

Summer Newsletter



Milton Early Childhood Alliance

a program of
Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc.



Contact us at:

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www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org

Like us on Facebook at:

Milton Early Childhood Alliance

What Does Childcare Look Like Now?

Since June 29th, center based program directors and family child care providers have been working diligently to implement the new MA Health and Safety Requirements and ensuring that children, families and staff remain safe. At this time, some childcare programs are open, some childcare programs are working toward re-opening this summer, and some childcare programs are planning to open in September. The physical look of your program will be different, with dividers separating larger spaces, staff wearing face masks, etc. The drop off procedures will require daily checklists and physical checks-ins. Many other procedures are being put in place to keep everyone healthy and safe. If you are looking for childcare, feel free to email us at cpcmecasld@verizon.net.

Our Summer Programming...always free!

Story and Activity Calendars

We have created Story and Activity Calendars for both July and August. Each day has one fun activity for families to do with their children and stories that can be enjoyed together. July's Calendar is available now; August's Calendar will be available later this month. [Our July Story and Activity Calendar can be accessed here.](#)

Parent Café: Getting Ready for Kindergarten

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance is pleased to offer a free round table discussion for parents who have children entering kindergarten this fall. We will discuss how to prepare your child for this next big step, talk about self-help, fine motor, and gross motor skills, and language development to help your child be better prepared. This workshop will not address questions regarding school systems or their plans for re-opening in September. This parent workshop will be held live via Zoom on Thursday, July 23rd at 7:30 PM and will be co-facilitated by Beth Greenawalt of Parent Solutions and Susan Dolan of Milton Early Childhood Alliance. Please email cpcmecasld@verizon.net for your personal Zoom invitation and password. [You can view the flyer here.](#)

Continued: Our Summer Programming...always free!

Tri-lingual StoryWalk® at Tucker Elementary School

A tri-lingual StoryWalk® will be installed along the fence in the back playground of Tucker Elementary School in mid-July. Enjoy a children's book, in English, French, and Spanish, while also enjoying fresh air and sunlight with your family. While participating in this StoryWalk®, please follow appropriate COVID-19 Guidelines to protect you and your family by maintaining at least a 6 foot distance from others in the area and remaining at a story page until the next story page is free and available for reading. This is a self-guided event and is available from dawn to dusk.

StoryWalk® at Trailside Museum

A StoryWalk® will be installed along the outdoor walking path of the Trailside Museum in late July or early August. Read a children's story, visit with the animals, and enjoy some fresh air and sunshine. While participating in this StoryWalk®, please follow appropriate COVID-19 Guidelines to protect you and your family by maintaining at least a 6 foot distance from others in the area and remaining at a story page until the next story page is free and available for reading. This is a self-guided event. Please visit www.massaudubon.org for hours.

The Milton Public Library offers great children's programs regularly. Check out their website at www.miltonlibrary.org.

Fall Programming Being Planned...always free!

Kindergarten T-Shirts - our bright yellow, "I'm Going to Kindergarten!" t-shirts will be distributed at Milton Public Schools kindergarten screenings as soon as screening plans have been finalized. If your family is new to town, or if you have not yet registered your child for kindergarten or first grade, please contact: Ms. Sarina Burke, Registrar, at 617-696-4470 x 5610, or email Registration@miltonps.org.

Children's Concert - our annual Children's Concert, postponed from June, has officially been cancelled for this year. We plan to bring this very popular event back next year!

Kindergarten Days - we will be reaching out to all participating businesses to see if they are willing and able to participate this year and if we can postpone this event until after our bright yellow "I'm Going to Kindergarten!" t-shirts are distributed to incoming kindergarteners. We will keep you posted via our parent email list, our website, and our Facebook page as soon as we know more information.

Virtual Playgroup Series - our popular Learning Through Play Toddler and Preschool Playgroup facilitator, Dotty Alexander, a Professor at Curry College, will return with a six week virtual playgroup series. We will keep you posted via our parent email list, website, Facebook page, and Fall Newsletter as soon as we have more information.



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Continued: Fall Programming Being Planned...always free!

Baby and Me Infant Playgroup Series - will return for parents and grandparents of children birth to 6 months old! We will be ready to offer this series in-person, or via live Zoom sessions if necessary. So, if you, or someone you know have or will be having a baby, watch for more information early to mid-September via our parent email list, website, Facebook page, and Fall Newsletter.

Resources and Information

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance maintains a comprehensive Milton Parents Resource Manual on our website. Check it out at www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org.

Child Growth and Development

Ages and Stages Help Me Grow program - is a free, simple, screening tool you can use to find out what your child's strengths are and the areas where they may need more practice. Questionnaires are designed specifically for the age of your child, anywhere between birth and 5 ½ years old. Simply complete a Questionnaire in the comfort of your home, then, submit it to us for scoring. We'll let you know the results, help you with next steps, if needed, and provide you with fun, simple activities to help with your child's continual growth and development - all for free! Our ASQ online link is:
<https://www.asqonline.com/family/8fd7d7>

Hotlines

National Helpline for Substance Abuse
1-800-662-HELP (4357)
Poison Control 1-800-222-1222
National Suicide Prevention for youth and adults in emotional crisis 1-800-273-8255
The Trevor Project for LGBTQ youth crisis intervention
1-866-488-7386
Safelink for anyone affected by domestic violence
1-877-785-2020
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center 1-800-841-8371
MA 211 contact center and public portal website for information specific to your circumstances

Food Assistance

Milton Public Schools:
Weekly to-go bags with 7 breakfasts and 7 lunches continue to be available for pick up every Wednesday from 8-9am and 5-6pm at MHS and Tucker. ANY Milton family is welcome to pick up a weekly to-go bag as the goal is to support any food insecure student. For more information, email jmorgan@miltonps.org or phone at 617-898-1051.

Milton Food Pantry:
Pre-packaged grocery bags are distributed contact free on Saturdays 9:15am to 11:15am. For specific dates, call 617-696-0221.

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance is funded through a grant from the MA Dept. of Early Education & Care.



We are very grateful to the First Congregational Church for their support of our office space.

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