

North Quincy Early Learning Center News

August 2018 Edition

Director's Corner- Jojo Reed

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the ELC - North Quincy families and staff for your positive feedback and best wishes! In my new Director role, I look forward to providing leadership to our dedicated educators, emphasizing the YMCA character values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility and preparing for a successful new school year with every child, educator and family! Kristine Swan, Associate Director of Youth Development, will continue working closely with the ELC- North Quincy as I continue the transition into my new leadership role. Kristine and I look forward to the implementation of continued improvements, Open House/Back to School family events and the development of our fall Family Advisory Council (more to come!) at our Early Learning Center!



ELC NQ Reminders

The ELC will be **closed on Thursday, August 30th & Friday, August 31st** as teachers get ready for the new school

year and participate in professional development.

Children not returning for next year's school year: the last day in the NQ ELC will be Wednesday, August 29th.

Sunscreen/Insect Repellent



The ELC asks that families apply sunscreen with UVA and UVB SPF 30+ before school. The teaching staff will re-apply sunscreen prior to heading outside. The sunscreen that will be re-

applied will have UVA and UVB SPF 30+. All children must have signed permission slips located in their file. The ELC- North Quincy does not apply insect repellent. Should there be a warning regarding high levels of insects (mosquito's) the North Quincy ELC children will not be going outside.

Best Practices and Policies

Please read over the following and do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions. If you have a question/concern please ask! Working together is the best way to help your child. ELC -North Quincy is a locked building at all times. All enrolled families and staff have key fobs to access the building.

Please **do not hold the door open for others** and please do not allow your child to press the handicap lever to automatically open the door as the messaging to children can promote unsafe results. We all want to be sure the doors are only opened for authorized families & leadership staff. Visitors should be encouraged to ring the doorbell and wait for an ELC- NQ staff person to answer. Remember, this policy is not **rude, it's about children's safety.**

If your child will be late (after 9:00am) or absent, please call the Center at 857-403-4784 or email jreed@ssymca.org to inform us of their absence. We will call to inquire about your child if we are not aware of their planned absence. Families are welcome to call the Center during rest time daily (1:00-2:30pm) to inquire about their child.

Where is Baby?

Look Before You Lock!



As busy families, we live by our daily routine and it helps us get things done. Be extra careful, though, if you have to change any part of that routine. This is more likely to happen when you, your spouse/partner, or caregiver who helps with your children, forgets that a child is in the back seat. In the dog days of August, there is certainly potential for some hot days, which heightens the risk of heatstroke.

However, even cool temperatures in the 60s can cause the temperature to rise well above 110° Fahrenheit inside your car.

The inside temperature of a vehicle can rise almost 20 degrees within the first 10 minutes. Here are some prevention tips to help reduce the risk of leaving a child alone in a vehicle:

- ▶ Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle.
- ▶ Do not let your children play in an unattended vehicle. Teach them that a vehicle is not a play area.
- ▶ Never leave infants or children in a parked vehicle, even if the windows are partially open.
- ▶ Keep a large teddy bear or other stuffed animal in the car seat when it's empty. Move the teddy bear to the front seat when you place the child in the seat as a visual reminder.
- ▶ Make a habit of looking in the vehicle - front and back - before locking the door and walking away.
- ▶ If you are dropping your child off at school, and normally it's your spouse or partner who drops them off, have your spouse or partner call you to make sure the transition went according to plan.

FUN SUMMER ACTIVITY!



**DIY Sidewalk
FOAM PAINT**



Supplies Needed:

- Two 4 oz. bottles of WASHABLE school glue
- 1 cup white flour
- 4-5 cups plain white shaving foam
- food coloring drops
- 1 gallon plastic zipper bag
- sandwich-sized plastic zipper bags – 1 per food coloring
- scissors

Steps Taken:

1. In a gallon-size plastic zipper bag add 1 cup of flour.
2. Pour both bottles of **washable** school glue on top of the flour. Make sure it's washable for easy clean up!
3. Spray about 4-5 cups of shaving foam into the bag. At first I attempted to measure it in a measuring cup, but it was ridiculous trying to get it out of the measuring cup. So, after the first cup, I just eyeballed it.
4. Close the bag and knead it for a few minutes until everything is totally mixed.
5. Snip one corner of the big bag and squirt into sandwich-sized plastic zipper bags to divide it up per color.
6. Add 10 drops of one food coloring to each bag.
7. Knead each smaller bag until color is throughout the bag
8. Snip off the edge and squirt it into plastic squirt bottles. Or you can be frugal and just paint with the zipper bags. If you keep it in the bags, just snip off a tiny corner, so it doesn't come out too heavy.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or comments. We value your feedback and look forward to a successful new school year at the North Quincy ELC! Have a safe and enjoyable end of summer with family & friends.

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