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**Follow us!**

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- [Twitter](https://www.twitter.com/TheLearningExp)
- [Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com/TLEChildCare)
The Learning Experience® in Raleigh has truly become a shining star in their community through their continued philanthropic and community outreach work. Dedicated owners, Jane & Ralph Patel, are passionate and committed to making a difference in the lives of children and the same can be said for their amazing team of educators. Their center continues to be a focal point in the community and most recently, they hosted a charity event to support the St. Baldrick’s Foundation and finding a cure for childhood cancer. This one-of-a-kind head shaving event was a fundraiser that generated a turnout of 300+ participants and over $13,000 for the foundation. We would like to applaud this center for their continued hard work and dedication and wish them nothing but continued success. Congratulations to TLE® Raleigh, NC for being our Center of the Season!

Ms. Kim DelVento’s undeniable passion and devotion for her students shines through in all that she does each and every day. Whether she is using balloons to teach her inquisitive children about static electricity, or launching into a science lesson with a fun “fizzy bottle rocket” experiment, Ms. Kim has a gift for turning ordinary items into extraordinary educational experiences. Her creative and “out of the box” teaching style instills a love of learning in her students that will last a lifetime. Ms. Kim is a great asset to the Newtown center and we congratulate her on being Teacher of the Season!

Preschoolers in Ms. Emma and Ms. Julie’s Preschool 1 class always have a fun and engaging classroom and with the “Plants, Gardens and Bugs, Oh My!” theme, there were a multitude of hands on activities that brought the joy of spring and learning to life. As they taught the children the butterfly life cycle, the little learners also experienced it first-hand with their own caterpillars that they got to feed and watch as they built their cocoon and then hatched into butterflies. A Butterfly Release party was held on the playground, with parents in attendance, as everyone counted down “3, 2, 1… “ and then watched their butterflies fly away. We are so proud of Chantilly’s Preschool 1 Classroom for being our Classroom of the Season!

If you wish to nominate a center, teacher or classroom to be recognized in a future edition of the Bubbles’ Bugle, please send an email to BubblesBugle@TLECorp.com, and indicate which award you would like to be considered for and why.
Does any of this sound familiar?

Parents sometimes have a love-hate relationship with summer. We fantasize about lazy mornings, sun-filled vacations on the beach, and BBQs with family. Nevertheless, with summer luxuries comes little ones looking to you to fill their days with unmeasured fun, excitement and food.

With that in mind, why not view summer as an opportunity to make lasting memories with your child? George R.R. Martin says, “Summer will end soon enough, and childhood as well.”
Need Some Ideas?

Set aside some time every day for fun. Fun does not have to be time extensive or take a lot of planning. How about a 5-minute dance break after dinner or a fun round of “I SPY” on the way home in the evening? The important thing is to make a connection with your child every day. Your little one will remember how they felt while spending time with you and not necessarily what you did.

Plan library visits and daily reading time. What better way to connect with your child while expanding their imagination and increasing their literacy skills than reading a book together? Plan a daily Drop Everything and Read Time (D.E.A.R.). Don’t worry if it doesn’t happen at the same time every day; it’s summer! Perhaps you read after breakfast on Monday or before bedtime on Thursday. Also, take advantage of the plethora of free summer reading programs at the local libraries. Many libraries hold puppet shows, celebrity reader programs and reading contests with prizes. And of course, don’t forget about TLE’s phenomenal Fun with Phonics® program!

Compile and celebrate your summer. As your summer draws to a close, begin to compile your summer pics into one photo album. There are many free photo websites you can use to store your photos. Why not get together over Labor Day weekend and view all the pictures and talk about all the memories you created over the summer months? What a great way to transition back into the hustle and bustle that fall and the school season brings!

Plan family oriented activities and stay-cations. Don’t wait! Get out your calendar and schedule those things you really want to do. Take a note from Penny Polite, plan a family dinner and ask each family member for one thing they would like to do this summer. Tell them to keep it simple—no airports, no hotels, no Tito Travels. For example, my boys and I love to roast marshmallows and make s’mores using our fire pit. How about eating dinner outside on a picnic blanket? Turn your backyard into a waterpark with a water sprinkler, water balloons and a slip and slide. Encourage your family to get involved with the planning and set up and take lots of pictures!

