



Children's House January 2022 Newsletter

JANUARY THEMES

New Year Celebration!

Hibernation

Migration

Animals That Thrive in
Winter or Cold

Climates

Eskimos

Dressing for Winter

Winter Season in Warm Climates

Winter Fun

Martin Luther King, Jr.
(Pre-K)

Alaska and
Antarctica (Pre-K)

Snow and Ice

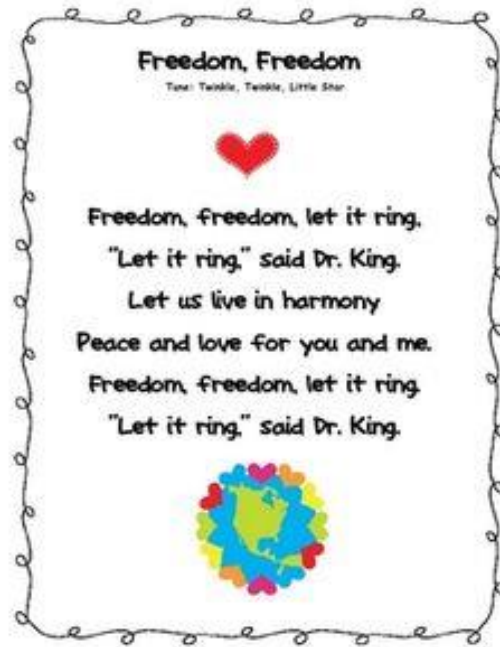
Peter and the Wolf



UPCOMING EVENTS

1/1/22 - Happy New Year! Center
Closed on Friday, 12/31/21

1/17/22 Center Closed in observance of
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday



TAX INFO

Pam Frogameni will be sending out notices by the end of this month to all *currently enrolled* families which will indicate the total tuition paid in 2021.

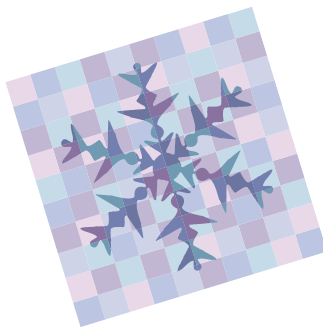
Our Tax ID # is: **81-4118965**

If you don't receive this information for some reason, feel free to contact Pam Frogameni at:

pfrogameni@childrenshouseinc.org

...and/or any other special topics of interest voiced by the children.

If you have any materials or other information on these themes, please feel free to share them!





A NOTE ABOUT WINTER ILLNESS

Unfortunately, despite our masks, sanitizing and distancing efforts, some children are still getting hit with coughs, colds, bronchitis and flu.

If your child has a fever prior to receiving any medication, *please* keep him/her home from school. Department of Public Health regulations dictate that centers are only permitted to accept children back to school when they have been *fever free for at least 24 hours having taken **NO fever reducing medications.** Now, with the COVID-19 issue, we will need a hard copy or an emailed copy of a negative COVID-19 test result to be assured that children are well enough to be in care. At home tests cannot be accepted.*

Children who aren't eating or drinking well, who would have a hard time flowing with the regular center routines or have cold symptoms with or without a cough must also be kept home *even if there is no fever and will need negative COVID-19 test to return to care.*

Pink eye is a typical illness seen during the winter season. Children with leaky eyes must be kept home until the eye(s) are no longer leaking clear fluid or pus. It is this fluid/pus that causes other children (and staff) to contract the illness. So, even if your child has been on the eye antibiotic for 24 hours, if the eye(s) are still leaking, he/she needs to be kept home.

We have also been notified of a couple of children with stomach viruses. If your child complains of stomach pain and refuses to eat breakfast, he/she should not be brought to the center. It is a huge challenge to get children who are vomiting or have diarrhea to the bathroom in time.



This puts the child in distress and the clean up is a difficult task while trying to take care of the other children in the group – not to mention the level of contagion in the room after such an incident. Diapered children create the same issue when they vomit in the classroom or the diaper leaks on the floor.

With the proper documentation, staff can administer some medications during the day. Please ask your child's teacher for specifics and for required forms. Staff will place medications brought from home in a pre-designated location and will return medication to parents at pick up. **Medication/ointments cannot be left in backpacks or cubbies.**

Parents will need to supply a dosing cup or spoon for each medication brought to the center. All medications must be placed in a separate labeled baggie to keep it from coming in contact with other medications stored in the center medication box/bag.

Parents, please understand, if your child is brought to school, we cannot keep him/her indoors if the rest of the group is going out. Children should have snow gear/cold weather gear at the center every day.

If the weather is very poor or below 30 degrees (including the wind chill temp), the children will stay indoors and the staff will 'get their wiggles out' by offering a variety of fun, indoor gross motor activities.



PHYSICAL, IMMUNIZATIONS, HEALTH CARE PLANS, MEDICATION AND LEAD TEST INFO

NEED CONSISTENT UPDATING

Please ask your child's physician to complete (or print from their own system) an updated health form EVERY time he/she is seen for a well-child visit.

Please be sure information submitted to the center includes the date of the well child exam, a current immunization list and current lead test. Lead tests must be completed yearly from 1 year through age 3. An additional test must be done at age 4 if the child resides in Springfield, Chicopee or Holyoke because these cities are on the MA list as "high risk" locations for lead poisoning. Flu shots are now required annually as well.

Please bring a copy of the updated information to the center as soon as possible after the visit. Medical info can be handed directly to your child's teacher or emailed to Pam Flowers (pflowers@childrenshouseinc.org)

We have lots of files to stay on top of, so if parents could help us out by sending the info in before the staff have to request it, we would really appreciate it!

Thank you!

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Those who have been with us a few years know that Children's House *carefully* considers weather conditions before making the decision to close or delay opening. We recognize how these types of delays can be very inconvenient for families.



In the event we must close full day, have an opening delay or early closure, announcements will be shared with parents as described in the flyer entitled "In Case of Emergency/Disaster/Storm".

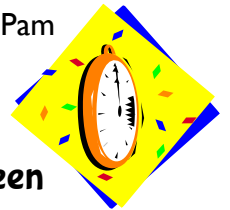
This flyer is available to parents on our website: www.childrenshouseinc.org.

If we plan to **close early**, parents who are connected to us via email will be notified via email. **Only parents who have not given us an email address or who specifically ask to be called instead (notify teacher in writing with phone # at which you wish to be contacted) will receive phone calls.**

[Please check emails often on poor weather days.](#)

If we are open and you plan to keep your child home, it would be so helpful if you would let us know.

If staff are not available to answer the phone, the automated answer system will pick up. Please leave all messages in the **general mailbox**. These messages will be distributed to the teachers as soon as possible. An email can also be sent to pflowers@childrenshouseinc.org and Pam will pass notifications on to staff.



To all our families who have been so supportive of us this past year, **THANK YOU** so much!

We look forward to a happy, healthy new year with all our families and staff!

HAPPY NEW YEAR