

Indianola Preschool newsletter

OCTOBER 2022

It has been a busy month at IPS. We had our field trip to the library, a visit from the nature center, and fall parties this week.

CLASSROOM UPDATES

We know you chose IPS because of all that our program offers and our play-based curriculum, but you want to make sure we are getting your children school-ready, too. Each month I'll share a little about each play center and what your children learn through play.

BLOCKS

In the Block Center students can discover and explore balance, gravity and motion. Students can create a plan and follow through with construction. Students can communicate with a peer to achieve a common goal. Students work cooperatively in construction and use materials in a safe way. See more from NAEYC on the next page!

EVENTS

10-27/28 Fall Parties in Classrooms

Thanks for the donations to make these days special for our students.

11-21/22 Thanksgiving Feast Celebrations

These will happen in classes and parents will be invited! 😊

11-23 to 11-25 CLOSED

We will not have classes or childcare available on these days. Happy Thanksgiving!

FUNDRAISING

We have a couple of easy opportunities to support IPS coming up.

In November, buy a RED GIVE BACK BAG from the Indianola Hy-Vee and \$1 from every bag sold goes to IPS. Help us spread the word in our community. In December, we will hold a GRINCH NIGHT. This will a great opportunity to drop off your children for a few hours and get some shopping done or just relax! Details TBD!

CONTACT US

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MORE ABOUT BLOCKS

- 1. Problem solving.** Sometimes it is intentional: "I want to build X. How do I do that?" Other times it is in-the moment: "To go higher and add to one side, what can I use?"—Peter Pizzolongo
- 2. Imagination.** Children can follow their own plan, or they can share a friend's vision and work together to create something they never dreamed of.—Karen Cairone
- 3. Self-expression.** Blocks offer many ways for young dual language learners to explore, express themselves, and demonstrate what they are learning across languages.— Karen Nemeth
- 4. Mathematics.** Important concepts and skills are practiced and strengthened through block play, including length, measurement, comparison, number, estimation, symmetry, balance.— Kristen Kemple
- 5. Continuity and permanence.** Block play engages spatial sense and motor abilities; it can be a solo or a group effort; block creations can stand for an indefinite period of time.— Lawrence Balter
- 6. Creativity.** Blocks and other loose parts can be moved freely by children, to be combined and recombined in countless ways.—Angela Eckhoff
- 7. Science.** Blocks offer opportunities to test hypotheses and build scientific reasoning.— Gayle Mindes
- 8. Self-esteem.** Children discover that they have ideas and that they can bring their ideas to life by creating, transforming, demolishing, and re-creating something unique.—Holly Bohart
- 9. Social and emotional growth.** Blocks help children learn to take turns and share materials, develop new friendships, become self-reliant, increase attention span, cooperate with others, and develop self-esteem.— Kathleen Harris
- 10. Development in all areas.** Block play requires fine and gross motor skills. Blocks enhance children's problem-solving abilities, mathematics skills, and language and literacy abilities. And constructing "creations" builds self-esteem and feelings of success. —Linda Taylor

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