



Milton Early Childhood Alliance



Fall, 2015

Serving families with children birth to 8 years old. We are here to help!

Contact us by:

Mail:

495 Canton Avenue
Milton, MA 02186

Phone:

617-696-2262

Email:

Susan L. Dolan,
Director
cpcmecasl@verizon.net

Website:

www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org

"Like" us on Facebook:
Milton Early Childhood Alliance

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance is funded by the Coordinated Families and Community Engagement grant through the Mass. Department of Early Education and Care and is administered by Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc.

We gratefully acknowledge the First Congregational Church for their generous support of our office space.



Upcoming Free Activities and Events

STEM Free Play Fridays continue at Milton Public Library. Come spend some fun, one-on-one time with your child while enjoying many terrific Science, Technology, Engineering and Math activities! This program meets every other Friday. There will be different activities each time you visit. Upcoming program dates are: September 18, October 2, 16, 30, November 13, 27, December 8 and January 22.

Story Walk continues through the fall! A new book will be posted at the Trailside Museum on Friday, September 18th. Bring a picnic, take a walk, see the animals, and read a terrific children's book along the way. The Trailside Museum is located at 1904 Canton Avenue. The Story Walk can be enjoyed daily from 9:00-5:00. This is an outdoor, rain or shine activity, so please dress appropriately.

Helping Children Be the Best They Can Be parent education workshop will be held Monday, October 5th, 7:00 PM, at Learning Circle Preschool, 3 Blue Hill River Road in Canton. Meet Charles Appelstein, a nationally prominent child care specialist and author. He will be discussing positive and inspiring ways to guide children as they grow up. For more information, or to ensure you will receive handouts, call 781-828-4800.

Baby and Me infant playgroup will return this fall! This engaging playgroup is for parents and/or grandparents with children birth to six months old. Free Baby Baskets, filled with terrific items for babies and parents, will be distributed upon completion of the series. The playgroup will meet weekly for seven weeks beginning Wednesday, October 7th from 9:30 to 10:30 AM and continue through November 18th at the First Congregational Church, 495 Canton Avenue. Registration is required. For more information, or to register for this playgroup, please email cpcmecasl@verizon.net or call 617-696-2262.

Food Day Festival returns! For families with young children—fun activities focusing on healthy food choices, where food comes from, investigating the science of familiar vegetables, and planting are planned as part of National Food Day. Stories, gardening, arts, and science activities will be included as well as scheduled walks to Brookwood Farm (walks will be weather permitting). The fun begins at 9:30 AM on Friday, October 23rd at Learning Circle Preschool, 3 Blue Hill River Road in Canton. For more information, call 781-828-4800.

A Peek Into Your Child's Mind parent education 2-part series, for parents and caregivers with children birth to age five, will be held on November 3rd and 10th at Discovery Schoolhouse, 101 Blue Hills Parkway from 7:00-8:30 PM. This workshop series will help increase your understanding of your child's physical and mental development as well as their personal temperament, help you create a home environment where your child can thrive, and provide you with techniques to support the healthy development of your child. Registration is required. For more information, please email cpcmecasl@verizon.net or call 617-696-2262.

More on Page Two!





Looking for child care or a preschool for your child? We can help! Give us a call at 617-696-2262 and we can explore options with you that best fit the needs of your family. Or, visit our website for a complete listing of center based child care and preschool programs in Milton as well as the contact information for the Milton Area Family Child Care Association. We can also refer you so your family can be added to the State's waitlist for child care vouchers.



What is the **Ages & Stages Questionnaire** Program? Ages & Stages helps you monitor your child's growth and development. Participation in this program is free. We will provide you with an age appropriate questionnaire for you to complete with your child. Then, return it to us for scoring. It only takes 10 to 15 minutes to complete. We will let you know if your child is on target for their age and provide you with fun activities to encourage your child's future development. Give us a call at 617-696-2262 or email cpmcasld@verizon.net.

At Home With STEM—for parents and grandparents

Here are some Science, Technology, Engineering and Math activities to do at home!

Science—Be an observer: Take a walk around your neighborhood with your child and look at nature. Ask questions such as: Where are the leaves? Why are the pinecones and acorns on the ground? Why are the squirrels so busy? Compare rocks to see which ones have sparkles in them. Make some snowballs, bring them home and put them in a sink. Where did they go? What made them disappear?

Technology—Make friends with a mouse: Children need strong fine motor skills to operate a computer mouse or swipe a screen. Start with play dough and make balls and snakes. Have them try rolling the dough into pea-size balls with just their fingertips. Make a necklace by lacing pasta on a string. Make a picture using peel-and-stick labels and stickers. Once their fine motor skills are ready, visit www.pbskids.org/sesame/games/dress-time/ for a fun computer mouse clicking game.

Engineering—Build a building: Use boxes found around the house (cereal, oatmeal, crackers, diapers, etc.) to build a building, knock it down and build it again. Tape the open ends of the boxes closed to make them sturdier. You can even cover the boxes in wrapping paper, if desired. The more boxes you have, the bigger the building. Ask questions as you build such as: Is it taller or shorter than you? Do you think it will fall down? What can you do to prevent it from falling? What can you use to knock it down?

Math—Be a cook: Cooking with your child is a great way to incorporate basic math skills. Have them help you by using measuring cups to measure ingredients, help them count the number of items on the cookie sheet, let your child set the timer, or count the eggs, or tell you when the pot of water is full. Ask questions that will incorporate math language such as: When will this cup be full? How many green beans will we be cooking? Can you pass me 10 chocolate chips? Can you let me know when this pot is half full?

Remember to ask your child open ended questions which will allow them to explore ideas and think for themselves...and have fun!

Also, check out our fun STEM activities available to play with during Free Play Fridays at Milton Public Library!

Children's Programming at Milton Public Library

The Milton Public Library offers many programs for children birth through school age. Visit their website at miltonlibrary.org for a complete listing of programs!