

# Spring Newsletter

2023



*Milton Early*

*Childhood Alliance*

Serving families with children birth to age 10  
a program of

**Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc.**

and funded by the MA Dept. of Early  
Education and Care's CFCE Grant



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[www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org](http://www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org)

We're on Facebook & Instagram at:  
Milton Early Childhood Alliance

## Our Spring Programming...always free!

### StoryWalks® Around Town

Trailside Museum - Listen for the peepers, stroll around the outdoor grounds, visit with some animals, and read a terrific children's story about a river otter along the way! We'll be posting a children's story on the outdoor fencing of the Trailside Museum's grounds in early April for your family to enjoy. The outdoor grounds and exhibits at the Blue Hills Trailside Museum, located at 1904 Canton Avenue in Milton, are open daily 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Houghton's Pond - Look for blossoms on the ground or falling from the trees, visit the pond and playground, and enjoy a children's story in a wonderful setting! We've posted a StoryWalk® inside the fencing of the children's playground at Houghton's Pond, located at 860 Hillside Street in Milton, open seven days a week, 8:00 AM until sunset.

StoryWalks® are a very unique and fun early literacy experience which we are sure you and your family will enjoy!



### Stories and Friends Meet Up - Signs of Spring

Join us for a spring adventure which will include enjoying fun spring activities, listening to stories, and making new friends! Create a bird's nest, measure yourself against the wingspan of various birds, make beautiful butterfly wings and more! This program will be held on Saturday, May 20th at 10:30 AM and is for children 2 1/2 to 6 years old with their parent/guardian. We'll meet at Discovery Schoolhouse, 101 Blue Hills Parkway in Milton. Program will be co-facilitated by an experienced Teacher Naturalist with over 30 years of early childhood experience. Registration is not required, however we will ask you to sign in on arrival.

*Many thanks to our Kindergarten T-shirt sponsors for their generous support of this program!*



### Getting Ready for Kindergarten Parent Workshop

Will your child be attending kindergarten in the fall? Do you wonder if your child is ready academically, socially, emotionally, or developmentally? Would you like to learn what you can do to make the transition easier for your child and your family? Then, this parent workshop is for you and is open to all parents/caregivers; your child will not need to attend Milton Public Schools to participate. We will be sharing many tips and helpful hints to help make your child's transition to kindergarten a smooth one! This workshop will be held virtually, via Zoom, from the comfort of your home on Tuesday, May 9th at 7:00 PM. Registration is required. To register and obtain the Zoom link and passcode, visit: <https://forms.gle/XrKD81BEYnZ4GrPPA>.

*Many thanks to the Milton Junior Woman's Club for their generous support of this program!*

### **Stories and Friends Meet Up - Summer's Coming!**

Join us for a spring adventure while we look for signs of summer, listen to stories, create fun activities, and make new friends! A free At-Home Learning Extension planting activity will be given to the first 35 children who sign in. Program will be held on Saturday, June 10th at 10:30 AM and is for children 2 1/2 to 6 years old with their parent/guardian. We'll meet at the Houghton's Pond Visitor Center, 860 Hillside Street, Milton. Meet DCR Ranger Dan, who will be joining us! Program will be co-facilitated by an experienced Teacher Naturalist with over 30 years of early childhood experience. Registration is not required, however we will ask you to sign in on arrival

*Many thanks to our Kindergarten T-shirt sponsors for their generous support of this program!*



### **Children's Concert**

On Wed. June 7th, our annual Children's Concert will be held at Baron Hugo Gazebo at Milton's Town Hall at 6:00 PM. Join us for toe-tappin', banjo rockin', guitar groovin' music, singing, and fun for all ages! Wear your bright yellow t-shirt and meet other children entering kindergarten in the fall. Bring a blanket for an evening of fun! Registration is not required. If it looks like rain, call 617-696-2262 after 4:00 PM. We'll leave a message if we've postponed the Concert until June 8th.

