

Grant Road Daycare News



Spring Break

Volume 9, Issue 4



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Spring is here and so is Spring Fever! Spring fever can mean many different things to all of us. For some it makes us antsy and excited, ready to head out doors and have some fun! For others it may be a good time to relax and enjoy life around us, take a nap in a hammock or go for a picnic outside. Going to the baseball fields, going fishing or hiking sounds like fun. Taking the opportunity before it gets "Houston Hot" and spending time

with your family doing something fun outdoors is what I would usually suggest.

However the weather recently has been pretty gray. These days it's been either chilly and windy or muggy and overcast. If your taking off work you may want to find some fun indoor activities. Cy-Fair and Tomball school districts will be out at the same time again this year.

School age children please remember to

bring a sack lunch! We will have plenty of activities to keep the kids busy. Outdoor play (weather permitting). More than likely a lot of Indoor play, games and art projects!

We hope that if you are traveling that you have a safe and wonderful trip.

For the rest of you that will be joining us that week, we will be happy to see you

**We will be
OPEN
SPRING
BREAK!**

Welcome

We would like to welcome all of our new and returning children and families!

Claire Bunting, Chase Clayton, Carter Irvin, Jayda & Syrae Jimerson, Ryan Kendall, Averie Lockstedt, Tristan Panyanouvong, Aimee Phan, Tyree Smith, Arian Sosa, Mikaila Stolp, Bennett Wu

Thank you for choosing to join our Grant Road family. We are happy you're with us and we can't wait to get to know you all! If you have any questions or there is anything you need, please stop by the office and we will be more than happy to help!

Spring Portraits

Time to find those cute and handsome outfits for the day! We will do our best to be sure hair is combed, noses and faces are cleaned before the pictures are taken.



Spring portraits will be March 27th and taken between 7:45am &

Spring Portraits will be done by Life Touch. All pictures will be available for viewing and purchase around two weeks after the photos are taken.

Gym/TKD

Every Monday we have Gymnastics for almost all ages. Coach Jeff Martin joins us at the Day Care with Athletic on Wheels! Mini-Meets are held every year to which parents will be invited. If you are not yet signed up for Gymnastics you can speak to someone in the office about doing so.

We also have Beginner & Advanced Tae Kwan Do every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after school. These classes are held in the blue room at the Daycare. We are proud to say the children now have belts of all colors, including Black Belts!!! Each achievement is truly a magnificent rise in self esteem for the kids! We are so proud of how well they are doing and how far they have come in their commitment to the sport! Great job to our black belts! You have worked so hard and been so dedicated.

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FREE

Spread the word! Did you know that if you recommend us to a friend and they attend the daycare that you can receive a credit for free daycare? For more information and questions please speak to someone in the front office.

Staying focused until Summer

With spring break coming warmer weather will soon follow. With warmer weather comes the excitement of getting outside and doing anything other than sitting in a classroom or doing homework. So what's next? Summer! Most students look forward to it and they tend to get very bored and anxious with the last few months of school. It can be hard to focus. Here are a few ways to help keep your children focus and stay on task until the end of school. (This may also be helpful in keeping your hair color and sanity as parents.)

☆ Save time later for ipods, ipads, phones, tv, computer and game time. These can over stimulate the brain and fracture their focus. Time to cool off and settle down with something fun is great. But, it is important to **Limit Screen Time**. Right now is the time children should be learning how to focus. Too many distractions interrupts that ability to stay tuned into one thing at a time. Some may benefit from classical music while doing homework as it is calming and soothing to the mind.

☆ **Keep Goals and Expectations**. Setting goals and expectations is important to do upfront. Children have control over few things in their life. Setting Goals helps foster a sense of security and pushes them to achieve something for themselves. Achieving these goals gives them confidence and will encourage them to try hard and work hard. Let them help set some goals. Goals like perfect attendance, passing a math quiz with a concept they are struggling with, good behavior for the week, an hour of quiet time for homework each night, finishing homework and chores before play time. PRAISE goes a long way. Our children are always looking to make us proud. Praise them during progress, praise them when they meet their goals. Make a reward system for when they achieve their goals. Setting and keeping these goals also creates a routine for homework and studying that will be easier to maintain as they work through school.

