

CREATIVE DAY SCHOOL

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Helping Children with Halloween Fears

As children get older Halloween is a fun time of year to dress up and just have fun but for younger children the costumes, the scary themes and even the fact that people are wearing masks can be a terrifying experience.

There are several things that Moms and Dads can do to help little ones prepare for Halloween and take the potentially fearful issues out of the holiday. By being proactive and talking to children about Halloween traditions and decorations you can take the unknown out of the night and allow your child to have fun based on his or her comfort level.

Decorations

Scary faces in pumpkins lit up on a dark night don't have to be frightening if children understand what they really are. Have your child or children make a jack o' lantern, with Mom and Dads' help, and show the child how the inner glow is created with a candle.

For your child's pumpkin face focus on the happier looks and designs until they are more comfortable with some of the scarier faces. You can also go online and browse some amazing pumpkin artwork.

Show children in the stores the typical Halloween decorations such as spiders and bats or fake webs and witch's cauldrons. Allowing the child to see them in the store makes it a very normal experience.

Costumes and Masks

Masks and costumes can be frightening for younger children and toddlers but if they get to play with masks and costumes the fear is often easily dispelled. Avoid any scary masks or costumes and never startle the child by suddenly appearing in a mask or a costume. Instead, allow the child to see you put the items on and take them off.

Kids may enjoy dressing up or even helping Mom or Dad dress up and put on masks and costumes. Do this in advance of Halloween so that it is less threatening and stay with costumes and masks that are familiar such as favorite characters, superheroes or favorite themes.

Don't force your little ones to get into the Halloween traditions too quickly. Instead, encourage your child to participate at a level that is comfortable to them. Monitor the television shows, online content or even scary stories from older brothers and sisters until the child is ready for them.

OCTOBER 2019



Getting Past the Inspiration Block

Everyone has felt the frustration of staring with a blank piece of paper or computer screen that needs to be filled with content or ideas. Intellectual property is highly valued these days making it vital to come up with new ideas, content and innovations at a moment's notice even when inspiration seems to have gone on vacation.

The good news is there are ways to keep those ideas and creative juices flowing. One good tip is to break a task you need to do down into stages. Even just writing what you need to do and how you need to go about it can often be enough to get you started. Starting is frequently the most difficult part but even just the small step of coming up with a plan enables you to give more clarity to what you need to do, saves you time and makes it easier for you to complete. It is also important to remember that you do not have to immediately work out everything entailed in the current project. Ideas are often a work in progress and if you feel you are becoming stuck on one area, move onto the next section and go back to that one later. Do not become so caught up in trying to be a perfectionist that you end up ceasing to make any progress.

Like our CDS Facebook page and receive parenting tips and see pictures of our children in fun activities!

 Like

Take A Look at What We Are Doing...

This month's theme is: Family and Friends

- **Infants:** We will be learning about our new friends in our infant room. We will be discussing family and friends. We will identify who are a part of our family. We will be learning songs, clapping to music and rocking to music. Also, we will be discussing Fall and Fall colors.
- **Toddlers:** We will be talking about each one of us in the classroom. We will use our family poster to learn about who is in our unique family. We will also be talking about leaves changing colors and make a collage of handprints. We will continue to work on our counting and will explore items associated with our vocabulary list.
- **Twos:** For the month of October, we will be working on our fine motor skills. We will discover fall colors and what happens to the world around us as the seasons change. We will be creating some leaf art and discovering new things about our friends such as likes/dislikes and what foods, color, toys are their favorite. We will continue to work on our letter, numbers, shapes, and colors.
- **Threes:** We will be learning more about our friends and classmates. We will discuss who makes up each of our families. We will work on our counting and shapes using Fall colors. We will learn to recognize the different leaf shapes and make some leaf art.
- **Fours:** We are moving into our second month of our new curriculum and things are going great! We want to thank everyone for the participation and positive feedback for the past few weeks! For the month of October, we are going to be spending time getting to know our classmates a little better. We will also learn more about our colors and what they mean in the community, home, plants, animals and in the world! We will focus on shapes and what they mean outside of the classroom as well. Lastly, we will spend time on measurements, in reference to height and lengths.
- **After-schoolers:** During the month of October, we will be using some new social skills to make new friends. We will be discovering fall colors in the world around us and finding new ways to create various things using simple shapes. We will also be discussing measurements including size and volume and learn how to read a thermometer to determine temperature. We will work on telling time and on time management. We will continue to have fun building on our gross motor skills as we have our typical outdoor fun on the inside instead.

Donations requested for new Fours Learn Every Day Curriculum: Twigs & sticks, paper plates, straws, paper towel tubes. Also, please bring in family pictures for projects.



Happy Birthday!

Oct 4 Jonathan Oct 19 Jaceyon
Oct 5 Skylyn Oct 23 Ta'niah
Oct 7 Stewart Oct 28 Katherine
Oct 9 Da'mariyah Oct 28 Kamora
Oct 29 Demarion

Staff Birthday:

Ms. Joy October 24th



Center News:

New Curriculum: We are so excited about our brand-new curriculum, Learn Every Day! With this curriculum we will go beyond a letter, past a number and soar through our colors! We will incorporate literacy, math, science, social studies and creative arts into each unit of study! We are enjoying teaching your children using the new curriculum and everyone is having fun learning together!

Referrals: When you are referring us to your friends and family, please be sure to mention our school pick-ups as this plays an important part in their decision on childcare choices. Also, Benton Heights and Rock Rest Elementary does drop off at our center, so please share this information as well.

Parent Questions and Answers:

Question: If I pick up my afterschool child from school early for an appointment, can I bring him to the center afterwards?

Answer: Our afterschool classrooms open at 2:30pm and you may bring your child then. We would appreciate it if you called us ahead of time so we can let our drivers know.