



KIDS FIRST NEWPORT NEWS

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ROOM 3 - FARM ANIMALS

New Year from the Farm Animals! As we start the year, our themes for the month will be winter, snow and ice, bears, winter sports, and friendship. We had so much fun learning about Christmas last year and can't wait to see what January brings.

We've had 2 new friends join our class. We have Deangelo, who moved up from the Busy Bugs and is doing great. We also have someone new to KIDS FIRST, Jarviyon, who has loved being around all his new friends. We had to say goodbye to Raiden who moved to the next room.

Jataelyn and Samantha loved our gluing project when they got to put "fruit loop" ornaments on a Christmas tree. Johrod and Jalacia have become instant friends and love playing with the toys together. Braniya continues to talk more and more. Santos and Gunner love to build with the blocks while Terrance, Akeelan and Tristen like to do the puzzles. Urijah's favorite thing last month was seeing Santa who made a surprise visit!

As it's still very cold outside, please remember to send your child with a warm coat, hat and gloves. Thank you parents for letting us be a part of your child's life.



Room 5 - Wild Kingdom

Happy New Year from the Wild Kingdom. December was a wonderful month for us. The wild Kingdom enjoyed a few exciting things for the month of December along with the welcoming of JaKeem who came on and had a blast meeting his new friends. Also we enjoyed building a Christmas out of things we had handy, writing letters to Santa, making tie dye paper, a visit from Santa, along with being elves for a day.

Once again the children are continuing to make progress as they are still eager to learn. Jasmine and Cedric are listening and learning most of our new songs. JadaKris' self-help skills are improving daily. Charlie and Dakota will soon be able to tell you most of the animals in our science center. Chase is still loving the blocks but starting to take a stronger interest in the book center. Laishun and Liberty enjoy the kitchen while Makon is putting together most of our puzzles in the puzzle center. As always, we enjoy working with your children as they continue to grow and learn. Thank you from the Wild Kingdom!

ROOM 1 - BUSY BUGS

Hello from the Busy Bugs! As we start off the new year we will be learning about winter, ice and snow, bears, winter sports and friendship.

We had to say goodbye to Deangelo as he moved up to the Farm Animals, but we welcomed Akeela from the Mother Goose Nursery and she already seems to be doing well. Damajiah and Zantrell are talking more and more. Johrie loves playing with play dough while Elijah and Semaj love looking at books. CedKingdom has started to imitate familiar words. Jayden has been keeping us busy as he loves to run around the playground with the other children.

We are so proud of our Busy Bugs. They continue to grow and learn so fast! Please continue to remember to send your child with a warm coat, hat and gloves so we can play outside when weather permits. Thank you so much for letting us be a part of your children's lives. Hope you continue to have a Happy New Year!



**Will KIDS FIRST be closed?
In the event of winter
weather watch
Jonesboro's channel 8
TV. Any closing will be
announced there.**

ROOM 2 - MOTHER GOOSE NURSERY

December has flown by for the nursery. We all enjoyed our Christmas party and seeing Santa Claus. Thank you parents for helping make our party a success.

We have all been learning and having fun. On the infant side, Kemya is standing alone. Alena really enjoys rolling all over the mat. Saniya is walking now, while Ja'Kalen loves to cruise around the room on the furniture. Luke and LaJavion like to crawl through things. Kash likes to pull up on the toy box to get toys out.

On the waddler side, we welcomed Travon to our room and said good bye to Akeela, who moved up to the Busy Bugs. Krysten is taking steps with her hands held. Brennen enjoys walking up and down stairs. Davis, Zahara and Emma enjoy playing on the slide. Teagan is walking now. Jomya likes to dance.

This month we will talk about winter and different winter sports. We will also talk about snow and ice. Hopefully we won't see too much of that ice! We will also talk about warm things like bears and friendship. We hope everyone has a warm and safe January!

ROOM 4 - UNDER THE SEA

It's hard to believe 2010 is already over! How time flies! December was an extra exciting month for our class! We did so many neat projects! Making reindeer, Christmas trees, and gingerbread men was a fun way to learn about such a special holiday! Le'Bryant, Destiny and Zequan loved making antlers and painting their noses red like Rudolph. Jessica, Demarcus and Eddie liked making hand print antlers. Octavious and Leah enjoyed the "counting tree" and Zavion, Joshua and Trent were bright-eyed hearing all the Christmas stories! We wish to thank all the parents who contributed to our Christmas party! We would also like to wish everyone a very New Year!



Project Nurture

Nurturing Idea for January

Snow Ice Cream

It's a great time to stay inside and snuggle up with your little one. But if you're lucky enough to get some snow this winter, whip up a batch of this classic treat and enjoy it with your child. If he's big enough (and you're brave enough) let him help pour and stir.

When it starts to snow, place a large, clean one-gallon bowl outside to collect the flakes. When full, stir in 1 cup sugar and 1 tbsp vanilla extract, then stir in just enough milk to get your favorite consistency. Serve at once.



WHAT IS PROJECT NURTURE?

Project Nurture is KIDS FIRST's Infant Mental Health Program. Our goal is to promote the social and emotional well-being of KIDS FIRST infants, toddlers, and families through secure and nurturing relationships.

At KIDS FIRST, all of the children are given the chance to play outside every day, as long as weather and air quality conditions allow. Outdoor play provides an opportunity for learning in a different environment as well as many health benefits.

- *Germs that cause infections are generally less concentrated in outside air.
- *Light exposure provides children with Vitamin D that growing children require. *Open spaces encourage children to exercise and develop their gross motor skills in ways that are difficult to duplicate indoors.

You can help your child enjoy the outdoors during cold weather by dressing him or her in layers and sending a warm coat, cap, and gloves or mittens to wear. When the weather is cold, we will watch your child carefully and come inside if needed.

If the weather is too cold, with wind chill at or below 15 degrees F, as identified by the National Weather Service*, we will restrict the children to indoor play only.

THE NURSE'S CORNER: WINTER SAFETY TIPS

WHAT TO WEAR

- Dress infants and children warmly for outdoor activities. Several thin layers will keep them dry and warm. Don't forget warm boots, gloves or mittens, and a hat.
- The rule of thumb for older babies and young children is to dress them in one more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions.
- Blankets, quilts, pillows, sheepskins and other loose bedding may contribute to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and should be kept out of an infant's sleeping environment. Sleep clothing like one-piece sleepers is preferred.
- If a blanket must be used to keep a sleeping infant warm, it should be tucked in around the crib mattress, reaching only as far as your baby's chest, so the infant's face is less likely to become covered by bedding materials.

WINTER HEALTH

- If your child suffers from winter nosebleeds, try using a cold air humidifier in the child's room at night. Saline nose drops or petrolatum may help keep tissues moist. If bleeding is severe or recurrent, consult your pediatrician.
- Many pediatricians feel that bathing two or three times a week is enough for an infant's first year. More frequent baths may dry out the skin, especially during the winter.
- Cold weather does not cause colds or flu. But the viruses that cause colds and flu tend to be more common in the winter, when children are in school and are in closer contact with each other. Frequent hand washing and teaching your child to sneeze or cough into the bend of her elbow may help reduce their risk of catching the flu.
- Children 6 months of age and up should get the influenza vaccine to reduce their risk of catching the flu.