Limit their screen time. Children will not remember their best day of television but they will remember spending time with their family at the park. Why not go for a quick nature walk or get out those Legos and build your own TLE? Screen time is also an excellent way to build routine into your summer. You can create a calendar/schedule of your child’s favorite programs and only turn the T.V. on during those times. Do not make it a reward or a punishment, that puts too much importance on screen time. Simply decide when you want your child to watch T.V. or play on the iPad and mark it on the calendar.

By: Shannon Truesdale-Curry
Build a Coral Reef

Jump in and join the fun under the sea with our Build a Coral Reef app!

Use imagination & creativity to create a colorful underwater seascape.

How to download the app:

1. Login to the Apple or Google app store.
2. Type "Bubbles U: Build a Coral Reef" into the search field.
3. Download the app.
4. Enjoy!

Check back regularly for new apps, exciting activities and more!
The summer months are upon us. For many this may be a time set aside to slow down, but in the Learning & Development Department we are busy working on many exciting tools and initiatives for the back-to-school season and beyond to continue to allow our teachers to learn, play, and grow.

In April we published individual Caregiver videos, videos that provide a consistent message to all team members about the company’s philosophies and expectations. Upon hire, or used as an additional training resource, team members have the opportunity to sign in to our cloud-based video library where there is a myriad of teaching tools and resources available to them at their convenience. Through these learning bytes team members review important concepts and curricular focus and then participate in questions and answers to assess their understanding. Not only do these videos serve as a training resource, they are also a platform where so many of our shining stars can be showcased as videos and pictures from centers around the country are featured for all to learn from.

In addition to the learning videos we will be providing hands-on activities and resources for all teachers to prepare them for another exciting school year. Just like our children continue to learn and develop, so do our teachers. We have set aside time during the summer months for dedicated professional development and team building opportunities. Topics include ideas to further embody our philanthropy curriculum, ideas to foster engagement during drop-off and pick-up times, and ways in which to create routines within the classroom.

We are excited to be working closely with many of our departments to continue to create “learning experiences” for our amazingly dedicated, and incredibly talented teaching team.
Summer is known for “fun in the sun” – and it should be! It is typically during the summer when children build much of their memories of joyful outside playtime with family and friends. However, with 90 percent of your child’s brain developing by age 5, turning off the knowledge spigot for two months can be detrimental. Good news, summer opens up learning opportunities not afforded in traditional settings and often allows for even more immersive possibilities to avail themselves.

The continuation of socio-emotional development taught through interactive lessons at The Learning Experience® occurs naturally within the home and during the summer through positive interaction and engagement each day. But, it can also be fun to plan some of these interactions. Morning stretching and deep breathing is a wonderful way to reinforce physical activity and daily balance. Not to mention, it’s cute!

Bath times are a great opportunity to expand expression and creativity by making up songs about a subject. By dropping off supplies at a local food shelter, you can reinforce philanthropy and learning by counting the items, stacking them by size and color.

A staple of many childhood memories is lemonade (and lemonade stands!). You can share this experience - and see the wonderment of learning - at home with your children or on a playdate by working together to make lemonade. Skills learned during the exercise are sharing, teamwork, expression of opinion (“How did it taste?”), and following directions. Academically, the task focuses on math skills (counting and measuring) as well the color yellow (lemons)!

Here’s a simple summer recipe for lemonade. Be sure to ask questions and make activity-related conversation with your child / children to ensure full engagement throughout the process!

**Ingredients:**
- 6-8 lemons
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 6 cups cold water
- Optional: Strawberries, fresh mint or watermelon chunks for garnish

**Directions:**
1. Roll each lemon with the palm of your hand on a counter or tabletop. This will make the lemons easier to squeeze and help them make more juice.
2. Cut lemons in half. If using a reamer or your hands, juice lemons over a sieve to remove pulp and seeds.
3. If using a juicer, simply juice the lemons.
4. You will need 1 cup of fresh lemon juice.
5. Pour lemon juice into a large pitcher.
6. Add sugar and 1 cup of the cold water. Mix well, until sugar crystals disappear. Stir in remaining water.
7. Serve cold.
8. Optional: Garnish with fresh mint sprigs, watermelon chunks or strawberries.

**BONUS:** Once lemonade making is complete, set up a lemonade stand outside to continue the fun!

By: Deidre Krause
"SHARE"
THE GOOD NEWS!

You can now find your local The Learning Experience Center on Facebook!

Like us on Facebook!

