



May/ June Newsletter



Even though Teacher Appreciation Week is officially over, our appreciation for you and all of your hard work continues...more than we can express. Thank you for your willingness to come in early, stay late, and fill in the gaps in the schedule while we are in this staffing transition at the end of the semester. Thank you for your willingness to pitch in where needed to help our kids learn, have fun and be safe. We cannot be more grateful that you are willing to go above and beyond to make this a great place for our Basic Beginnings children to come to each day. Thank you! WE APPRECIATE YOU!!

Upcoming Inspections, Licensing and Accreditations

This is the time of year for visits from inspectors (Fire & Health), licensors (DFS) and possibly accreditors (WDE & NAEYC). The purpose of these inspections is to prove that we provide a safe, quality learning environment every day, not only when an inspector is in the building. We have an amazing early learning center!! All of our staff training prepares us for these visits.

IMPORTANT FOCUS AREAS If we do the following well, we should feel completely comfortable and proud to have anyone walk through our doors:

1. SAFETY - It is our job to keep the children safe. (Fire, Health, DFS, WDE & NAEYC)

- Vigilantly monitor the children - ALWAYS!
- Be constantly aware of what the children are doing.
- Keep out of reach of children anything that could cause fire, choking, strangulation or electric shock! Discard broken toys.
- In the classroom, position yourself so that you can see and hear all children.
- Outdoors, move around, constantly scan the play area so that you can see and hear the children. This allows you to:
 1. Connect with the children and learn what they like to play.
 2. Guide the children to play safely and interact kindly with others.
 3. Prevent overly rough or hurtful play.
- Watch for anyone who is not authorized to be on Basic Beginnings property.

2. HEALTH- It is our job to keep the children as healthy as possible. (Health, DFS, WDE & NAEYC)

- Wash hands often...your hands and the children's hands. This allows us to keep the spread of germs at a minimum.
- Label all pacifiers, bottles, water bottles, etc. with the child's name to prevent the "sharing" of germs.
- Make sure your cleaning solution bottles are clearly labeled "Soapy Water", "100 ppm Bleach Water", etc so everyone knows and uses the appropriate solution.

3. LEARNING ENVIRONMENT - It is our job to provide a quality learning experience for all children.

(DFS, WDE & NAEYC)

Utilize the 4 principles of the **FISH Philosophy** to make your learning space great:

1. Be There

*Interact with the children.

*Be present, listen carefully, build a relationship with each child. Then you know who you are working with and what interests them.

2. Make Their Day

*Plan learning activities that your children will be excited about and will want to participate in. We have **Creative Curriculum materials** available. Also check out age appropriate learning activities on Pinterest and TeachersPayTeachers (free section).

*Have the materials prepped and ready at the start of the day.

*The children will enjoy learning and you will see a decrease in behaviors because the children will be engaged and invested in the fun activities.

3. Play

*You have a job in which you are paid to play.

*Have fun with the children!

*Get in on the games, the messy play and the imaginative adventures!

4. Choose Your Attitude

*Come to work each day with excitement and the determination to make the day great!

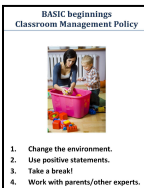
*You have the privilege of being one of the most important people in the lives of the young children in your care.

*You get to earn their love and trust.

*You will impact their lives... for the better or for worse. Choose your attitude wisely. It's important.

If behaviors are causing problems in your learning environment, start with our

Basic Beginnings Classroom Management Policy: (This should be posted in each classroom, if not please let the front desk know and we will get you a copy.)



Step 1. Change the environment

- Change the furniture arrangement, the daily schedule, how you do centers/invitations, the level of your expectations, etc.
- Is your room an inviting place you want to be? If so, the children will most likely feel it, too. If not, make some changes.

Step 2. Use Positive Statements/Offer Positive Choices

- Please speak kindly and positively to our children.
- **Do not EVER make threats.** Statements like "If you don't clean up then we won't go outside!" or "If you throw the dinosaurs, I'm taking them away!" should NEVER be used and are in violation of our licensing regulations.
- State clearly (and repeat often) what you want the children to do. Say "It is time to clean up. Put the blocks in the tub."
- If a child resists, offer choices or challenges. "I will help. Do you want to pick up the red blocks or the blue ones?" or "Let's race. How many dinosaurs can you put in the basket?"

Step 3. Take a Break

- Take a moment and take a breath!
- See if the child needs a moment and a quiet space to regain composure.
- When the child is calm, talk positively with the child about the situation. We have access to **Dr. Becky Bailey's Conscious Discipline videos** that help gain the skills to handle these situations. We will have an in-person Conscious Discipline training here at Basic Beginnings on July 28th!! Make plans to attend!

Step 4. Work with Parents

- Please speak respectfully to parents about their child. This should not be a tattling session.
- Show that you know and care about their child by starting the conversation with something positive about their child, a funny thing their child said, something their child played with a friend, a helpful act, etc.
- Address the problem and show that you have a plan. Say something like, "One thing we are working on with your child is saying, 'Stop, I don't like it when you knock down my blocks,' rather than hitting friends."
- Ask parents for their insight, ideas and input as well.

This is a lot of information, but it is important that we maintain high quality care. If you have questions or need help, please ask! We are here to help you!!



May Upcoming Events

Sign up on STARS (wyregistry.org)



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
Tues. May, 14	First Aid Certification (Earn 1 STARS Credit)	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm BBS LCCC Room
Wed. May 15	CPR Certification (Earn 2 STARS Credits)	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm BBS LCCC Room
Mon. May 27th	Basic Beginnings Closed for Memorial Day	



June Upcoming Events

Sign up on STARS (wyregistry.org)



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
Tues. June 11	First Aid Certification (Earn 1 STARS Credit)	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm BBS LCCC Room
Wed. June 12	CPR Certification (Earn 2 STARS Credits)	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm BBS LCCC Room
Wed. June 19	Playground Spruce Up Day BBS	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Wed. June 26	Playground Spruce Up Day BBN	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Conscious Discipline Training is coming on July 28th!!