



Learning & Growing through Play!

In our December 2021 newsletter, we talked about the importance of play to each child's development. Children learn and develop cognitive skills, physical abilities, new vocabulary, social skills, and literacy skills through play. Check out some of our fun January learning adventures!

■ HELLO JANUARY

Brrrrrr! January was frigid. We talked about chilly weather, ice, and snow during circle time. We bundled up in our jackets, hats, and mittens for outdoor play. Our favorite way to warm up is hot chocolate!

■ MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

We engaged in learning activities that celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) this month. We focused on his teachings about peace — ALL people getting along and treated the same. We watched *Dr. King: A Leader and a Hero*, an age-appropriate video produced by Scholastic. We read *Flight School* by Lita Judge. This book was a perfect

read to connect with the vocabulary associated with MLK's life. Words such as perseverance, community (friends and support), and most importantly, the phrase "to have a dream." The kiddos were excited to share their dreams. We also made peace plates. Just as each child is different and unique, the children created distinctive and beautiful plates!



■ ARTS & CRAFTS

Art activities are fun, plus they stimulate both sides of the brain and help develop skills across all early learning domains. At JCC, art and crafts are integral to our preschool curriculum. We colored, painted, glued, drew, cut, and pasted in January.

■ LETTER RECOGNITION

We introduce letters to the kiddos using games, toys, puzzles, books, and music. This month we introduced the letter "J." The children filled our "Letter J" box with jackets, jars, jewels, jeep, jaguar, and lots of jumping.

We also continued to explore the letter "T." The children created "T Is for Train" collages using round pasta shapes, graham crackers, jellybeans, and chocolate wafers.

■ WELCOME MS. OLIVIA!

We are delighted to welcome Olivia Zambrana to JCC. Olivia got off to a fantastic start as she got down on the kiddos' level and engaged in play.





Monica Jackson is owner and Director of Jackson Child Care (JCC). Our mission at JCC is to learn, play and grow together! We provide a safe, nurturing, child-centered setting that fosters each child's success and a love of learning in collaboration with parents and the community. We are committed to building a successful early learning foundation to equip children with school readiness skills. We operate according to safety protocols that adhere to the Center for Disease Control and Virginia Department of Health Guidelines.

We are currently enrolling children for our preschool program. For information, please contact Monica at 703-354-5913 or jacksonchildcare@gmail.com. Visit us on the web (www.mjchildcare.com) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/mjchildcare).