



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012 TAX ID # 27-282714 EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ

"THOSE WE LOVE ARE THE SNOWFLAKES OF LIFE. NONE ARE THE SAME, EACH IS BEAUTIFUL, AND ALL BRING SOMETHING SPECIAL TO OUR WORLD."

AUTHOR: -- AUTHOR: MARTIN BUBER

DIRECT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RICCI WASSERMAN



IT WAS SUCH A PLEASURE MEETING SO MANY OF YOU AT THE VARIOUS HOLIDAY PARTIES AND IN THE SCHOOLS THIS FALL. MY HUSBAND JOEL AND I REALLY ENJOY THE WARM AND LOVING SPIRIT WE FIND IN OUR SCHOOLS. SEPTEMBER 2012 WILL MARK 30 YEARS SINCE WE FOUNDED PRIME TIME. THE CHILDREN, PARENTS AND STAFF HAVE WARMED OUR HEARTS FOR SO MANY YEARS. THANK YOU ALL.

AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE A LARGE IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAY IN THE FALL FOR ALL OUR STAFF. WE WORK LONG AND HARD TO MAKE THE DAY VERY USEFUL AND TO PROVIDE OUR STAFF THE REQUIRED TRAINING HOURS MANDATED BY THE STATE. WE (NANCY NATHANSON, B.S. MED – REGIONAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR AND CHRISTINE TARALLO, B.A. REGIONAL MANAGER AND I) HAVE THE STAFF EVALUATIONS OF THE DAY. I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME OF THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE IN COMMON WITH OUR STAFF:

WHAT CAN BE DONE AT NAPTIME WHEN A CHILD DOESN'T SLEEP? MAKE THE ATMOSPHERE SLEEP FRIENDLY – DIM THE LIGHTS, PLAY QUIET MUSIC, A BACK RUB AND MOST IMPORTANT - A ROUTINE. BY TWO (2) YEARS OLD, CHILDREN FALL INTO THE ROUTINE QUITE EASILY. WHEN THERE ARE DIVERSIONS SUCH AS A CHILD ARRIVING AT UNUSUAL TIMES, A FIRE DRILL, OR THE GARBAGE TRUCK COMES LATE AND GRABS THEIR ATTENTION, IT TAKES LONGER TO SETTLE IN. AS A CHILD GETS OLDER, HE/SHE

MAY NEED LESS SLEEP. THEY CAN GENERALLY QUIET DOWN WITH A PICTURE, BOOK, OR QUIET TOY SO THEY AND THEIR FRIENDS CAN REST. REMEMBER, IF A CHILD IS NOT TIRED, IT IS TORTURE FOR BOTH OF YOU TO TRY TO MAKE HIM/HER SLEEP. SETTLE FOR A SHORT REST AND QUIET ACTIVITIES UNTIL REQUIRED NAP TIME IS OVER.

HOW DO YOU GET A CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ACTIVITY IF HE/SHE DOESN'T WANT TO? MAKE THE ACTIVITY AS INTERESTING AS YOU CAN, BUT PROVIDE ALTERNATIVES. THAT'S WHY WE USE CENTERS, SO CHILDREN CAN CHOOSE WHAT INTERESTS HIM/HER BUT CAN SEE WHAT OTHERS ARE FINDING EQUALLY INTERESTING. MAYBE NEXT TIME THEY WILL JOIN IN SOMETHING NEW.

IF WE TEACH NONVERBAL INFANTS AND TODDLERS TO USE SIGN LANGUAGE WILL IT HINDER THEM ACQUIRING SPEECH? UNLESS A CHILD LACKS THE PHYSICAL PROPRIETIES FOR SPEECH, IT WILL NOT. SIGNING IS JUST AN EASIER WAY FOR SOME CHILDREN TO GET THEIR NEEDS KNOWN.

HOW CAN WE GET ARTWORK DONE PROPERLY? THERE IS NO PROPER WAY. ART IS AN INDIVIDUAL, CREATIVE PROCESS. THE JOB OF THE ADULT IS TO SHOW THE CHILD A VARIETY OF SAMPLES, PROVIDE A VARIETY OF MATERIALS, AND NOT ASK, "WHAT IS THAT YOU'RE DOING/MAKING?"

