

News and Notes

From Teacher Brianne

It has been so great to start the new year! I have missed spending time with each of my students and I have seen so much growth in every one of them. This newsletter is centered around play because it is the foundation for learning and growth in early childhood. It is the love language of every child. It is the key to their hearts and greatly helps to establish trusting relationships. There are different types of play: sensory-motor or functional, schematic, constructive, symbolic, socio-dramatic, rough-and-tumble, games with rules, etc. Observe your child and join in the play that speaks to them.

Coming Up...

- Oct. 14 No school/sessions for students (teacher work day)
- Oct. 31–Nov 4 Parent–Teacher Conferences If your child is NOT in ECEAP in the Everett School district, use this link to sign up for a session:
[Sign Up Conferences](#)
- Nov. 11 No school/sessions – Veteran's Day
- Nov. 23–25 No school/sessions– Thanksgiving Break

Special Education




What should I do or who should I contact if I have a concern about my child's special education services?

The first person you should contact with any concern is your child's case manager. That is usually the special education teacher (Mel), but if they are only receiving related services, it may be a service provider, such as a speech-language pathologist. The next in order would be the building principal. Above that, there are directors of special education that oversee the special education programs in the district. Robin Arnold (425-385-5253 rarnold@everettsd.org) supervises pre-school. Then there is an executive director of special services, Kelly Clevenger (425-385-5250 KClevenger@everettsd.org). Above that person would be the superintendent of the school district, Ian Saltzman (425-384-4019 superintendent@everettsd.org).

Neurodiversity

3 reminders

About PLAY for Autistic kids

- 1 It is OK if their play looks different from neurotypical peers 
- 2 Play should always be intrinsically motivated 
- 3 Play builds from interests and emerging skills 

1 Play may look different for autistic kids, but that doesn't mean it isn't play.

We don't need to teach autistic kids to play like their non-autistic peers. That's like imposing neurotypical cultural norms on neurodivergent kids, for no real reason. Instead, we can learn about and accept autistic play. Play comes from a child's own strengths, interests, and needs.

@learnplaythrive...

@learnplaythrive...

In The Community

The Imagine Children's Museum in Everett has recently opened a new expansion to their building. They offer discounts for families who have EBT benefits of \$3 admissions and a free admission day for children in kinship care on the first Sunday of the month from 9:00–11:00 AM.



Social Emotional Learning: The Power Of Play

Play is one of the best ways for children to learn self-regulation because when children are invested in play they are more likely to compromise to keep play going. "The complex sociodramatic play/improved self-regulation relationship was particularly strong for high-impulsive children, nil for low-impulsive children. Findings are consistent with Vygotsky's theory and suggest that sociodramatic experiences may be especially advantageous for impulsive children, who are behind their peers in self-regulatory development." Elias, C. L., & Berk, L. E. (2002). Self-regulation in young children: Is there a role for sociodramatic play? *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 17(2), 216–238.

What we worked on

Coaching Notes

One of the best tools for engaging cooperation in a child is to be playful. Here are some ways to do that:

- make an inanimate object talk
- turn a boring task into a challenge or a game
- Feign ignorance and suggest a silly way to accomplish the task, allowing the child to correct you
- Give absurd reasons for things. For example: Oh no! I saw a dinosaur hiding behind your teeth. Let me use your toothbrush to get it!

Teacher Brianne's Recommendations

Book

Play by Stuart Brown



Podcast or Blog (for the kids)

Sesame Street



Social Media

Fairy Dust or Wunderled