☆ Have a **Designated Quiet Space** to do homework. Have supplies handy for them so the distractions of repeatedly getting up wont be an issue. Supply snack and water for fuel while they're working so a grumbly tummy won't be another distraction.

☆ **Communication** with teachers and your child is key. Both need to know you are willing to help out. Be ready to help when needed, parental support is so important. Ask if help is needed, some children get wrapped up in frustration and don't think to ask for help. Check their work, give positive feed back and gently let them know when corrections are needed.



Being able to focus, concentrate and maintain good study habits are life skills that will set your children up for success in all aspects of their lives—from the baseball field to the stage. It's not just about completing assignments, it's about establishing self-discipline and perseverance that will give them the ability and confidence to pursue goals, manage setbacks and know what it takes to achieve. ~ The Kumon Learning center

Reminders

- Mother's Day is May 10th. Be sure and show her how much you care!
- We will also be closed Monday, May 25th for Memorial Day.
- Remember all fees are due every Monday each week, unless you pay monthly. You can sign up now for Tuition Express!
- Don't forget to bring a lunch if your children are ages 4 and up.
- If you have a school age child please remember to pack them a sack lunch on the days they are with us when school is out.
- We check our toys regularly to make sure they are safe and have not been recalled. If you have questions or concerns about your toys at home you can visit www.recalls.gov to check for any recently recalled toys.
- Every Friday is Spirit Day, wear your GRDC Shirts!
- Sign your child in/out DAILY!!!!
- To advertise with us in this newsletter contact Ms. Jaime at jjkayna@hotmail.com

We will be
CLOSED
April 3rd on
Good Friday.



Easter Party

The Easter bunny will be hopping by...though you might not see him! He will be leaving special treats hidden all around the day care! We will have our Easter egg hunt in the backyard. If it is a rainy day we will go to the blue room for our Easter fun. Our preschool Easter party will be held Thursday, April 2nd from 9:30-10:30am.

Please DO NOT bring Easter baskets, We do not have room for them and the children will be making their own special bags in their class! Also, have your child bring 3 plastic eggs with wrapped candy inside. We will have Easter snacks and games and stories!

If you would like to participate we need cupcakes and cookies for snack! We would also like to encourage the parents and grandparents to come and join us. Having you here with us makes the day so special for your little ones.



Learning to Tie

Ah, the success of learning to tie. Such a big step for our preschool and kindergarteners. Awesome for you, they can tie their own shoes.....once they learn. Teaching children to tie their shoes and a child learning to tie can be two of the most frustrating things in life. But with lots of practice and A LOT of patience from both of you, it's such a big milestone and reason to celebrate! Here are some tips on shoe tying.

There are **3 Ways to teach** tying. Bunny Ears: two loops, one goes around the other and pull through. The "easy" way.

(I don't think any way is "easy") Circle Tying: Make a tree, bunny goes around the tree and out the other side, pull tight! This is the traditional way to tie shoes.

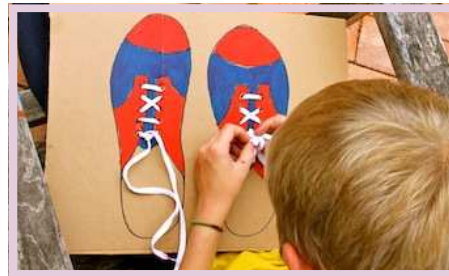
Magic Fingers: Holding two loops, grab the circles to pull through. (You may need to YouTube this one, as it is a bit hard to explain.) The fancy way.

All children learn differently. If you are having trouble with one technique, why not try another? Some things are better understood when it's gone about a different way.

Practice makes perfect. Take a little time each day to work on shoe tying. Just five minutes a day is plenty of time to learn. Repetition with any new skill is key.