*Co-sponsored with the Town of Milton's Parks and Recreation Dept.*

### **MANY thanks to our 2023 Kindergarten T-shirt Sponsors!!**

Adams Street Early Learning Center, Carriage House Schools, Discovery Schoolhouse, Milton Academy, Sunshine School, St. Agatha School, The Campbell School, The Centre School, Village School, Collicot School PTO, Cunningham School PTO, Glover School PTO, Tucker School PTO, Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Milton, Curry Ace Hardware, East Milton Dental, Fitness Unlimited, Goldigram, The Common Market Restaurants, Abby Park Restaurant, Beth Bourque Design Studio, Dental 1, Elliott Physical Therapy, Eustis Estate Museum, Harte Dental, Mel O'Drama School of Acting, Milton Yoga Studio, Novara Restaurant, Richard J. Hunt Landscaping, Inc., Robinson and Rull Real Estate, Stevie's, The Friends of Milton Public Library, The Milton Woman's Club, The Skin and Body Firm, and The Toy Chest at the Nutshell.

*We thank you all for your generous support!!*

### **Milton Public Library Children's Programming**

Peep! Peep! The Children's Room is getting chicken eggs! Starting on April 19, the Story Hour Room will be the new home to baby chicks as they wait to hatch in their incubator. Drop by anytime they are open to observe the hatching process, and be the first to say hello to their little chick friends when they finally break through their shells.

Also check out their children's programming this Spring! Stop by to enjoy their Story Walk, located on the outdoor patios, and monthly rotating activities found at the Children's Room center activity table. Join the Library staff for Night Owls Storytime for ages 3 to 8 on Mondays at 6:30 PM, Ms. Tory's Stories for ages 0 to 5 on Tuesdays at 10:00 or 10:45 AM, Small Wonders for ages 0 to 5 on Wednesdays at 10:00 or 10:45 AM, and Saturday Stories for ages 0-5 on Saturdays at 10:00 AM. For more great programs and registration information, visit their website at: [miltonlibrary.org](http://miltonlibrary.org), click on Events, and use the drop-down menu under All Programs to choose Children's Programs.

### **The Milton Coalition**

The Milton Coalition focuses on preventing and reducing youth substance use and promoting mental health. They bring together a variety of community stakeholders who work collaboratively on reducing, preventing, and addressing substance abuse and related mental health challenges in our Town, primarily amongst youth. Visit their website [here](#) to view their many resources and upcoming events.

# Information and Resources for You...

## Do you have a child 3 mos. to 5 years old? Check to see if they are on target for their age!

The Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ), is a free, simple tool you can use to find out what your child's strengths are, and the areas where they may need more practice. The program is designed specifically for the age of your child anywhere between 3 months and 5 ½ years old, and can be done multiple times during your child's first five years of life. Simply complete a Questionnaire in the comfort of your home and submit it to us for scoring. We'll let you know the results, help you with next steps, and provide you with fun, simple activities to help with your child's continual growth and development. Our ASQ online link is: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/8fd7d7>.



## Food Assistance

Milton Public Schools:

call 617-898-1051

email [jmorgan@miltonps.org](mailto:jmorgan@miltonps.org)

Milton Food Pantry:

call 617-696-0221

[www.miltonfoodpantryma.org](http://www.miltonfoodpantryma.org)

Project Bread:

call hotline 1-800-645-8333

[www.projectbread.org](http://www.projectbread.org)

WIC - Women, Infants & Children

call Quincy's office 617-376-8701

<https://wic.bamsi.org/quincy/>

Interfaith Social Services

call 617-773-6203 x19

<https://interfaithsocialservices.org/>

## Parents Helping Parents

Empowering parents to nurture children and build stronger families. Trained volunteer counselors offer ways to relieve stress in a sympathetic, non-judgmental way. Support is available 24/7 at 1-800-632-8188 or [www.parentshelpingparents.org](http://www.parentshelpingparents.org).



## Little Children Have Big Feelings, Too Book Suggestions...

### Family Friendly Hikes

#### The Blue Hills, 1904 Canton Ave., Milton

Use one of the two parking lots by the Trailside Museum, look for their map signage, and follow the red trail to the lookout tower.