SEARCH FOR THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE AND YOUR "CENTER'S NAME"
Birth – One:
Eric Carle Board Book Set
Twinkle, Twinkle: An Animal Lover’s Mother Goose by Bobbi Fabian
Black on White Board Books and White on Black Board Books
Books with Textures

One – Two:
I Spy Little Books by Jean Marzollo
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin
Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
Little Blue Truck by Alice Sherle
Little Blue Truck Leads the Way by Alice Sherle
Simple Board books with colors, numbers, and shapes

Two’s:
Down by the Barn by Will Hillenbrand
You Are (Not) Small by Anna Kang
My Truck is Stuck! by Kevin Lewis
Pete the Cat Series by Eric Litwin

Three’s:
Gilbert Goldfish Wants a Pet by Kelly DiPucchio
I’m My Own Dog by David Ezra Stein
Work an Occupational ABC by Kellen Hatanaka
Pigeon Series of Books by Mo Willems

Four’s:
Telephone by Mac Barnett
Scary Mary by Paula Bowles
The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywait
The Salamander Room by Anne Mazer and Steve Johnson
The Curious Garden by Peter Brown
What Pet Should I Get? By Dr. Seuss
Olivia Series by Ian Falconer

Five’s:
The Book with No Pictures by B. J. Novak
Madeline Series by Ludwig Bemelmans
My First Little House Series by Laura Ingles Wilder and Renee Graef
Enemy Pie by Derek Munson and Tara Calahan King
The Henry Series by D. B. Johnson
The Most Magnificent Thing by Ashley Spires

First Grade:
BOB Books by Bobby Lynn Maslen and John R. Maslen
Junie B. Jones Series by Barbara Park
The Diary of Series by Doreen Cronin and Harry Bliss
The Lost Lake by Alien Say
Flotsam by David Wiesner
Memoirs of a Hamster by Devin Scillian
Little Melba and Her Big Trombone by Katheryn Russell-Brown

Second Grade:
Judy Moody Series by Megan McDonald and Peter H. Reynolds
Picture Day Perfection by Deborah Diesen
The Legend of Diamond Lil; The Trouble with Chickens; and
The Chicken Squad: The First Misadventure by Doreen Cronin
Handle with Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey by Loree Griffin Burns

Books on tape or to read aloud to your child:
Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White and Garth Williams
Beezus and Ramona Series by Beverly Cleary and Jacqueline Rogers
Fudge Series by Judy Blume
Stuart Little by E.B. White and Garth Williams
How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell
Sideway Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar and Julie Brickloe
Preparing Your Child For Back-to-School

It’s hard to believe that while we find ourselves in the middle of summer and are enjoying fun in the sun activities, we really need to turn our attention to the fall and the back-to-school season. The start of the new school year, even at the preschool level, is a very busy time for all of us.

As the busy summer comes to a close, our teachers, managers and centers move swiftly towards one of the busiest days of the entire year: the first day of school! Upon entering the center, you will find the teaching staff and management to be welcoming and enthusiastic to see your family! Whether your child is eager or reluctant to go to school, we make sure that our teachers are ready with a smile to help with the transfer from your care to our classroom when arriving. Children need time to adjust to the new room, new teacher and new routines. The most exciting thing for your child is seeing old friends and meeting new classmates!

Preparing your child for back to school is only half the challenge; you, as parents, need to be ready too. A parent needs to know the name of his or her child’s teacher. Make sure that you have the school’s phone number with you, update your child’s file with any changes to phone number, address and/or contact or work information. This is also a good time to make sure that your center management is aware of any personal things happening at home that might be new or may cause your child to behave differently than before.

Finally, it is imperative to inform management and your child’s teacher of any new medications or allergies that have come up over the summer. Organization, positive thinking, and a little sensitivity will be the keys to getting ready for school and helping your child make a smooth transition for the new school year. Listed below are some simple tips that will help you and your child transition smoothly:

• Get into a solid bed-time routine a couple of weeks before starting full-time at school as it will make the first week run so much smoother if your child is not over tired or stressed.

• Make sure to bring a change of clothes to leave at the school as accidents do happen!

• Be ready for tears, but stay positive; smile, be happy and remain calm. If you start to panic, then your child will too.

• Stay in touch with your child’s day; ask questions of both the teacher and your child. The more involved you are, the faster your child will settle into the new school year.

• Meet new friends at school and schedule some play dates with new friends to help your child adjust more quickly.

