



A CHILDREN OF AMERICA NEWSLETTER

## Dr. Vicki's

# VIEW

### Questions from Parents of Two Year Olds



### BEDTIME READING CLUB

Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley is our March book choice. This one is good for building color recognition skills.

Click, Clack, Quackity, Quack by Doreen Cronin is our April book choice. This one is great for alphabet recognition practice.

Alphabet Rescue by Audrey Wood poses the question: How many letters of the alphabet does it take to build a fire truck? Children find out during the month of May.



### FAMILY FUN RECIPE

#### Sunshine Biscuits

1 package of refrigerator biscuits  
Apple jelly  
Plastic Knife

Separate the biscuits onto a cookie sheet. Cut the edges 1/2 way to the center to form the "rays" of the sun. Push down the center with your thumb to create an indent. Fill the indent with a small spoonful of the apple jelly. Bake as directed. Serve warm and enjoy the sunshine!

The following are questions often asked by parents:

#### **"Why does my child always ask why, why, why?"**

Two year olds are working through the power stage, establishing their independent identity. They can be stubborn and contrite. Sometimes they are better behaved in a child care situation than they are at home because they really enjoy being with other children so they tend to cooperate with the teacher. Their language is increasing rapidly and so is the inquisitive mind. Asking why engages the adult in conversation, keeps an adult's attention, and keeps the two year old in control of the presence and attention of the adult. Between 200 – 1000 words are being added to his vocabulary so the answers to "why" questions help to increase language development. Be very specific in your answers to why questions so that the child is not only developing new words but increasing memory. Your contribution will make or break the love of reading that will follow shortly. Remember, don't talk at the children, but talk **with** them.

you engage the child in an interesting object and begin asking them the why questions they will increase vocabulary, be satisfied that you paid attention to them and the why questions will decrease because you are meeting their insatiable curiosity.

#### **"Why does my child fixate on one toy, which he/she must have before leaving the house or going to bed?"**

It's me, my, and mine time with two year olds. It's common for a child to fixate on one constant object or prize possession. It may be the only constant in their thinking. They do not have temporal memory to understand the passing of time, so this object might represent the bedtime ritual or morning ritual in the home. The day may be rushed, varied, changed from day to day, the child's personality may need a reminder of "when it is okay", reminding them of home, their room, parents, etc. Be aware that your child may go through this stage and be prepared to allow for time to always find the precious object, and convey that your child's need for it is okay, which in turn might calm your child down about finding it because he feels safe with you.

## EVENT ALERTS

### Career of the Month

During March we recognize the dentist – a community helper. See our lobby display during February and March. We encourage you and your child to visit your dentist regularly.

April and May we are focusing on the florist. Many occasions are accented with flowers and the florist provides us with happy memories and sweet fragrances. Several of the weeks in April's curriculum emphasize Planting and Flowers in Bloom.

## HEALTH FOCUS

March is designated as National Nutrition Month sponsored annually by the American Dietetic Association. The campaign is designed to focus attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

**Celebrate National Garden Month in April. Visit [www.familycrafts.com](http://www.familycrafts.com) for fun projects to do at home. Doing crafts together promotes healthy fun!**

May is Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Stretch and play together!

## CURRICULUM THEMES

During the month of March you children are learning about...

People Who Help Us  
Windy Weather  
Outer Space  
Transportation  
Desert

April's curriculum themes are...

Farm Life  
Planting  
Flowers in Bloom  
Beautiful Bugs

May finds us learning about...

Nature  
Mothers are Special  
Sea Life  
Circus  
A Year of Learning

Your child is learning every day at Children of America. Teachers are observing and recording your child's growth and building a portfolio of work for the preschool age children.

During your next preschool parent/teacher conference ask to see your child's portfolio for a year of writing samples, scissor cutting and drawings showing marked improvement in these skills.

Our preschool age groups are busy learning through our Journeys into Early Music and Tray Tasking activities as well as our Spanish words, phrases and songs.

## SUMMER CAMP 2007

It's not too early to begin planning your child's summer with Children of America. For working parents' convenience we provide continuous care from the day elementary school ends until it begins again at the end of summer.

Have you registered yet? Don't wait...  
**ENROLL NOW**  
for a fun packed summer adventure!