Make it fun. Make up a story to interest them; Squirrel running around the tree, batman flying around the city, bunny ears. Make up a song like the peter rabbit song. Watch how-to videos for the visual learners. Make a cardboard shoe for practice time.

Cut two different colored shoe strings in half and sew them together and lace back in his shoes. Sometimes seeing the difference between the two laces will help them get a better understanding of what exactly is happening during the tying process.



Frustration! When practice becomes a battle, just take a break. Come back to it later. Let them see you or an older sibling tying shoes. They'll come around. Let it be a stress free fun activity. Make sure you aren't insisting to practice when they are tired or hungry, it will almost always end bad. For the hardcore, I don't want to do it crowd, be patient. Point out other children tying their shoes. "Look how she tied her shoes, and what pretty laces she has." Don't speak down to your child about it, just praise the whole shoe tying process. Once they

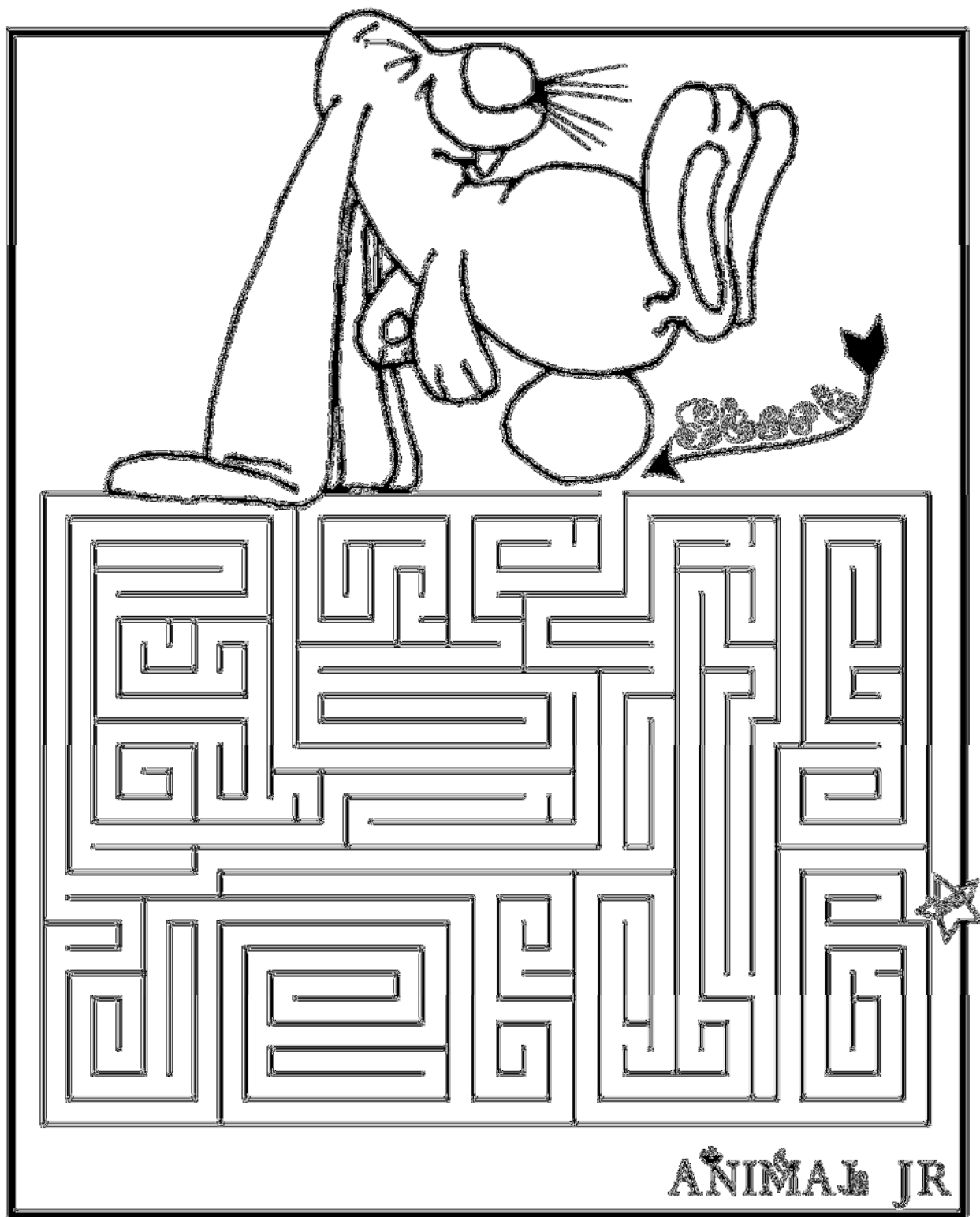
see their peers tying, they will more than likely come around.