#### Noon Hill, 164 Noonhill Road, Medfield

Use the roadside parking at the trailhead along this dirt road. Making it to the summit will provide you with a view of Patriot's Place and Gillette Stadium, especially if you go before the leaves are out.

#### King Philip's Cave, 91 Mansfield Street, Sharon

Their very small parking lot looks like a dirt driveway, but is a trailhead. The lot is on the odd side of the street.

#### Needham Town Forest, end of Robinwood Ave., Needham

Click [this link](#) to download a map, park at the trailhead (marker 12), take the far right trail (Horsford Road), then the first trail to the right at marker 11. Take your time to enjoy this magical (train) trail.

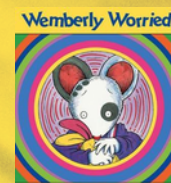
#### Purgatory Chasm, 198 Purgatory Road, Sutton

This feels like a mini canyon. Best for ages 5 and up. Across the street are a playground and picnic tables. May or may not charge for parking.

*Adapted from: [communitykangaroo.com](http://communitykangaroo.com)*



The Grouchy Ladybug  
by Eric Carle



Wemberly Worried  
By Kevin Henkes



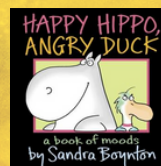
Glad Monster,  
Sad Monster  
By Ed Emberley



My Many Colored Days  
By Dr. Seuss



Lots of Feelings  
By Shelley Rotner



Happy Hippo, Angry Duck  
By Sandra Boynton



The Pigeon Has Feelings,  
Too!  
By Mo Willems



# Information and Resources for You...

## Are you looking for childcare? If so, we can help!

Just email [cpcmecasld@verizon.net](mailto:cpcmecasld@verizon.net), let us know the age of your child, and we'll provide you with comprehensive information on all licensed childcare programs and family childcare providers in town, surrounding cities and towns, or via your driving route.

## Local Resources

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance maintains a comprehensive Milton Parents Resource Manual, filled with a myriad of information for parents and families. Check out our website at [www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org](http://www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org).

## Do you have a child going to camp...childcare...after school activities?

Mabel's Labels would be a terrific source for your clothing label needs! There are also labels for water bottles, lunch boxes, backpacks, personal items, etc.

And, when you make a purchase, you'll be supporting the *Milton Early Childhood Alliance*!!

Simply visit [Mabels Labels](http://MabelsLabels.com), type in Milton Early Childhood Alliance, and start shopping.

Shipping is free!!

*Also could be used by those in senior housing, assisted living or nursing homes!*

## Early Intervention Parent Leadership Project

The Early Intervention Parent Leadership project was created to support parents whose children receive early intervention services. To learn more, visit their website [here](#) or request to be added to their newsletter distribution list [here](#).

## The Basics

Check out [The Basics](#), a non-profit organization that provides strategies for supporting vibrant learning and bolstering children's brain development. Strategies/tips are available for children birth to 60 months old.

## Playgrounds in and Around Boston

Spring is in the air and a great time to help your children work on their fine and gross motor development at a playground!

### Mayor Thomas M. Menino Park

300 First Ave., Charlestown

### Uncle Frank & Auntie Kay Chin Park

John F. Fitzgerald Surface Rd., Chinatown, Boston

### Jackson Square Park

1516 Columbus Ave., Jamaica Plain

### Martin's Park

Children's Wharf, Boston Seaport District

### Paris Street Park

115 Paris St., East Boston

### Esplanade Playground

Esplanade on the Charles River, Boston

### Fallon Field

81 Roberts St., Roslindale

### Hunt Almont Playground

Almont and Orlando Street, Mattapan

### Sweeney Playground

177 West 5th St., South Boston

### Little Scobie Park

42 Copeland St., Roxbury

### Alexander W. Kemp Playground

36 Waterhouse St. Cambridge

### Chuckie Harris Park

3-17 Cross St., Somerville

### Hoyt-Sullivan Playground

115 Central St., Somerville

*Adapted from [mommypoppins.com](http://mommypoppins.com)*

We are very grateful to the First Congregational Church for their generous support of our office space.

