



# S.E.E.K. Early Learning Center

## ELC Parent Newsletter

February 2016



### S.E.E.K. Early Learning Center

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Hello Families,

This month the children will learn about outer space (moon, stars, the sun, astronauts, and planets), friendships, and the color black.

Come join the fun in the toddler class and the preschool class for a Valentines Day gathering for families on Friday, February 12th from 3:00pm - 4:00pm. We will make Valentines day crafts, exchange greeting cards, and visit with friends. Beverages and snacks will be provided!

#### Earn a **FREE** day!

Write a review on Yelp! to earn

#### Cool Weather is Here

Classes will continue to play and learn outside. Please send a change of clothes that is appropriate for the season and

a free day at preschool. The reviews show our teachers how proud you are of them and their impact on your little ones. Let us know after you've shared your experience on our [Yelp](#) page and we will credit you with ONE FREE DAY of childcare (Limit one per child, please).

label all jackets, hats, gloves, scarves etc. with his/her name. We are looking forward to enjoying the beautiful weather!

## Friendly Reminders

- We are a nut free and scent free facility. Also, please be mindful that we have children enrolled in the center with other food allergies. Label your child's food containers and keep food in lunch box not in the child's cubby.

- The ELC is open 7am-7pm, teachers are not permitted to accept students outside of these hours.
- Please send refillable water bottles to school with your child. Label these items with your child's name.
- Please send a change of clothes appropriate to the season labeled with your child's name.
- Please do not open the ELC's front door for

## A Peek into the Infant Room



Peek-A-Boo, I see you! The children crawled through a tunnel that had shape cut outs, ribbon that hung, and mirrors to teach self recognition.

## A Peek into the Toddler Room



The toddlers were busy practicing colors and counting with wooden colored sticks. They also had fun while working with sand. They discussed texture, color, and which friends have visited a beach!

anyone you are unfamiliar with during drop-off and pick-up.

## A Peek into the Preschool Room

### Important Dates at the ELC

Feb. 12th 3:00pm- 4:00pm	Valentine's Day Party for families
Feb. 15th - 19th	Spirit Week and Parent Teacher Conferences
Feb. 8th - 10th	Vision and Hearing Test
Mar. 15th	Family Appreciation Night
Mar. 25th	ELC Closed: Teacher In- Service
May 6th	Mother's Day Tea
May 26th	Preschool Graduation
May 30th	ELC Closed: Memorial Day



The preschool class explored a map of the United States and discussed where "Hello Kitty" lives. The preschool class also created words with magnetic letters.

### Need Drop-In Care?

We need to be notified at least 24 hours in advance of any "drop-in" as our enrollment is now at capacity. If needed, please complete the drop-in form and leave it at Kelsie's desk. You can also email it to [Sara Van Winkle](#). We will then determine if we have the staff and/or space for an additional student to attend.

Drop-in/unscheduled services are available on a first come, first served basis. Payment is due at drop off or the credit card on file will be charged accordingly. Your child will not be permitted to attend class without advance payment in full.

### Taking a Vacation?

Each family who attends S.E.E.K. will receive 10 days of credit for vacation per year, August 1st to July 31st. The credit of \$20 for half day and \$35 for full and extended day children will be applied to the following month's invoice.

Please note: credits for vacation days are per child, not per family. Any credits not used by July 31st of each year will expire. Please give a two weeks notice by submitting a Vacation Request form to the Director. Please contact [Margaret Irwin](#) with questions.

## Scholastic Books



The S.E.E.K. Early Learning Center has an account with Scholastic Books. If you would like to order books for your own library, as gifts, or if your client's would like to order books, just visit the Scholastic website. Once you create an account, put in the code **MBJRR**. All of your purchases will be linked to the S.E.E.K. Early Learning Center and our teachers will earn books for their classroom libraries. For more information, please contact [Sara Van Winkle](#).

An additional \$2 fee will be charged for all drop-ins.

Thank you in advance for adhering to this policy.