When? Kindergarten age (5-6-7yrs old) is the age when they should be learning. They are at an age when they are capable of tying, their "do it myself" attitude is at an all time high, they are growing to be more independent and it's good for their fine motor skills. At this age they should be able to fully dress themselves and put their own shoes on. Just remember, all children grow and learn at different paces. Some learn early at 3 or 4 yrs. Old (WOW!), others may just need an extra year of Velcro and slip-ons! Either way, it is a skill that can be mastered with practice and patience.



There are many new products on the market to help aid in shoe tying. Call me old fashion but I think learning it the "hard way" is better in the long run. Why make them relearn a skill later when they are fully capable of learning to do it now?

Spring
Forward!
**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS**
begins
March 8th.



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Bring in Spring!



Y Y U B J O X S U N S H I N E
 T A K U X M A R C H N R W K F
 V M Q N C M K P B V A P N S D
 X U G N I R P S R I G L M Z D
 F S I I X M T Z N I Q K R J H
 J L J E M Y E K Q O L S J F T
 O Z O S I G S T W Y Z Y J W W
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 V D E K F N O I L K T E B I E
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APRIL	FLOWERS	MAY
BASKET	KITES	RAIN
BUNNIES	LAMB	SPRING
EASTER	LION	SUNSHINE
EGGHUNT	MARCH	WIND

Birthdays

MARCH: 2yrs. Autumn King 5yrs. Graycen Tello & Aden Thomas 8yrs.
Tyler Grant & Shrerard Hunter Jr. 10yrs. Katelyn Duong

APRIL: 2yrs. Brooke Harman & Adelynn Shumann 3yrs. Jeffery Bell Jr.
4yrs. Victoria Alayon. 6yrs. Victoria Alayon, Alaric Crantson & Elena
Henriquez 8yrs. Audree Popp 9yrs. Vivian Netterville 10yrs. Ethan
Contreras, Tran Taylor

MAY: 3yrs. Joshua Stout 4yrs. Gabriel King 7yrs. Lucas Madrigal 8yrs.

GRANT ROAD DAYCARE

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Carrot Shaped Calzones

Ingredients:

- 1 Can Pillsbury Crescent Rolls or pizza crust
- 3/4 Cup Shredded Mozzarella
- 1/2 Cup Shredded Cheddar
- 1/4 Cup sun dried tomatoes
- Pepperoni slices
- 2 tsp Garlic seasoning
- 3 tsp Italian Seasoning
- Red & Yellow food coloring
- Olive Oil
- 1 tbs. Parmesan
- Garlic Salt



Directions:

Mix mozzarella, cheddar, tomatoes, pepperoni, garlic seasoning and Italian seasoning. Flatten out crescent rolls into a wide triangle shape. Fill with Cheese/pepperoni mixture in the middle, fold add more and fold the other side in making the carrot shape. Mix about 25 drops of yellow and 2-3 drops of red to make orange. Brush on Food coloring mix, olive oil and then sprinkle with garlic salt and parmesan. Bake @350 for 15 mins. or until crust is cooked through. Once cooked add cilantro (or other greens) to the top to finish your Carrot calzone. Enjoy!