IF YOU LIKE THIS Q & A AND WOULD LIKE IT CONTINUED OR HAVE QUESTIONS OF YOUR OWN, LET US KNOW AT PT1SCH@AOL.COM.

DIRECT FROM THE REGIONAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR, NANCY NATHANSON

YOUNG CHILDREN NEED TO PLAY



HOPEFULLY, OVER THIS BUSY HOLIDAY SEASON YOU AND YOUR CHILD WERE ABLE TO SET ASIDE

SOME "DOWNTIME" – UNSTRUCTURED, LEISURE TIME PLAYING TOGETHER.

PLAY AND ITS' IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN A HOT TOPIC IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FIELD FOR QUITE SOME TIME. IT SEEMS AMAZING THAT WE HAVE TO EXPLAIN THAT CONCEPT! OFTEN PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS ASK THE QUESTION: "HOW DO I PLAY WITH MY CHILD?" OR "WHAT IS MY ROLE?" THESE ARE WONDERFUL QUESTIONS FOR THOSE UNSURE OF THE DYNAMICS INVOLVED.

A RECENT ARTICLE IN THE HIGH TECH MAGAZINE, "WIRED", INTERESTINGLY LISTED THE FIVE (5) BEST TOYS OF ALL TIME:

1. STICK
2. BOX
3. STRING
4. CARDBOARD TUBE
5. DIRT
6. BALL

AREN'T YOU JUST THRILLED TO HEAR THAT AFTER ALL THOSE NEW TOYS ARE FILLING YOUR CHILD'S CLOSET! THE REASON THIS RINGS SO TRUE IS WE AS ADULTS SOMETIMES FORGET WHAT IS TRULY FUN FOR OUR CHILDREN – AND MOST BENEFICIAL!! SPONTANEOUS PLAY OCCURS WHEN CHILDREN DO AN ACTIVITY FREELY. IF CHILDREN ORGANIZE A BALL GAME, DRAMATIC PLAY, OR A GAME OF HIDE-AND-SEEK, THEY ARE MEETING THEIR NEEDS FOR SPONTANEOUS PLAY. SPONTANEOUS PLAY IS DIFFERENT FROM ENROLLING CHILDREN IN LITTLE LEAGUE OR SIGNING THEM UP FOR DANCE LESSONS. CHILDREN BENEFIT MOST FROM A BALANCE BETWEEN PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND SPONTANEOUS FREE PLAY.

PLAY CAN BE AN EFFECTIVE AND ENJOYABLE WAY FOR CHILDREN TO DEVELOP SKILLS:

*LANGUAGE SKILLS - WHEN THEY PLAY NAME GAMES, SING SONGS, AND RECITE JUMP ROPE RHYMES.

*THINKING SKILLS - WHEN THEY CONSTRUCT A BLOCK TOWER, FOLLOW DIRECTIONS TO A GAME, OR DO A PUZZLE.

*CREATIVE SKILLS - WHEN THEY MAKE UP STORIES, PUT ON A PUPPET SHOW, AND PLAY DRESS-UP.

*SOCIAL SKILLS - WHEN THEY TEAM UP TO PLAY BALL GAMES AND DECIDE WHO WILL PLAY WHAT PART IN DRAMATIC PLAY.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMOVE BARRIERS TO CHILDREN'S OPPORTUNITIES TO PLAY, SUCH AS TOO MANY STRUCTURED ACTIVITIES AND



TOO MUCH TELEVISION. IF A CHILD SAYS, "I'M BORED," HE/SHE MAY NEED MORE UNSTRUCTURED TIME FOR PLAY. PARENTS OFTEN HEAR CHILDREN COMPLAIN ABOUT BOREDOM WHEN ACTIVITIES ARE NOT SCHEDULED FOR THEM. CHILDREN NEED "DOWN TIME" AND TIME TO BE ALONE. THESE ARE THE OCCASIONS WHEN A CHILD'S IMAGINATION AND CREATIVITY TAKE HOLD.

