



Milton Early Childhood Alliance

A Program of Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc.



Fall, 2019

Upcoming Free Activities and Events

HAPPENING NOW...

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

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Milton Early Childhood Alliance

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance is a program of, and is administered by, Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc.



We are funded by the Coordinated Families and Community Engagement grant through the MA Dept. of Early Education and Care.



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

STEM Free Play Fridays Our STEM activities will continue to be included in Milton Public Library's Free Play Fridays' program. Fun, hands-on, materials supporting **Science, Technology, Engineering and Math** vary each session and are great learning experiences for children three to six years old. Join us at the Library, 476 Canton Ave., on September 13 and 27, October 11 and 25, November 8 and 22, and December 6 and 20 from 10:00-12:00. Parents/caregivers must remain with and look after their child. Registration is not required; however, you will need to sign-in upon arrival. This program is co-sponsored with Milton Public Library.

Parent Education Workshop Join us for a terrific presentation from author, Dr. Diane Levin, as we discuss her book, **Beyond Remote Controlled Childhood**, at our parent workshop on Thursday, September 19th. Diane will discuss ways in which families can effectively manage media and technology in the lives of their children, describe their effects on learning, play, and development, and explain the value of concrete hands-on play experiences for learning. Join us from 7:30 to 9:00 PM at Learning Circle Preschool, 3 Blue Hill River Rd. in Canton. Registration is encouraged by emailing cpcmecasld@verizon.net. This program is co-sponsored with Learning Circle Preschool and Curry College Education Dept.

Baby and Me Infant Playgroup Series Calling all new parents! Having a new baby in the family is truly rewarding, but also quite stressful. So, join us for our Baby and Me Infant Playgroup series where we will learn next steps, better understand your child's development, read stories, sings songs, learn early literacy skills, and participate in discussions in a supportive environment. We will meet in the Parlor of the First Congregational Church, 495 Canton Avenue, on Tuesdays from 10:00-11:00 beginning October 1st and continuing each week through November 12th. Resources and gifts will be distributed to each participant. For families with their infants birth to six months old. Registration is required by emailing cpcmecasld@verizon.net. This program is co-sponsored with Milton Public Library and the First Congregational Church.

Parent Education Workshop Let's get together and play! Learn why play is so important to a child's development and how it connects to developmental milestones. And, yes, we will be playing!! **Come And Play** is a parent workshop to be presented by Prof. Dotty Alexander of Curry College. You will partake in hands-on play at learning centers set up around the room, learn how play informs your child's development, have some fun, and maybe even get a bit messy. So, join us October 23rd from 7:00-9:00 at Discovery Schoolhouse, 101 Blue Hills Pkwy. For parents with children ages 2.5 to 4 years old. Registration will be required by emailing cpcmecasld@verizon.net or calling 617-696-2262. This program is co-sponsored with Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc.

Story Walks® at Trailside Museum AND Houghton's Pond Enjoy a children's story book posted along the walking path at the Trailside Museum and around the playground at Houghton's Pond for the fall! Bring a picnic, take a walk, enjoy the outdoors, and read a terrific story along the way. These events are co-sponsored with the Blue Hills Trailside Museum and MA Department of Conservation and Recreation.

COMING UP...

Skip and Hop Co-op Playgroup will return this December for the cold, winter months. This playgroup is a parent cooperative, indoor play space where energetic children can play and make new friends. Dates to be determined soon.



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Trailside's 60th Anniversary Celebration!

September 14, 2019

12:00-5:00
1904 Canton Avenue

FREE admission, special exhibits, live animals, and engaging programs for all ages.

Enjoy our Story Walk, posted along the fence, while you are there!!



Are you looking for child care or a preschool program for your child? We can help! Give us a call at 617-696-2262 or send an email to cpcmecasl@verizon.net. We can help you explore options that will best fit the needs of your family.



Do you wonder if your child is developing on target for their age? With the Ages & Stages Questionnaire, we can help you learn about your child's growth and development and what to look for and expect. We will provide you with a free, age appropriate, questionnaire for you to complete and return for scoring. We will let you know if your child is on target for their age and provide you with ideas and fun activities to encourage your child's future development. If interested, email cpcmecasl@verizon.net or give us a call at 617-696-2262.

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: What color 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, swipe a screen, and hold writing tools. 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. Create a picture using peel-and-stick labels and stickers. Once their fine motor skills are ready, visit <http://pbskids.org/sesame/games> for some fun computer mouse-clicking games.

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 that begin with "what do you think?", which will allow them to explore ideas, 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 www.miltonlibrary.org/events/upcoming-events for more information and a complete listing of programs.

Many thanks to our sponsors this summer!

Discovery Schoolhouse, Milton Public Schools, Milton Public Library, Cunningham Park, Parkway United Methodist Church, Blue Hills Trailside Museum, Mass Audubon Society, MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, Mackie's Barber Shop, Mr. Chan's, Ichiro Sushi, Starbucks, The Fruit Center Marketplace, The Nutshell, Historic New England Eustis Estate Museum, and The Ice Creamsmith. We truly appreciate your continued support!