The Learning Experience has an open door policy, so stop by the first week and take a peek into your child’s classroom window or view your child from our monitors in the Center Director’s office. Together we can all Learn, Play, and Grow into a successful back to school season!
Pineapple Salsa

Ingredients
- 1 Cup Pineapple, Diced
- 1 Cup Bell Peppers, Diced (any combination of red, orange, yellow, or green)
- 1 Cup Roma Tomatoes, Diced
- 1/3 Cup Cilantro, Chopped
- 1/4 Cup Red Onion, Diced
- 2 Limes, Juice from
- Salt and Pepper, to taste
- Optional: 1 Jalapeño, Seeded and Diced

Directions
1. In a small bowl, mix together diced pineapple, diced tomatoes, diced peppers, diced red onion, chopped cilantro, lime juice, salt, pepper, and diced jalapeños if using.

Greek Yogurt Berry Smoothie Pops

Ingredients
- 1/2 cup vanilla flavored Greek yogurt
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup frozen berries

Directions
1. Blend ingredients until smooth.
2. Pour into 3 oz. paper cups.
3. Let pops set up until almost firm and insert popsicle stick.
4. Continue freezing until solid.
5. Gently tear off paper cup and enjoy immediately.
**Quiche Toast Cups**

**Ingredients**

- 1.5 oz of Bacon, Diced
- ¼ Onion, Finely Diced
- 1 Teaspoon Oil
- 6 Slices White Sandwich Bread (Fresh)
- 2 Medium Eggs (or 3 Small)
- 2/3 Cup Milk
- 1/3 Cup Cheddar Cheese, Grated
- 2 Teaspoons Parsley, Finely Chopped
- Salt and Pepper
- Oil Spray

**Directions**

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Heat 1 teaspoon of oil in a small pan over high heat. Add onion and bacon and sauté until the bacon is crisp – about 2 minutes. Remove from heat and set aside.
3. Cut bread into rounds.
4. Use a rolling pin to flatten the bread.
5. Lightly spray 6 muffin tin holes with oil spray, then press the bread into the muffin tin.
6. Place in oven for 3 minutes. Remove from oven and set aside. The toast cups should not be browned, just a bit dry.
7. Whisk together the egg, milk, parsley, and a pinch of salt and pepper.
8. Divide the bacon mixture between the 6 toast cups, then the cheese.
9. Pour 2 ½ tablespoons of egg mixture into each cup, then immediately place in the oven.
10. Bake for 12-15 minutes until the top is lightly golden and the filling is set.

Flip the page to continue to the children’s section!
Help Bubbles get to the ocean by helping him through the maze.
Create this fun and educational matching card game for endless summer fun!

Create the cards by cutting along the dotted lines. To play the game, shuffle the cards and turn them upside down. Choose two cards at a time and set them aside if they match. If they do not match, try you best to memorize the location of each card and turn them back over. Continue to choose two cards at a time until you have found all of the matching pairs.
Mother’s Day!

Boca Raton, FL
Cary, NC
Lake Worth, FL
Ramsey, NJ
Wayne, NJ
Send friends and family a little piece of sunshine with this pop-up greeting card!

What You’ll Need:
- Crayons, markers or colored pencils
- Children’s safety scissors (Be sure to ask an adult for help!)
- Tape or glue

Directions:
1. Cut out Miss Chievous® and Bubbles® on page 8.
3. Fold Pop-Up Card in half (artwork should be on the outside).
4. Cut slits in center of card along the dotted lines.
5. Pop out cut area.
6. Stand up card.
7. Attach Miss Chievous® and Bubbles® to Pop-Up Card with glue or tape.
8. Ta-da! Your Pop-Up Card is complete!
Teacher Appreciation Week 2016

Chapel Hill, NC
Heathrow, FL
Lakewood Ranch, FL
Lawrenceville, NJ
Merrimack, NH
Nazareth, PA
What insect is Lenny trying to catch from his lily pad?
WE ARE ALL SPECIAL

Mansfield, NJ

Littleton, MA

Jacksonville-Oakleaf, FL

Riverdale, NY

South Easton, MA

Lawrenceville, NJ
What bird did Bubbles spot on his safari?
Friends in our Neighborhood

Woodbridge, NJ
Marlton, NJ
Tinton Falls, NJ
Independence, MI
Lakewood Ranch, FL
Cherry Hill, NJ