"PLAY IS NOT A LUXURY BUT RATHER A CRUCIAL DYNAMIC OF HEALTHY, PHYSICAL, INTELLECTUAL AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AT ALL AGE LEVELS." - DAVID ELKIND

**DIRECTOR FROM YOUR DIRECTOR,
TRACY DIAMOND**

WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR! I HOPE EVERYONE ENJOYED THEIR HOLIDAYS. WE ARE SO EXCITED TO HAVE OUR INFANT AND TODDLER CLASSROOMS OFFICIALLY OPENED JUST IN TIME TO START OFF A GREAT YEAR! I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME ALL OF OUR NEW FAMILIES WHO JOINED US. WE ARE VERY HAPPY TO HAVE YOU AS A PART OF OUR PRIME TIME FAMILY.

OUR FAMILY HOLIDAY PARTY WAS GREAT! THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARENTS WHO BROUGHT REFRESHMENTS FOR EVERYONE TO SHARE. THE KIDS ENJOYED THE ART PROJECTS AND ESPECIALLY LOVED OUR VISIT FROM SANTA!

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY BRING US COLD WEATHER. PLEASE MAKE SURE TO DRESS YOUR CHILD APPROPRIATELY AND CHECK YOUR CHILD'S BIN TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE APPROPRIATE CLOTHING. HOPEFULLY, WE WILL HAVE A CALM WINTER. IN CASE OF SCHOOL CLOSINGS OR DELAYED OPENINGS, THERE WILL BE A MESSAGE ON OUR WEBSITE, AN E-MAIL TO THE PARENTS, AND A MESSAGE ON THE SCHOOL'S PHONE. WE REALIZE PARENTS HAVE TO WORK AND TRY OUR BEST TO STAY OPEN.

REMINDERS

- TUITION IS DUE BETWEEN THE 1ST AND 5TH OF EVERY MONTH.
- IF YOU NEED TO CHANGE YOUR CHILD'S SCHEDULE, PLEASE SEE ME AT ANY TIME.
- WE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND FOR NEW YEARS AND MONDAY,



FEBRUARY 20TH FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY!
WE ARE OFF TO A GREAT YEAR!!!

DIRECT FROM YOUR EDUCATIONAL
DIRECTOR, MARGARET GARBOCKI
WINTER IS UPON US, WHICH MEANS STAYING
INSIDE MORE OFTEN THAN USUAL.
THEREFORE, WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THE
WEATHER OUTSIDE IS FRIGHTFUL? IT'S TIME
FOR **FAMILY FUN**. HERE ARE SOME IDEAS
FOR THE FAMILY TO ENJOY DOING TOGETHER:

- THE KIDS CAN LEARN ABOUT THEIR FAMILY ROOTS. THE CHILDREN CAN FILL IN THE NAMES AND DRAW FACES ON THE FAMILY TREE BRANCHES.
- THE FAMILY CAN WATCH A MOVIE TOGETHER AT HOME INSTEAD OF SPENDING A FORTUNE AT THE MOVIES. LET THE KIDS CREATE MOVIE TICKETS, MAKE SNACKS, AND OPEN THEIR OWN CONCESSION STAND. AFTER THE MOVIE IS OVER, LET THEIR INNER CRITICS WRITE MOVIE REVIEWS OR DRAW A PICTURE.
- REDECORATING THE KIDS' ROOMS COULD BE FUN. KIDS SPEND A LOT OF TIME WITHIN THEIR FOUR BEDROOM WALLS DURING THE WINTER. IF THEY ARE STUCK INSIDE, SPRUCE UP THEIR ROOMS IN THE WINTER MONTHS.
- COOKING TOGETHER AS A FAMILY IS ALSO FUN. THE YOUNGEST "CHEFS-IN-TRAINING" CAN GATHER INGREDIENTS, HELP STIR, AND CLEAN UP.

WELCOME NEW CHILDREN

ERIN – DINOS
DANIELLA – ANGELS A
JON – AFTERSCHOOL
NINA – SNUGLIES
VICTORIA – ANGELS A
ARDEN – SNUGLIES
DAVIS – SNUGLIES

DATES TO REMEMBER

MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND – SCHOOL CLOSED –
OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH – SCHOOL CLOSED –
PRESIDENT'S DAY



Also, we are in the process of planning our Summer Camp schedule. It is never too early to plan ahead! Each school is planning a fun and affordable summer camp while keeping it exciting and fun!

We have some new field trips planned along with some proven favorites. Please let us know your interest in staying with Prime Time over the summer.

Every January we include a questionnaire to parents and teachers to gather feedback so we may continue to improve our programs. We are always interested in hearing what you have to say. So please take a moment to fax, email or mail your completed questionnaire.



