

Summer Newsletter

2021



Milton Early Childhood Alliance

a program of
Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc.

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



Contact us at:

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www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org

Like us on Facebook at:

Milton Early Childhood Alliance

Our Summer Programming...always free!

Summertime Stories

Join us outdoors for fun stories and songs! For families with their children birth to six years old. Four different sessions will be held:

7/15 and 8/5 at 10:00 AM, Cunningham Park,
75 Edge Hill Road, Milton

7/29 and 8/19 at 10:00 AM, Tucker School
Playground, 187 Blue Hills Pkwy., Milton

*This program is offered in collaboration with
Milton Public Library and Milton Public Schools.*

Registration is not required, however, you will be asked to sign in upon arrival.

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Is your child entering Kindergarten this fall? Let us help you with this next big step! We will discuss how to prepare your child and your family, how to make this transition easier for everyone, and how to help your child be ready.

This parent workshop will be held live via Zoom on Tuesday, July 20th at 7:00 PM and will be co-facilitated by Beth Greenawalt of Parent Solutions, Marti O'Keefe McKenna of Milton Public Schools, and Susan Dolan of Milton Early Childhood Alliance.

Registration is required and can be completed here: <https://forms.gle/YoEpyzLtrJEvJrrN9>.

Children's Concert

On August 12th, our annual Children's Concert will be held at Baron Hugo Gazebo at Milton's Town Hall from 6:00 to 7:00 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, picnic, and your friends 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 August 12th. *Co-sponsored with the Town of Milton's Parks and Recreation Dept.*

Kindergarten Days

Kindergarten Days returns from August 29th through September 4th! During this week, some local business sponsors will offer free gifts or discounts to children entering kindergarten this fall. You don't need to turn anything in to take advantage of the offers - but **your child must be present, entering kindergarten in September, and wearing his or her yellow Kindergarten t-shirt**. As you visit each sponsor, please join us in thanking them for their support of Milton's young school children! A list of participating sponsors will be available on our website in early August.

Continued: Our Summer Programming...always free!

Tri-lingual StoryWalk® at Brookwood Community Farm

Look for an engaging children's book, in English, French, and Spanish, on the farm at 11 River Rd. We'll be installing the story early-to-mid-July and keeping it up through the summer months. Enjoy this story about a children's community garden, posted around the farm property, while also enjoying fresh air, sunshine, and a pleasant walk with your family. This is a self-guided event and is available daily from dawn to dusk. Many thanks to our Translators: French translation by Marianne LeBigot, French Reading Specialist, Milton Public Schools, and Spanish translation by Yalennys Velazquez, owner of Little Spanish Garden Bilingual Childcare in Milton!

StoryWalk® at the Pond in Milton Cemetery

Look for a new story at the StoryWalk® around the pond in Milton Cemetery, 211 Centre Street, which will be posted in mid-July. Read a children's story about a shy skunk who thinks he smells too much to play with his friends. This is a self-guided event. You can access the pond from the cemetery's main gate from 7:00 AM to sunset. Enjoy a children's story while taking your family on a leisurely walk, or ride on your bikes, to the pond!

StoryWalk® at Trailside Museum

To celebrate the return of the river otter, a StoryWalk® will be installed along the outdoor walking path of the Trailside Museum, 1904 Canton Ave., Wednesdays to Fridays 10:00-4:00 in mid-July. Read a children's story about a little otter learning to swim, visit with the animals, and enjoy some fresh air and sunshine. This is a self-guided event. Tickets are required and can be obtained for free at www.massaudubon.org. Choose "Blue Hills Trailside Museum Milton" from the "Select a Wildlife Sanctuary" drop down menu.

Summer Story and Activity Calendars

Summer Story and Activity Calendars for July and August are ready for you and your child to enjoy! Each day includes one fun activity for families to do with their children, along with a weekly story to be enjoyed together. Calendars can be found here: www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org. We'll include a link to the Summer Calendars on our home page - Enjoy!

Is there a new baby in your home, or arriving soon?

Look for our Baby and Me Infant Playgroup Series to return this fall!

Milton Public Library Happenings

The Milton Public Library has terrific programming for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers (along with all other ages, of course!). Join Ms. Elaine and Buddy for Small Wonders in the Story Hour room, Ms. Jen for Up to 5, Live in the Children's Garden, Ms. Sara for Night Owls Storytime in the Children's Garden, as well as four Summertime Stories events (listed above), and story times at the Farmer's Market! Visit their website at: www.miltonlibrary.org, scroll down, and click on "View All Events".



Milton Early Childhood Alliance

Resources and Information

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance maintains a comprehensive Milton Parents Resource Manual on our website. Check it out at www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org.

Child Growth and Development

It has been a difficult year and a half for young children, so maybe now is a good time to check and see if they are developing on target for their age. Our Ages and Stages Help Me Grow program 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. Questionnaires are designed specifically for the age of your child, anywhere between birth and 5 ½ years old. Simply complete a Questionnaire in the comfort of your home, then submit it to us for scoring. We'll let you know the results, help you with next steps, if needed, and provide you with fun, simple activities to help with your child's continual growth and development - all for free! Visit: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/8fd7d7>.

Hotlines

National Helpline for Substance Abuse
1-800-662-HELP (4357)
Poison Control 1-800-222-1222
National Suicide Prevention for youth and adults in emotional crisis 1-800-273-8255
The Trevor Project for LGBTQ youth crisis intervention
1-866-488-7386
Safelink for anyone affected by domestic violence
1-877-785-2020
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center 1-800-841-8371
MA 211 contact center and public portal website for information specific to your circumstances

Food Assistance

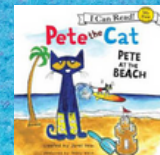
Milton Public Schools' food service is open every Wednesday this summer! This is a drive through food pick-up service for families with children up to age 21. Every Wednesday this summer, from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, visit Milton High School and pick up a 10 pound box of fresh produce, 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, and milk. Enter from Blue Hills Parkway, drive up the hill, take the first left after the front of the building, and drive down the hill to the side of the field. This program is available from June 23rd to August 25th. For more information, email jmorgan@miltonps.org.

Milton Food Pantry is distributing pre-packaged grocery bags, contact free, on Saturdays, 9:15am to 11:15am. For more information, call 617-696-0221.

Summertime Book Suggestions



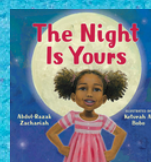
A House for Hermit Crab
By Eric Carle



Pete the Cat: Pete at the Beach
By James Dean



Sun
By Sam Usher



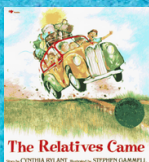
The Night is Yours
By Abdul-Razak Zachariah



The Storm Book
By Charlotte Zolotow



The Hike
By Alison Farrell



The Relatives Came
By Cynthia Rylant

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance is funded through the CFCE grant from the MA Dept. of Early Education & Care



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



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