S.E.E.K. Early Learning Center implements the HighScope educational approach to learning ([HighScope](#)). The research based curriculum helps children develop through active participatory play, which means our students learn by hands-on experiences that enable them to plan and explore many of their own activities.

### What are HighScope's goals for young children?

- To learn through active involvement with people, materials, events, and ideas.
- To become independent, responsible, and confident - ready for school and ready for life.
- To learn to plan many of their own activities, carry them out, and talk with others about what they have done and what they have learned.
- To gain knowledge and skills in important academic, social, and physical areas.

### HighScope Steps in Resolving Conflicts With Preschoolers

1. Approach calmly, stopping any hurtful actions.
2. Acknowledge children's feelings.
3. Gather information.
4. Restate the problem.
5. Ask for ideas for solutions and choose one together.
6. Be prepared to give follow-up support.

### A New Way of Understanding Old Rules with HighScope

Old Way of Thinking	New (HighScope) Way of Thinking
Children focus best	When children position and move

## Things to do in February:

- 1st-29th: Peach Blossom Celebration - Schnepf Farms Queen Creek
- 3rd: Gilbert Town Square Twilight Farmer's Market 3:30pm - 7pm
- 3rd-7th: Pupplocks and the Three Bears Phoenix - Great Arizona Puppet Theater
- 4th: Peter Pan & Wendy in Gilbert at The Tuscany Theatre 7:00pm
- 5th: Seussical the Musical in Phoenix at Starlight Community Theater
- 5th - 7th: Glendale Chocolate Affaire
- 6th: Storytime at Bookmans Entertainment Exchange 10:30am Mesa
- 6th: Silly Wonderful You Storytime at Desert Ridge Marketplace 11:00am
- 6th: Archaeology for Kids at Pueblo Grande Museum Indian Market
- 6th: Buckeye Air Fair
- 6th: Royal Run Charity 5K and Fun Run at Turf

when they sit still and listen. Quiet bodies make for active minds.	their bodies in ways they find comfortable, they are more free to learn.
Make sure materials stay in their respective classroom areas during play (choice) time.	Materials can be moved between areas to support children's play, and then returned to their own areas at cleanup time.
Teach children the "correct" movements and fingerplays to accompany songs and chants.	Encourage children to invent their own movements and fingerplays to songs and chants.
Keep the classroom materials orderly. Mess is distracting for children.	Play can be messy. Be a partner in children's play. There's plenty of time to clean up later.
Limit the number of children who can play in any area.	Allow all children who request it to play in an area. Provide ample materials and, if necessary, move or enlarge the space.
Avoid social conflicts and/or resolve them for children.	Allow conflicts to arise naturally during play and help children learn how to resolve them.
Praise enhances children's self esteem and motivates them to learn.	Praise makes children rely on external motivation. Encouragement builds internal motivation and an inherent desire to learn.

## How can families use HighScope at home?

Many of the activities that our teachers offer can also be done by families at home. For example, you can provide many different learning materials, often using everyday objects that cost little or nothing. You can encourage children to make plans, carry them out, and talk about what they have learned from their experiences.

You can try to be more predictable in their routines so children know what to expect. And you can use the steps of conflict resolution to help children resolve disputes with

Paradise in Phoenix at  
8:00am

- 12th-14th: 28th Annual  
The Peoria Greekfest  
Peoria - St. Haralambos  
Greek Orthodox Church
- 12th-16th: Phoenix  
Chinese Week Culture  
and Cuisine Festival

siblings and friends.

S.E.E.K. Early Learning Center welcomes visits from you and encourage you to participate in classroom activities, preparing for activities or other special events.

## **ABCs of Water Safety**

### **Adult Supervision**

-Never leave any child alone around any body of water

-Always designate a water watcher to make sure everyone in the water is safe

-Maintain barriers around all bodies of water

### **Barriers to Water**

-Keep pool gates and house doors securely closed

### **Classes**

-Enroll all family members in swimming lessons

-Learn CPR as a family