Enfamil recall: As most of you may have heard, Wal-Mart pulled Enfamil from their shelves following the death of an infant in Missouri. They are still investigating whether or not the water used in the preparation of the formula was a factor in this recall. However, below is a section on recalls that Prime Time includes in every newsletter. We do this to protect the children in our care as well as inform our parents. You may also follow the link below to read about this recall from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Ctrl click to follow link.

<http://www.aap.org/en-us/Pages/Default.aspx?nfstatus=401&nftoken=00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000&nfstatusdescription=ERROR%3a+No+local+token>

PRODUCT RECALL WEBSITES

IT SEEMS THAT EVERY DAY WE HEAR OF A NEW BABY ITEM OR FOOD ITEM BEING RECALLED! WE HOPE THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES WILL HELP PARENTS KEEP TRACK OF RECALLED PRODUCTS. YOU CAN EVEN HAVE RECALLS SENT TO YOUR CELL PHONE OR EMAIL.

*CLICK.CHECKANDPROTECT.ORG
(CONSUMER REPORTS)

*CPSC.GOV (CONSUMER PRODUCTS SAFETY COMMISSION)

*T.SAFEPRODUCTS.GOV

*TEXT ALERTS – TEXT THE WORD “SAFE” TO
76666

PARENT REFERRAL!!!!

OUR GOAL HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO PROVIDE QUALITY CARE AND A “HOME AWAY FROM HOME” ATMOSPHERE FOR CHILDREN. WE KNOW THAT LEAVING YOUR CHILDREN IN THE CARE OF

OTHERS IS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION, AND WE HOPE THAT WE HAVE MADE IT EASIER FOR YOU. OUR FAMILIES ARE OUR BIGGEST ADVOCATES AND ADVERTISERS. IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE IN NEED OF A QUALITY EARLY LEARNING CENTER, PLEASE TELL THEM ABOUT PRIME TIME. THEY ARE WELCOME TO VISIT ANYTIME BETWEEN 9:00AM-5:00PM, NO APPOINTMENT IS NECESSARY. IF ONE OF YOUR REFERRALS REGISTERS AND REMAINS IN THE PROGRAM FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE MONTHS, YOU WILL RECEIVE A REFERRAL CREDIT; IT'S OUR WAY OF SAYING "THANKS." BE SURE TO LET US KNOW WHEN YOU REFER SOMEONE SO YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CREDIT. IF YOU CAN DROP SOME OF OUR BROCHURES TO YOUR HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICE, PLEASE LET US KNOW. WE WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH BROCHURES. WE WOULD LOVE TO INCLUDE PARENT TESTIMONIALS IN OUR BROCHURES AND ON OUR WEBSITE. PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO DROP ONE OFF IN THE OFFICE OR YOU CAN EMAIL IT DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL. WE ARE ALSO GATHERING LETTERS OF PRAISE FOR OUR STAFF AND/OR PROGRAM TO SHARE WITH POTENTIAL PARENTS. WE REALLY APPRECIATE ALL KIND AND USEFUL WORDS. THESE LETTERS ARE ALSO PUT INTO EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL FILES. THANK YOU.



PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MOMENTS TO PROVIDE US WITH YOUR FEEDBACK TO HELP US BETTER MEET YOUR NEEDS. FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, YOU MAY E-MAIL US AT PT1SCH@AOL.COM, FAX US AT (201) 236-2966, OR YOU MAY GET A STAMPED ENVELOPE IN THE OFFICE. WE APPRECIATE THE TIME TAKEN. THANK YOU!

OPTIONAL: SCHOOL: _____

YEARS AT PRIME TIME: _____

CHILD'S GROUP: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

REGARDING OUR PROGRAM:

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US? _____

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO US AND WHY DID YOU STAY? _____

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN OUR SUMMER CAMP AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS? _____

DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT OUR POLICIES? _____

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT OUR FIELD TRIPS AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES? _____

HOW MAY WE IMPROVE OUR SCHOOL/CLASS NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER FORMS OF COMMUNICATION? _____

STAFF: _____

HEALTH AND CLEANLINESS: _____

SUGGESTIONS: _____

COMPLAINTS: _____

APPLAUSE: _____