

# THE POLLYWOG PRESS

Woodstock Campus  
May 1, 2013

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It was so nice to see so many of you at music night! Michelle Sheets and Mike McKenzie did a great job entertaining everyone with their collection of children's songs!

We hope to see all of the Pollywog mom's at the Mother's Day festivities! Your child has been working very hard to make this a special day for you! Please RSVP to your child's teacher.

Everyone has been having so much fun outside on the playground. If you would like for your child's teacher to apply sunscreen on your child, you must complete a lotion form. The sunscreen must be labeled with the child's first and last name. Please do not send expired sunscreen to school.

Fever or pain reducing medications will not be administered without written authorization from a physician. The authorization must state the reason for the fever or pain reducing medication and the dosage and times to be administered. Blanket authorization for fever and/or pain reducing medications will not be accepted.

As summer approaches, I know many of you will be going on vacation. Please let us know when your child will be out so that we can plan accordingly.

Our toddler teachers have been reading the book *Positive Discipline, The First Three Years* by Jane Nelson. This book shares how to use kind and firm methods to raise a child who will feel capable and confident. This is a must read for anyone that has a child under the age of three.

-Jamie Pence



## Calendar of Events



**May 6-10** - Teacher Appreciation Week

**May 8** - Muffins with Mom (Ms. Ashley and Ms. Chanda's class) 9:00

**May 9** - Cattail Spa Day (Ms. Julie's Class) 9:30-10:30

**May 10** - Mother's Day Tea-9:30 (Ms. Brenda and Ms. Amanda's Class)

**May 27** - Pollywog Place Closed

## In the Spotlight

### Karoline Brill



Karoline is in the Turtle room. She is four years old and has one younger sister. Karoline has a puppy named Chesney. Her favorite color is pink. Karoline enjoys doing centers in Ms. Brenda's room. Her favorite lunch to eat at Pollywog Place is chicken.

## *Look What We're Learning!*

### *The Lily Pad Room*

#### Lily Pad/Infant Room ...Teething

The lily pad has several babies in the process of teething. It is our hope that some of the following information is helpful in getting your baby (and you!) through this important developmental milestone.

Many parents maintain that their teething babies experience discomfort (though some babies get through the process with no problems at all). The symptoms most likely to trouble a teether include:

- Drooling (which can lead to a facial rash)
- Gum swelling and sensitivity
- Irritability or fussiness
- Biting behavior
- Refusing food
- Sleep problems

Tender, swollen gums can make life miserable for your baby (and you!). If you haven't found the right teether to ease her distress, try one of these alternatives shared by parents of teething infants from babycenter.com.

#### **Alternative "teethers" ...**

-a cold washcloth... you can also put crushed ice inside the washcloth, tie it up, and let her chew until all of the ice chips melt.

-a fresh washcloth soaked in some brewed chamomile tea kept cold and ready in the fridge.

-if you use a cold teething ring, try one with a handle of solid plastic that won't get as cold when she's holding it.

-a vibrating teething "star"... when she bites down, it vibrates (\$11.05 @amazon.com by Tomy)

-a teething blanket by Munchkin ...suggested that you buy two... one can be washed while the other is in use. (\$5.99 @amazon.com , \$6.95 @ babyearth.com)

-frozen bagels.

-put a few frozen grapes or bananas in the baby feeder mesh bag (\$7.58 two-pack @ amazon.com)

-for breastfed babies... pump and freeze the milk in an ice cube tray, then put the frozen milk cube into a mesh feeder bag

-submerge pacifier in water and squeeze the nipple to suck up as much water as possible., then put it in the freezer until it's solid... it's cold, it fits in her mouth, and she can suck and soothe herself.

-put pacifier in the freezer.

Transitioning from that gummy grin to a mouthful of gleaming teeth is a rite of passage that can take your little one three years to complete. Whenever the first tooth peeks through, celebrate it by taking pictures and noting its arrival date in your child's baby book. Hang in there mom and dad...there is light at the end of the "teething tunnel!"

We are in this with you,

Ms. Jody, Ms. Susan, Ms. Jeanne, and Ms. Megan

## *Look What We're Learning!*

### *The Tadpole Room*

Wow! I can't believe it's already the month of May. We have some new friends to welcome to the room; Peyton, Kerrigan and Evan! We are so excited that our room is growing! During this month, we will be learning about Mother's Day, the circus and pets.

As the weather gets warmer, we will be going outside. You may also want to explore outside with your little one. When toddlers explore they learn how to use fine motor skills such as picking up the rock that they find so interesting. They will also develop their gross motor skills by running or learning how to jump. It is so important for them to learn these things because doing these things teaches them to become more independent. I hope you get a chance to enjoy your little one and explore together!

-Ms. Joanna



Bubble fun!



Abigail

### *The Little Frogs*

The Little Frogs would not only like to welcome Brynna and Brynlee into our room but we would also like to say "Happy Birthday" to Rylee who just turned two! This month has been super busy and fun for us! Getting to enjoy a lot more time outside with the beautiful weather is something the children really love! The theme this month that the children really enjoyed was farm animals. They helped to make a barn and several different farm animals. We also had a baby calf and goat visit us. The children were very excited to meet these animals! We are looking very forward to the month of May and are hoping for more beautiful weather to enjoy!

