



# March Newsletter

THE LEARNING DEN

03/01/2012

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Spring Break is coming!
- Don't forget to pay for Guppy Golf by the first class of the month.
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## Blue Dolphins

The Blue Dolphins had so much fun last month exploring the ideas of love and friendship. We are going to continue talking about friends, what it means to be a good friend, and explore their ideas about making good friend choices. This is a great topic to discuss with your child at home. Ask about your child's friends, why they are good friends, and how your child can be a good friend to others. This group of Dolphins is so bright, funny, and mature so we are able to have many great social experiences.

March is here already, bringing both the spring time rain and warm sunshine. The children con-

tinue to be interested in the changing weather patterns and changing seasons, a topic we discuss in group time and explore with art and sensory



**We will see what is at the other side of the rainbow with our expanding science experiments this month.**

activities. This month we will be expanding into weather themed science experiments;

looking at shadows, evaporation, clouds, rainfall, and rainbows. We will also continue our exploration of plants, seeds, and gardening.

We will be closed the last week of March for Spring Cleaning, so look out for some updated areas and new materials in the classroom when we return from break!

Ms. Jessica & Ms. Michelle



## Purple Sharks

The purple shark classroom has been going through some rearrangements. We are working on building different areas where the children can work on their fine motor skills, large motor skills, creativity and language. For the month of March we will begin a long project on quilting. We will begin by making individual quilting projects and work up to making one large quilt were all the children will have helped. This project will help the children

work on their fine motor skills as well as hand and eye coordination, along with working together. We have also have planned a camping area in the dramatic play. We will be bringing in a tent and talking about camping. We will have a camping day at school were the tent will be taken out to the wood chips and have a "camp fire" around the logs and roast marshmallows. It will be so much fun for the children to have a camp

day at school. The children have been excelling at recognizing letters and their sounds and identifying words that begin with each letter. We will be moving on to not just recognizing their names but their last names as well. It's very important for children to know not only their first name but their last name as well. We are excited for all the activities we have planned for this month.

Ms. Jeanette, Ms. Stephanie and Ms. Lauren

## Rainbow Fish

Introducing the calendar!! It is a excellent time to introduce the rainbow fish class to the concepts of the calendar, days of the week and months of the year . We are doing this through games and songs, counting and saying the days of the week. March is shamrock fun month, shamrock numbers to count, and shamrock tracing. We have also expanded the

self help areas in the classroom to include a water container with cups to encourage not only hydration but the children's ability to show what they can do on their own.

We have been having great success with this and look forward to watching the children become more and more independent in the classroom and work collaboratively on projects and centers to increase their ability to communicate with

their peers.  
Ms. June and Ms. Brittney

Let the green fun begin!



*"The Toddler room had a great time on their bear hunt!! More fun to come in March!!"*

**Space and scientific exploration will fill the Learningden's outdoor classroom!!**

## Green Turtles

We have been so busy this last month with hearts and teddy bears and making new friends that March is already here! We have been having such a great time in the green turtle class and are amazed at how well all of our new friends are adjusting and what a great community that we have in our classroom. The green turtles are so social with one another and are building positive pro-social behaviors like sharing, giving, helping and displaying empathy for one another. We are

really supporting these behaviors because it is so important to a child's social development!

This month we will be working on using some different types of art mediums and working on some group projects together. Right now we have started a collaborative canvas art project and will continue working on it over the next few weeks. We will also be working with different materials like clay, playdoh and goop as well as work-

ing with some different types of sensory materials. This month is also St. Patrick's Day so we will be doing a lot of learning the color green through activity's and paint. The green turtles will be very busy exploring the world around them through play, art, and using their senses.

Jennifer & Brandi

## What's Growing in our Outdoor Classroom?

In February, we planned to do all sorts of space activities, but- as many of you know- I was out with a sprained ankle. I'm back at school now and the outdoor classroom is open for business!

In March, we will pick up where we left off with our space curriculum theme doing activities involving constellations, planets, interstellar travel and robots. We'll also start

looking towards Spring with some gardening and learning about plants- seeds, roots, stems, and leaves.

Out in the sandbox, Erika and I are creating a "water wall" where the children will have the opportunity to create waterways and adjust the flow of water using recycled bottles. The water wall is a great activ-

ity for children to learn to plan, predict, create, observe, and test their theories- while enjoying all the tactile benefits of working with water. Children learn best through play and this is the scientific method in action. Please make sure your little scientist has plenty of extra clothes in their cubby!

Ms.Ildi

# Calendar and Wish list



March 7th - guppy golf-  
 March 26th - 29th- Spring Break  
 Learningden closed for spring cleaning and upgrades.

*Happy  
 Spring  
 Break!*

## t-Ball information for 4&5 yr olds

I thought I would pass this along. I received this from a parent and thought it would be great to just add in the newsletter.

**Tee Ball Clinic & Games for 4-5 year old boys and girls**  
 \$117 per player includes team jersey, hat and healthy snacks  
 Saturday mornings from 9:00am -10:00am @ Girsh

**Park in Goleta**  
 March 24, 2012 – May 12th, 2012 (including picture day on April 21st, 2012)  
 Registration available through March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
 Program is designed as an introduction to the game of baseball

**Information and registration at [www.FCFBaseball.com](http://www.FCFBaseball.com)**  
 Phone: (805) 453-2027 Email: [jpepper@fcfbaseball.com](mailto:jpepper@fcfbaseball.com)

**Parent Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00p in the Girsh Park Community Room**

*Learningden closed March 26th - 29th for spring cleaning!!*

## Learningden Preschool Rummage Sale Update

The date is set for May 5th. It is going to be a great time. Look forward to e-mails going home from the PTA about volunteer opportunities as well as dates to bring items and distribute flyers.

If anyone has a donation feel free to bring it to the school. The more donations the better the sale!! Lets get cleaning and make a difference for the school!! If you are interested in volunteering

please contact Erika, a PTA member or your Child's teacher.  
 Thank you!



**The date is Set for May 5th! Clean out your closets and spread the word!!**



## Parent Perk for Learningden Parents!!

Sterling Laundry is located at 3433 State St. in the heart of Santa Barbara!!

We offer self serve and wash and fold Laundry services. We are "going green" with 3 brand new industrial flash water heaters. We've also added several brand new washing machines. We are "eco friendly" and carry environmentally safe soaps.

Customers like the layout of our Laundromat saying it gets nice natural light, it never feels too crowded and there is plenty of parking. We have an ideal location between Gelson's and Whole Foods, there are plenty of shops in walking distance.

The Laundromat offers \*FREE INTERNET WI-FI, \*LARGE FLAT SCREEN TV with CABLE \*MOBILE DEVICE CHARGING STATIONS

### Coupons:

1. Sterling Laundry offers 18 of its dryers free to the community every Wednesday from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. That's right, use the dryers for free on Wednesday afternoons.
2. 15% off on wash and fold orders \$30 and over. Our wash and fold laundry service offers a choice of detergents: 7th Generation, Tide or Kirkland. We also stock non-chlorinated bleach.

Know of a perk that you want to share with the Learningden community?? Submit it to Erika before the first of every month!

