

June 2024 | Skip-a-Long Childhood Center – Rock Island

Staff Spotlight



Hi! I'm Marlon McGee. I'm the Rainbow 1 school-age teacher and I also drive the van. I have been a part of Skip-a-long for 27 years. I have lived in this community my whole life so of course one of my responsibilities is to provide quality childcare to the families we serve.



We would like to give a BIG shout out this month to two of our employees-Jenisa Morales-Padilla and Jelseca Walls. They have received their CDA credential after months of hard work!

From The Director

The Importance of Dramatic Play
Dramatic play, also commonly referred to as imaginary play or pretend play, is an important component of early learning. When children dress up and pretend to be someone other than themselves, they get to be creative and to imagine and explore different roles and relationships.

Dramatic play in a group setting strengthens social-emotional skills, as children collaborate with their peers, learn about different cultures, take on a variety of perspectives, and think about the experiences of others.

How Dramatic Play Supports Social-Emotional Learning and Development - good2know (good2knownetwork.org)

Orange Room



Children are natural explorers. Set some basic boundaries, and let the child discover. The learning will come. Children use all of their senses to explore. They look and listen to observe what is happening around them, touch what they can reach, smell the fresh scents of nature, and occasionally taste when given permission. They run, jump, dig, and climb as they discover new places.

https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/explore-great-outdoor

Contact Us

Skip-a-Long Childhood Center – Rock Island
1609 4th Street | Rock Island, IL 61201
Phone: (309) 788-0426 | Fax: (309) 788-8727

Email: pata@skip-a-long.org

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June 2024 | Skip-a-Long Childhood Center – Davenport

Staff Spotlight

Please help us welcome Markeysha to our Skip-a-Long Childhood Center – Davenport team. Markeysha started in our Front Bunnies classroom in April.



"I have been in child care for over 8 years. I am from Iowa and graduated from North High School in 2012. I have six children, 2 boys and 4 girls! I enjoy being a mother and a teacher. Outside of work life, I enjoy traveling and trying new things. I love sunflowers, quiet time, working, dancing, road trips, cooking for my children, being outside in the sun, and movie dates with my family!"

From The Director

June is here and that means a lot of summer fun outdoors for families and staff. Recent media reports have shared that ticks may be even more prevalent due to a milder winter.

Our center has had its contracted pest control company treat the outdoor area, as well as ensuring the landscaping company keeps lawns mowed frequently.

Staff are being sure to check children as well for ticks when returning inside.

For more information on tick safety, please visit: https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/index.html

Classroom Feature

Turtles



Our turtles' room is full of our littlest ones - 6 weeks to 9 months – here at our Davenport center. They recently had fun exploring their snappy pea plants they are growing in the classroom!

Contact Us

Skip-a-Long Childhood Centers - Davenport
3520 Crow Creek Road | Davenport, IA 52807
Phone: (563) 441-9998 | Fax: (563) 424-6650
Email: jllll@skip-a-long.org

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www.facebook.com/skipalongchildhoodcenters



June 2024 | Skip-a-Long Childhood Center - Milan

Staff Spotlight

Heather Mittman



Hello. My name is Heather Mittman.

I have been with Skip-a-Long Childhood Centers for 6 years. I have been an EHS teacher in the Teddy Bears infant room for the last 3.5 years.

I am currently working on my bachelor's degree in early childhood education. I will graduate in May of next year. In my free time I like to go camping with my family and spend time with my granddaughter.

From The Director

Fun things to do with kids this summer in the QCA:

- Check out the Rock Island Library calendar. There are multiple events.
- Fejervary Park has Youth Fest.
- The Village of East Davenport has Farm Days Fest.
- Cinemark and Regal have $1 movie days.
- Bettendorf Family Museum has a new Imagination art area.
- Don't forget about the Putnam Museum and the IMAX!

Have a great summer!

Classroom Feature

Grasshopper Classroom



Rain suits and boots have been purchased to enable the children to explore the world outdoors on days when the weather is not the best.

This enables the children to spend more time exploring their interest of the outside world.

Upcoming Events

All Skip-a-Long Childhood Center locations will be closed Thursday, July 4th.

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www.facebook.com/skipalongchildhoodcenters



June, 2024 | Skip-a-Long Childhood Center - Moline

Staff spotlight

Missy



Hello, my name is Missy Walling. I am a teacher in the Little Llama classroom. I have been working at Skip-a-Long for nineteen and a half years.

My favorite part of engaging and working with preschool age children is watching them grow and accomplish milestones of learning.

I always tell the children "Keep practicing, you can do it"! Followed by "kiss your brain, you did it!"

I strive to provide the children with a safe and fun learning environment.

In my free time, I enjoy working outside in my yard, reading outdoors, and watching the birds.

From The Director

Summer Sun Safety

Warm summer days are wonderful! It's beneficial for children to spend time playing and exercising outdoors, but it is also important that they enjoy it safely.

Tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics:

1) Keep babies younger than 6 months out of direct sunlight.
2) Select clothes made with a tight weave. If you are not sure, hold the article of clothing up to the sun and see how much light passes through. The less light, the better.
3) Wear a hat with a 3-inch brim to shield the face, ears, and back of the neck.
4) Limit your sun exposure between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., when UV rays are the strongest.
5) Wear a "broad spectrum" sunscreen.

Classroom Feature

Tiger Cubs



Maverik, Lorelie, and Zeeland are all playing together at the water table. Not only are they having fun, but they are learning how to work together by taking turns and respecting one another's space. Parallel play encourages language development, motor development along with social and emotional growth.

Contact Us

Skip-a-Long Childhood Center – Moline

Monday through Friday
7:00am – 5:30pm
Phone: 309-764-8110/Fax: 309-764-8281

Please contact the center prior to 9:30am if your child will be absent.