 13 - Pre & SA Field Trip Bounce U
- 17 - National Ice Cream Day
- 18 - Nelson Mandela Day
- 19 - UNO Planetarium ~ Preschool
- 22 - SA Field Trip Gifford Farm
- 24 - Parents Day
- 26 - UNO Planetarium ~ SA
- 29 - SA Field Trip Bowling

## Cooking with Rick

This month, I found a delicious recipe for Apple Bread.

Ingredients:

- 2 C. finely diced apple
- 2 C. oat flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 3/4 C. sugar
- 1 C. milk of choice
- 3 1/2 tsp. oil or applesauce for low-fat
- 2 tsp. pure vanilla extract

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 9 by 5 inch baking pan.

2. Stir dry ingredients into large bowl until well mixed.
3. Add remaining ingredients to form a batter and smooth into a greased 9 by 5 inch baking pan.
4. Bake for 50 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out mostly clean.

Let cool, cover with a cloth overnight. Serve the next day, because the flavor and texture are even better. Leftovers can also be sliced and frozen. If desired, frost with your favorite icing.

Mr. Rick

"You can steer yourself any direction you choose"  
—Dr. Seuss.



## Books We Recommend..

Summer, with it's hot and sunny days, is almost upon us! When it's too hot to be out and about, reading a book in the cool confines of a comfy room is the way to go! We have selected some titles that you and your children will enjoy!

- Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall
- Splash Anna Hibiscus by Atinuke
- Summer Days and Nights by Wong Herbert Yee
- I See Summer Colors by Charles Ghigna
- Sun by Sam Usher
- Yellow Ball by Molly Bang
- Summer is Summer by Phillis Gershtator
- Sunflower House by Eve Bunting
- Summer Color by Diana Murray
- The Honeybee by Kirsten Hall

## Book Orders

The University of Nebraska at Omaha Child Care Center will continue 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.

**Book Orders will be due by Friday, May 20, 2022**

**Happy Reading!**



Welcome to May!  
Congratulations to Ella K. and Maddox L. who will be moving up to Transition!

Our theme this month is Baby Animals. We will also be talking about the letters Y and Z; the number 10; the color yellow and the square shape.

This summer, our water play day will be on Thursdays, beginning June 9 and running through August 4. We are asking the you provide the following items for our outdoor water play:

- Swimsuit
- Towel
- Swim diaper/pull-up
- Water shoes are optional!

Reminders for this month:

We have many fun summer activities planned for this summer! We will be visiting the UNO library during the summer. A schedule for these visits will sent home later this month.

A very big "Thank You!" to the Fox family for donating two outdoor riding toys. Our toddler friends love riding around the playground!

Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful moms!

Toddler Teachers



## Time with Transition

May Happenings in Transition

We are finally coming to the end of the semester and working into some summer fun! I will be sending home a packet about some summer activities that we have planned, so keep an eye out for that. If your child is transitioning into Preschool 1 for the summer, you should have received a note with the schedule for visiting. If you have any questions about the process, please reach out to me, Ms. Monica or Ms. Dawn.

Summer Reminders:

- You child needs lotion-based sunscreen for the UV rays while we are outside this summer. Please label with your child's name.
- Closed toed shoes and socks are required for outside play and walks around campus.

- Water play begins in June, and your child will need a swimsuit, towel and shoes that can get wet. They will also need swim diapers if they are not potty trained.
- We like to go out and about around campus during the summer days-if you need your child to be back at the center by a certain time for pick up, please let me know or leave a note in the special request binder.

Parent Activity

This month we will be discussing community helpers and the roles they play in our lives. If you are a community helper (education, healthcare, government official, construction, military etc.) and would like to volunteer, we would love to have parents email or bring in a picture of themselves in their uniform or work clothes, and provide a summary of their job and how they help the community. Don't be shy, all of our parents help the community in one way or another!

Allison Johnson—Lead Teacher

This month's themes are: Health Professionals and Teachers; Police Officers, Firefighters, and Military Members; Business Owners and Office Workers; Librarians, Bus Drivers, and Postal Workers. Our letters this month are X, Y and Z. The number is 20; the shape is pentagon and we will be reviewing colors.

Happy May.

Transition Teachers



## Points to Ponder with Preschool 1

Ky Jackson—Lead Teacher

Happy May Families!

We've finally made it to the end of the school year and are headed full speed into summer!

This month, we will be working on Mother's Day projects, learning about plants, flowers, birds, dirt and worms.

We are SO ready to be outside very day, exploring campus and going on all kinds of adventures.

We will also have two new friends join us from Transition, as well as say "see you later" to some friends for the summer.

At the end of the month, we will official begin the Preschool Summer Program. During the summer, we will be taking all kinds of fun trips to Elmwood Park, the Ice Cream Shop at the Student Center, plenty of walks around campus, beginning water

play and library days, and of course, going on plenty of field trips! I hope you are all as excited as we are—I already know this summer is going to be great! We will also be looking for plenty of parent volunteers to accompany us on these trips, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you would be interested.

Please make sure your child has all the requested summertime items (clothes, sunscreen, etc.) and return your child's fieldtrip permission forms (as well as pay the Summer Activity Fee at the front desk) as soon as you can so we can make sure we are prepared for the summer fun!

