



EARLY CHILDHOOD ALLIANCE

Uniting for young children.....the heart of our community
Framingham, MA

Strengthening Families Newsletter

Spring/Summer Publication 2019

Brain Building In Progress Core Message

Science shows that early experiences build the foundation for a lifetime of learning, achievement, and productive, responsible citizenship. Quality environments, enriching learning opportunities, a connected, supportive community, and positive interactions with knowledgeable adults actually help form the architecture of the developing brain. By advocating for the success of our youngest citizens, we are ensuring a more prosperous economic future for everyone in Massachusetts.



Whether you are a parent, educator, business leader or legislator, all of us have a stake in supporting Brain Building in Progress.

Lets Go to Kindergarten 2019

ECAF is recruiting children who will be attending Kindergarten this fall who are not already enrolled in a preschool. The "Lets Go To Kindergarten" group is a perfect introduction to what to expect at school and prepares you and your child for the next big step Tuesday afternoons at 1:00pm at our space at Fuller Middle School, door #16.

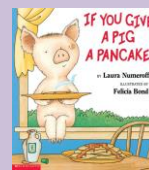
For more information, visit our website:
www.framingham.k12.ma.us/Doman/72

Call/e-mail us at:

508-782-7962 or

jdehaven@framingham.k12.ma.us

SAVE THE DATE:
3rd PJ Family Story Hour
MAY 8th
6:00pm – 7:00pm



This Year's Featured Author: Laura Numeroff

This Year marks the 30th anniversary of the award-winning book, "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie" by Laura Numeroff, illustrated by Felicia Bond.

Laura Numeroff was born in Brooklyn New York in 1953. She is the youngest of three sisters. As a child, Laura always loved reading, writing, drawing, and animals. She published her first book while she was still in college.

Laura Numeroff established the Biscuit Brigade team to raise money to support Canine Companions, a group that provides assistance for children, adults and veterans with disabilities.

Our first PJ story hour last fall featured the famous "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie". It was a fun event for both adults and children which included live entertainment and hand-on activities in our Early Learning Zone at the Framingham Public Library.

During the month of January, we hosted our second PJ story hour featuring "If You Give a Moose a Muffin". Again live entertainment, story reading and hands-on activities were provided as well as laughter and fun for all. Our 3rd PJ Story Hour will be "If You Give a Pig A Pancake" on May 8th. If you have missed the previous story times, you won't want to miss the this one. There will be fun literacy learning based activities to go along with the story. All ages are welcome! Also if you have ideas for next year's featured author, we would love to hear them.

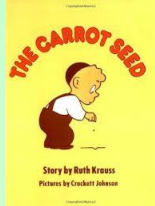
Remember to wear your favorite pajamas!

Curriculum Theme Things That Grow

We will be investigating how changes in nature effect the life cycles of plants and animals. We will harvest live butterflies and planting seeds.

Reinforce learning through books! Seasonal Favorites

The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krass



The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

NEW!

PLAY, LEARN, & GROW TOGETHER HEALTH SERIES

Facilitated by Regis College Nursing Team!

STARTING MAY 17th

Fridays, 11:00am

Framingham Public Library

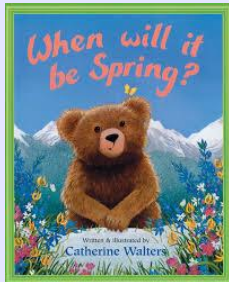
49 Lexington Street
Children's Department
Early Learning Zone

Weekly discussions about health topics that you are concerned about and may include: importance of well care check ups, immunizations, allergies, asthma, developmental milestones, sleep, feeding, injury prevention, and much much more... Age appropriate activities for children highlight health, safety, nutrition, and more...

Outdoor RX continues to introduce nature and outdoor education!

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SPRING ACTIVITIES

- When will it be spring? by Catherine Walters



- Plant some flowers with the family
- Go on a Nature Scavenger Hunt
- Fly a Kite.

Summertime Activities in the Early Learning Zone Join us for "Explore the Seashore" and More!



For more up to date activity information, visit the Early Childhood Alliance of Framingham website, like us on Facebook, and Follow us on Twitter!

A Little Seed

A little seed for me to sow,
A little soil to make it grow.
A little hole, a little pat,
A little wish, and that is that.
A little sun, a little shower,
A little while,
And then, a flower!

Baby Animals

Baby animals, soft and sweet,
Tiny mouth, eyes still asleep.
Some have feathers, some have fur.
Some brand new, they hardly stir.
Baby animals, oh so small,
Come in Spring, we love them all!

OUR GROUP AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS AT A GLANCE

PLAY, LEARN, AND GROW TOGETHER (PLGT): This is play-based learning that has something for every young learner. We will imagine, create, sing, and read as we explore the different brain building zones. After all learning is not only fun, but it is the gift that keeps giving!

PLAY, LEARN, GROW, AND READ TOGETHER: This group will feature a storybook each week. You and your child will engage in activities that build vocabulary and comprehension.

HOT TOPIC/BABY TALK: This group is perfect for the parent to have weekly discussions on common topics such as feeding, sleep, health, and child development. You will meet new friends, sing songs, and play.

LET'S GO TO KINDERGARTEN: This group is geared toward the family with a 3-5 year old who wants to learn school readiness skills in a play-based way. After all, learning is fun! All groups are free and are for 10 weeks. A gift is given for strong attendance!!!

MOTOR TIME: The Imagination Playground will visit the library. This group is designed for children 24 months -5 years old who would like to build with very, very large blocks.

DADS, DONUTS AND DISCOVERIES: This group is a great way to connect with other dads and their families. We will sing songs, discover new learning activities, read a story and more. This group is open to all families, especially for children from birth to 6 years old.

PARENTCHILD+ (formerly Parent-Child Home Program-PCHP): is a home-based literacy program that provides families with weekly home visits by a trained early learning specialist who brings educational books and toys as gifts to the family. ParentChild+ is open to eligible families with children 18-36 months.

All Groups and Programs are FREE! Sign Up Appreciated!

Community and Family Resources

Check out the Resource Guide for Early Childhood on the ECAF website!

**Massachusetts 2-1-1
Find help fast and free!**

For more family literacy opportunities visit your local library!

**Framingham Public Library
1000 Books Before Kindergarten**

**To learn more about your child's development and Ages & Stages,
call or e-mail us for an appointment at 508-782-6932 or jdehaven@framingham.k12.ma.us**