-Ms. Ashley

## *Look What We're Learning!*



Fun with trucks!



Lily Blossoms with the baby calf!

### *The Lily Blossoms*

The Lily Blossom's would like to welcome Xander to their class. This month the children enjoyed our Farm Animals Unit. They were very excited to be able to pet a live baby goat and calf. Another activity the children enjoyed was dressing up as police officers, doctors and nurses during our Community Helpers week. We are enjoying the warmer weather and our time outside! Happy May!

-Ms. Chanda



Painting fun!

### *The Cattails*

The Cattails were very busy in April. We studied Spring, rainbows, Earth Day, recycling and farm animals. Our activities included fruit loop rainbows, planting and watching our green beans grow, sorting rainbow candy colors, painting with Kool Aide and making cupcakes using blue icing for the water and green for the land. Kids were a mess but loved putting on their own icing! During our farm unit, we made muddy pigs, paper plate cows and edible haystacks. We reviewed letters Q, W, X and Z. Our new letters were A and E. We talked about both the long and short sounds.

May promises to be a month you will never forget! We can't wait!

-Ms. Julie

## *Look What We're Learning!*



Making paper plate cows



Earth Day cupcakes!

### *The Turtles*

Does your child break the rules and not want to face the consequences? Do you feel everything is a battle? Do you find yourself giving in because it's easier than arguing? How can you make it stop?

The goal of discipline is teaching appropriate behaviors. Children need to be taught that their actions have consequences. When using consequences it's important to state what is expected and pair it with its consequence. For example: "After you clean up your toys we can play catch." Rather than, "if you don't clean up your toys, you won't be allowed to....." This

does not state the desired behavior, but rather poses a threat to the child. A natural consequence occurs when parents do not intervene in a situation but to allow the situation to teach the child. For example: When a child refuses to eat, he becomes hungry. If a child stays up to late, she will be tired the next day. Logical consequences teach children to accept responsibility for their mistakes. Logical consequences need to be related, respectful and reasonable. Logical consequences are often confused with punishment. The key difference between them goes back to the idea that consequences should be related, respectful and reasonable. While it is not possible to anticipate every behavior, the more parents discuss their expectation, rules and consequences in advance, the more receptive the child will be to understand and follow them.

-Ms. Brenda



Making butter!

## *Look What We're Learning!*

### *The Dragonflies*

April has been a busy time in the Dragonfly room. We began the month talking about the beautiful season of spring, and we brainstormed a list of signs of spring. As we would walk out to the playground we would look and feel for these signs. We are continuing with our book making projects, and students wrote and illustrated their own books about spring. We had a chance for sharing and hopefully you had the opportunity for your child to read his/her book to you. Later in the month we began talking about the environment. Students learned about what it means to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Students also had the opportunity to bring in an item from home that could be recycled. We shared our items and then sorted them. We read many books about our planet Earth and learned many things that we can do at home to help take care of our world. Students learned about Earth Day, but we discussed how every day should be Earth Day. Later in the month, we learned about farms. We read many farm books and added a few new books to our reading bags. We made horses and wrote about our horses. We had some time for sharing as well. This month, we finished our unit on money. Students at this time should be able to recognize a penny, nickel, dime, and quarter. They should also be able to tell you how much they are worth. We worked on counting mixed money up to ten cents. This is a difficult skill for many students. One thing

that you can do to assist your child is have him/her practice with real coins at home. You can have your child sort money for you and tell you the values etc. Practicing with real coins is one of the best ways for children to learn how to count money. As always, I am so proud of your child's efforts and progress. Keep up the great work.

Amanda Hoffman

## Happy Birthday!



May 4 – Peyton  
Lilly  
May 7 – Kerrigan  
May 14 – Ms. Julie  
May 16 – Ms. Jeanne  
May 20 - Harper  
Siena  
May 21 – Anna  
Amzie  
May 26 – Aspen  
May 31 – Luke

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## Look What We're Learning!



## Music Night Fun!



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### Author of the Month

Karma Wilson



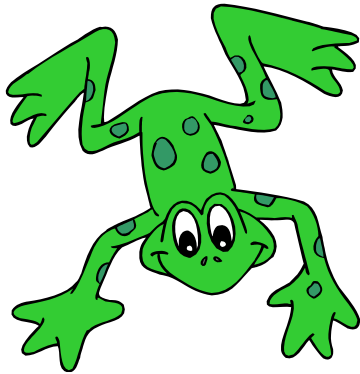
Karma has had more than 30 books accepted for publication. Many of those are on the shelves of libraries and bookstores around the world. Her books have received numerous state and national awards, been translated into dozens of languages, and a few have made an appearance on the New York Times bestseller list. Karma sincerely hopes that her books bring joy to children and families everywhere.

Karma is the author of *Bear Snores On*, *Where is Home, Little Pip?* and *Princes Me*.

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*Look What We're Learning!*

**Teacher Appreciation Week is  
May 6-10. Please show your  
child's teacher how much you  
appreciate all that she does for  
your child! We love all of our  
teachers at Pollywog Place!**



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daily updates!**