

COLTS

Rocking Horse Review • January - April 2024

Happy New Year Colts families! Can you believe that we are already in a New Year? Our Colts have learned so much these past few months, and we couldn't be prouder of them!

In the next few months, we have a lot of events planned such as a class Valentines Day party in February, family teacher conferences, the Scholastic Book Fair, and an Easter class party in March. Please make sure to be on the lookout for any sign-up sheets by our door for these events.

Our Colts are curious about **EVERYTHING!** They tend to learn best with hands-on activities.

We do a variety of artwork based on the monthly themes. One main component of our lessons is artwork. Painting, markers, crayons, chalk, different painting utensils and different types of paper are a big part of our learning process.

The STEAM curriculum is another major part of our daily lessons. We do this in a variety of ways (i.e. counting steps, sorting toys by color and size, etc.) flash cards, artwork, music, and story time just to name a few. We work on our manners (i.e. Please and thank you) and a lot of sign language (i.e. thank you, please, diaper, milk) with our Colts every day. In the next several months we will be keeping busy by learning about arctic animals, feelings, health and our body, farm animals, insects, tools, and buildings. We will be implementing the STEAM curriculum by sorting Arctic animals by size, look at pictures of different types of facial expressions (feelings), get farm animals muddy in brown paint and wash them in a sensory bin, and use different sized blocks to create buildings, just to name a few. The children also love to look and read books and we will be adding a lot of books to our lessons as well.



Developmental Phases

This may be a difficult age for your child. At this age a lot of challenging behaviors occur (i.e. biting, hitting, pulling hair, pushing). Most of the time when biting occurs, it is done either because a child cannot vocalize his/her words or is suffering from teething. We strive to help the children to overcome this phase of their lives by encouraging positive reinforcement. Some ways to do so are role playing, offering alternative activities, offering a cold teether, or gently reminding him/her that our teeth are used for eating food. This is also the age where he/she starts testing boundaries, and "NO" becomes his/her favorite word.

One thing that we start focusing on is simple 2 -3 step directions. The main one we do involves the diaper changing process. We always explain to the children what we are doing. First, we need to change your old diaper and put a new one on. Second, when we are done, we pull our pants up. Last, we wash our hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water. We also start focusing on self help skills such as feeding himself/herself with a spoon or fork, washing our hands with help, putting on socks and shoes, and taking jacket's off.

Reminders

Now is the time to check your child's cubby for size and weather-appropriate clothing. Please remember to label all clothing (especially coats and hats), linens, bags, etc. with your child's name. Also, please make sure to label each of your child's diapers with his/her initials. We have numerous little ones that use the same brand and size. Our little ones sure do love their water. Please make sure to bring a filled water bottle daily, labeled with your child's first name and last initial, and we will gladly refill as needed.

We are here to help your child and you through these developmental years. If you have any questions, or concerns, please don't hesitate to let us know. You may reach us in numerous ways: by calling RHA and asking for the Colts room, stopping by during the day, or through the ProCare app. Ms. Kaleigh is VERY BIG on communication, and truly understands the importance of having that open communication with all parents.

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Ms. Kaleigh • Ms. Ava • Ms. Emma • Ms. Lindsay

