



Brighten Buzz

MONTHLY PARENT NEWSLETTER

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

2026

WE HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE NEW YEAR'S! WE LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER YEAR OF LOVE, LAUGHTER, AND LEARNING.

IMPORTANT DATES

Closed for New Year's

All Locations

1/1

Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

All Locations

1/19



JANUARY 2026

WEEKLY THEMES

January 5: Eric Carle/Our Favorite Books



January 12: Dreams, Aspirations & Martin Luther King Jr.

Dream Big



January 19: Friendship & Pets



January 26: All About Birds & Groundhog Day



KIDS SAY THE DARNDEST THINGS

"You know what would make me feel better? Maybe a taco, a cheese stick, and some snuggles."

– anonymous, 4 years old

@LiveFromSnackTime

QUOTE CORNER

"What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives haven't even happened yet."

– Anne Frank

ABC READING IS FUNDAMENTAL

Beginning Letter Scavenger Hunt

If you've been trying to find a fun and interactive way to review letter recognition and sounds with your little one, then look no further! For this activity, all you need is the alphabet, such as letter magnets or flashcards, and whatever you have around your house. If you don't have magnets or flashcards at home, just grab some paper and a pen to make your own. The first part of this activity is simply selecting one letter from the alphabet. You can do this by placing the flash cards face down or hiding them around the room. You can even put all the letter magnets in a big bowl and your little one can scoop it out with a spoon. Get creative! There are so many possibilities for this part. Once one letter has been selected, the scavenger hunt can begin. Help your child identify the letter and the sound it makes. Look around your house or their room for an item that begins with that selected letter. There are ways to simplify this activity if you think it may be overwhelming for your child. Instead of using the whole alphabet, focus on a handful of letters or even the letters in their name. You can also preselect the items used for the scavenger hunt portion.

Dollar Tree Find

If you don't have alphabet magnets or flashcards at home, or you want to add a sensory bin element to the above activity, run to Dollar Tree. Grab these poster letters that can be found in the school supply section, along with some crinkle cut paper from the party section. Just toss it all together in a bin or big bowl and you're ready to begin!



KITCHEN KORNER



Bird Nest Cookies

This fun and simple recipe is great for getting your little one involved in the kitchen!

Ingredients

- 1 cup-chocolate chips
 - Substitute butterscotch chips if you'd like
- 1 cup-peanut butter
- 1 jar (7 oz.)-marshmallow fluff
- 2 T-butter
- Chow Mein noodles
- egg shaped candy (Robin Eggs, Peanut M&M's, etc.)

Directions

1. Combine the chocolate chips, peanut butter, and marshmallow fluff in a small saucepan and melt, while stirring, until smooth.
2. Stir in Chow Mein Noodles (no set amount just, however, many you want).
3. Next form little nest shapes on a waxed paper lined baking sheet. Add whatever you are using for eggs and refrigerate.

