

2/11/2022

Dear Parents of Blue Door,

This week in Blue Door we talked about Valentine's Day. During Circle Time the teacher spoke about the colors that are commonly seen which are Red, White, and Pink. The classroom is decorated with hearts that also have these colors and each child was asked what color each heart was. Also, the teacher told the children that Valentine's Day is a day that we show love to our friends and family. The teacher also spoke about some of the ways that we show love to our friends and family. Some of the ways would be by sharing our toys and being nice to one another. When the teacher asked what some of the ways were that they are nice to their friends and family we heard some answers like these. Some children said by sharing their cookies and ice cream with mommy and daddy, cleaning up their toys when they are done playing and sharing their toys with their brother.

For Art, the children enjoyed working on the surprises that they are getting ready for their families. Valentine's Day heart caterpillar was lots of fun. The children were given red and pink hearts and they glued them onto construction paper in a straight line and added the eyes to it. Dotty heart Valentine's craft was a blast the children had lots of fun doing this art project. The children were given a heart shape that was cut from a paper plate and they decorated it using do.a.dot markers and then glued a popsicle stick to it and the eyes as well. They dipped their hands into red paint and then onto construction paper and added the green leaf that goes on top of the strawberry and this project is called I love you berry much. The children also enjoyed putting different themed puzzles together and they love building with Legos. Mr. Potato Head is another favorite. Decorating their Valentine's bag was fun as well. They decorated it by using Do.a.Dot markers

Toddlers (2-3 years of age)

Developmental Milestones

Skills such as taking turns, playing make believe, and kicking a ball, are called developmental milestones. Developmental milestones are things most children can do by a certain age. Children reach milestones in how they play, learn, speak, behave, and move (like jumping, running, or balancing).

Because of children's growing desire to be independent, this stage is often called the "terrible twos." However, this can be an exciting time for parents and toddlers. Toddlers will experience huge thinking, learning, social, and emotional changes that will help them to explore their new world, and make sense of it. During this stage, toddlers should be able to follow two- or three-step directions, sort objects by shape and color, imitate the actions of adults and playmates, and express a wide range of emotions.

Positive Parenting Tips

Following are some of the things you, as a parent, can do to help your toddler during this time:

Set up a special time to read books with your toddler.  
Encourage your child to take part in pretend play.  
Play parade or follow the leader with your toddler.  
Help your child to explore things around her by taking her on a walk or wagon ride.  
Encourage your child to tell you his name and age.  
Teach your child simple songs like Itsy Bitsy Spider, or other cultural childhood rhymes.  
Give your child attention and praise when she follows instructions and shows positive behavior and limit attention for defiant behavior like tantrums. Teach your child acceptable ways to show that she's upset.

#### Positive Parenting Tip Sheet

Toddlers (2-3 years of age)

##### Child Safety First

Because your child is moving around more, he will come across more dangers as well. Dangerous situations can happen quickly, so keep a close eye on your child. Here are a few tips to help keep your growing toddler safe:

Do NOT leave your toddler near or around water (for example, bathtubs, pools, ponds, lakes, whirlpools, or the ocean) without someone watching her. Fence off backyard pools. Drowning is the leading cause of injury and death among this age group.  
Encourage your toddler to sit when eating and to chew his food thoroughly to prevent choking. Check toys often for loose or broken parts.  
Encourage your toddler not to put pencils or crayons in her mouth when coloring or drawing.  
Do NOT hold hot drinks while your child is sitting on your lap. Sudden movements can cause a spill and might result in your child's being burned.  
Make sure that your child sits in the back seat and is buckled up properly in a car seat with a harness.

##### Healthy Bodies:

Your toddler might change what food she likes from day to day. It's normal behavior, and it's best not to make an issue of it. Encourage her to try new foods by offering her small bites to taste.

Keep television sets out of your child's bedroom. Set limits for screen time for your child to no more than 1 hour per day of quality programming, at home, school, or afterschool care and develop a media use plan for your family .

Encourage free play as much as possible. It helps your toddler stay active and strong and helps him develop motor skills.

Make sure your child gets the recommended amount of sleep each night: For toddlers 1-2 years, 11–14 hours per 24 hours (including naps)

Parents please wash your child's blanket and return to school on Monday. Check with the teacher to see if your child needs clean clothing or pullups.

Please make sure their nails are cut short so that way they do not scratch themselves or their friends. We hope you are enjoying the picture the teacher sends through Brightwheel!

Music class was lots of fun as always. The music teacher brought in a Lollipop drum and each child had a turn in hitting the drum. They had a great time hitting the drum.

Have a nice weekend!

Mrs. Cindy

Mrs. Luz