Teacher Ky and the P1 Wranglers



**It's SUMMER!!!**

I cannot believe that summer is already here! Half of the year flew by so fast and now all of these kiddos are great big school-agers! I can't believe it! To start off summer right, I have just a few small announcements.

First, the summer packet will be made available to you by mid-May. Please have all forms signed and returned by Friday, May 27. All fees need to be paid by then as well. If your child will not be participating in activities during the months of June through August, please let me, Ms. Monica or Ms. Dawn know.

Second, make sure that all of the items that your child has brought for Preschool 2 (blankets, pillows, stuffies, etc.) are taken home. If your child

will be here again next semester, their belongings will be kept for the next year.

Third, we will need new sunscreen for the summer weather. Please bring in non-aerosol sunscreen, labeled with your child's name. Also please make sure the children are wearing closed-toe or tennis shoes, this is to make sure that children's feet are protected adequately from injury and are kept clean.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach me by email at [mmliu@unomaha.edu](mailto:mmliu@unomaha.edu) or by phone at 402-554-3398. Dawn and Monica will also be available to answer any questions or concerns you may have for the coming summer. I look forward to a warm and fun summer!

Miss Megan and the School Age 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. Air quality is at recommended levels under 100AQI. Air quality is monitored regularly.
6. The playground, front area, Alumni Center and campus areas/walks are cleared and safe for children to play.
7. Children need to wear proper clothing and shoes/boots that is dry and layered for the warmth of cold weather.

8. Children need to wear sun-protective clothing &/or hats, applied skin protections or both for warmer weather.
9. It is encouraged for children to have long sleeves or a light jacket for temperatures between 60 to 70 degrees.
10. 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.
11. Children must have on proper fitting shoes for outside play, this includes tennis shoes or shoes (sandals) with backs. Flip flops are not recommended.
12. 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. The UNO Child Care Center must have a signed permission slip to apply sunscreen. Please see separate form.
13. 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.

The classrooms enjoy getting outside to play as well as taking walks on campus. To make sure the children are safe, please be sure

your child has a non-aerosol sunscreen here at the center as well as closed toe shoes.





## 20 Ways To Keep Your Child Engaged Over the Summer

With summertime upon us, you may be looking for some ways you can keep your child engaged. While the possibilities are endless, we have listed 20 different family activities that are fun and educational!

1. Have your children join you in cooking or baking a fun recipe. This will help to teach them valuable skills like how to measure properly and how to be safe in the kitchen. The final product can be enjoyed together as a family.
2. Take them to the library. Many libraries have a summer book reading program for all reading levels!
3. Set aside a time each day for them to read or read to them. You can take turns with who narrates the story each day or have your preschooler tell you the story using the pictures in the book.
4. Pack a picnic lunch and enjoy it at a local park. Your child can create the menu for the day and help pack up the food, drinks, and other items.
5. Explore educational websites and encourage them to practice their skill on a regular basis. There are many museums that offer virtual tours, so explore some art and history!
6. Go on a hike or bike ride. Try to explore a spot that you have never been to before.
7. Visit museums. Whether it's art, history, or science, decide with your child which type of museum they would like to visit.
8. Visit historical places. There are many different historical places in Nebraska. Do some research and take advantage of what is in our area!
9. Start some arts and crafts projects. The options are endless—from drawing to painting to origami—there's something to appeal to every child.
10. Participate in a 30 day fitness challenge. Mark down each exercise on a calendar to keep them accountable, and offer an incentive at the end of the challenge to keep them motivated.
11. Find a new spot to watch the sunrise or sunset. You could make it a weekly routine to enjoy the views in this spot together.
12. Play board games and card games. You could play games like Chutes and Ladders, Go Fish or Candyland. Or, you can encourage your child to design their own board game and rules. After completing the game, play the game as a family.
13. Clean out unused items in the house and donate the items to a non-profit organization. Not only will this get the rooms in your home more organized, but it will allow your child to learn the value of helping others in the community.
14. Plan an scavenger hunt. This will help your child think critically and use their strategic skills. If possible, divide participants up into teams so they can work together on solving the clues.
15. Write in a summer journal. Provide them with prompts to get them started, and encourage your child to keep up with it as the summer continues. For younger children, have them draw a picture and you can caption it for them.
16. Plant some flowers or vegetables in the garden. Have your child help you weed and water the garden. Notice how the plants are growing and any changes you will see in the garden.
17. Work on a puzzle together as a family. It can be a fun way to pass time and work together, especially on a day when the weather isn't ideal for outdoor activities.
18. Go stargazing. Find an area away from city lights and look at the stars and moon through binoculars.
19. Build an obstacle course in the backyard. Make it a family event and see how long it takes for each family member to complete the course.
20. Capture Nature – Go for Photoshoot. You don't need a top-of-the-line camera to get kids excited about photography. Inexpensive, entry-level, point-and-shoot cameras are perfect because they're small, lightweight, unintimidating, and replaceable. You can also let them take photos with a cell phone.

We hope you get to take advantage of some or several of these ideas with your child this summer.

