

Summer Newsletter

2023



Milton Early Childhood Alliance

a program of
Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc.

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



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www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org

Like us on Facebook & Instagram at:
Milton Early Childhood Alliance

Our Summer Programming...always free!

StoryWalk® at Milton Cemetery and Arboretum

Our current story (Owl Babies) posted here is soon to be replaced. Have you ever investigated what can be seen or found over or under a pond? Visit our StoryWalk® posted around the lovely and quiet duck pond and enjoy a great children's story to see what's living and hiding at the pond!! Milton Cemetery and Arboretum is located at 211 Centre Street in Milton and is open daily from 8:00 AM to sunset. Use the side gate entrance next to the office and keep straight until you see the pond.

StoryWalk® at Houghton's Pond

Can a spider spin a web using various shapes? Find out by visiting our StoryWalk® posted on the fencing around the children's playground at Houghton's Pond! Play for a while, take a walk around the pond, bring a picnic lunch, and enjoy a great children's story, too! Houghton's Pond is located at 840 Hillside Street in Milton and is open daily, dawn to dusk.

StoryWalk® at Trailside Museum

Enjoy the story, Little Otter Learns to Swim, which will soon be replaced by a fun guessing story, Looking Closely Through the Forest. Visit our StoryWalk®, posted on the outdoor fencing of the Trailside Museum's grounds! Stroll around the outdoor grounds, visit with some animals, enjoy a snack at the picnic tables, and read a terrific children's story along the way! The outdoor grounds and exhibits at the Blue Hills Trailside Museum are free and located at 1904 Canton Avenue in Milton. They are open daily 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.



What is a StoryWalk®? It's a self-guided, unique, and fun way to enjoy a children's story book outdoors. Pages of a book are laminated and posted in areas of town that are child-friendly. The pages are numbered so you don't lose your way! Story Walk® stories are typically changed every 6-8 weeks.

Continued: Our Summer Programming...always free!

Summertime Stories

In collaboration with Milton Public Library and Milton Public Schools, join us for fun stories and songs! For families with their children birth to six years old. Four different sessions will be held: July 13th and August 10th at 10:00 AM at Cunningham Park, 75 Edge Hill Road, and July 27th and August 24th at 10:00 AM at Tucker School Playground, 187 Blue Hills Pkwy. Registration is not required, however; you will be asked to sign in upon arrival. *Many thanks to the Friends of Milton Public Library for distributing (while supplies last) free gently used books and to the team of Robinson and Rull of William Raveis Real Estate for distributing free popsicles, while supplies last!*

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 does not need to attend Milton Public Schools to participate. We will be sharing many tips and helpful hints to 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 Wednesday, July 12th at 7:00 PM. Registration is required. To register and obtain the Zoom link and passcode, visit: <https://forms.gle/UTHGehc1JNAqycA66>.

Stories and Friends Meet Up: Exploring Summer!

Join us for a pond adventure, listen to stories, and make new friends! We'll have fun, interactive, activities set up to help with learning about flowers, frogs, and pond life! We'll be painting and gluing and racing and searching, so please dress accordingly. This program will be held on Wednesday, July 26th at 3:00 PM and is for children 2 1/2 to 7 years old with their parent/guardian. We'll meet at the duck pond located in Milton Cemetery and Arboretum, 211 Centre Street in Milton. Use the side gate entrance next to the office and keep straight until you see the pond. Registration is not required; however, you will be asked to sign in upon arrival. A free At-Home Learning Extension kit will be distributed to the first 20 children who sign in upon arrival. This program will be cancelled for inclement weather and re-scheduled.

Stories and Friends Meet Up: Exploring Plants and Trees!

Join us for a woodsy adventure, listen to stories, and make new friends! We'll have fun, interactive, activities set up to help with learning about leaves, logs, flowers, and trees! We'll be taping and stapling and hammering and coloring and searching, so please dress accordingly. This program will be held on Tuesday, August 15th at 10:30 AM and is for children 2 1/2 to 7 years old with their parent/guardian. We'll meet at the Trailside Museum's outdoor picnic table area behind the otter pool. Registration is not required; however, you will be asked to sign in upon arrival. A free At-Home Learning Extension kit will be distributed to the first 20 children who sign in upon arrival. This program will be held in light rain; otherwise, it will be cancelled and re-scheduled.

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



Continued: Our Summer Programming...always free!

Kindergarten Days

Kindergarten Days returns from August 27th through September 2nd! 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 - however, your child must be present, entering kindergarten in September, and wearing their yellow "I'm Going to 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 at www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org in mid-August.

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 on www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org or click on each calendar below:



Welcome Baby Infant Playgroup Series Returns in the Fall!

After missing a couple of years due to COVID, our popular infant playgroup series will return this fall! We'll meet on Wednesdays from October 4th through November 8th at 11:00 AM in the Parlor of the First Congregational Church, located at 495 Canton Avenue in Milton. Please watch our website at www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org for all details, or email cpcmecasld@verizon.net and ask to be added to our mailing list for upcoming flyers and newsletters.

Milton Public Library Happenings

Check out all the fun children's programming the Library is offering this Summer! Visit the Children's Room to participate in challenges and activities at the center activity table, and enjoy their new StoryWalk on the outdoor patios. You can also join the Library staff for storytimes with Night Owls Storytime for ages 3 to 8 on Mondays at 6:30PM, Ms. Tory's Stories for ages 0 to 5 on Tuesdays at 10:00 or 10:45AM, Small Wonders for ages 0 to 5 on Wednesdays at 10:00 or 10:45AM, and Baby Rhyme Time for ages 0-12 months on alternating Fridays at 11:00AM. Storytimes are also going on the road! Summertime Stories meets on four Thursday mornings at 10 AM at Tucker

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Continued: Milton Public Library Happenings & Resources and Information

School and Cunningham Park, and you can join Library Staff for storytimes at the Milton Farmer's Market on select Thursday afternoons at 4pm. Additional daily summer programs for various ages are: Mad Science, Toddler Drive-In, One Up Games, Reading Dogs, Art with Ginny, Cooks and Books, Reader's Theater, and much more! For more details and registration information, visit their website at: miltonlibrary.org, click on Events, and use the drop-down menu under All Programs to choose Children's Programs.

Happy Summer Reading! A reminder to all participating in the MPL Summer Reading Program: Find Your Voice to keep reading and logging your minutes on miltonlibrary.beanstack.org. By reading and logging, you will receive virtual badges; win prizes, like a free book, and a charitable contribution in your name to Make-a-Wish Foundation; and earn tickets that you can put into drawings for a host of other prizes, like gift cards and swag bags.

Resources and Information

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

20%* off sale going on now; shipping is free!!

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 this website: campaigns.mabelslabels.com, type in Milton Early Childhood Alliance, and start shopping. Labels could also be used by those in senior housing, assisted living and/or nursing homes, or childcare programs!

*20% off select items; sale ends 7/31/23.



Are you looking for childcare?

If so, we can help! Just email cpcmecasld@verizon.net, let us know the age of your child, and we'll provide you with comprehensive information on all licensed center based programs and family childcare providers in town, in surrounding cities and towns, or via your driving route.

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 online 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>.

Did You Know?

If you read just 1 book to your child every day, your child will have enjoyed over 1,450 books before entering kindergarten? It's a great gift to give to a child!!

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Continued: Resources and Information

Milton Summer Concert Series!

Check out Milton Parks and Recreation's 2023 Summer Concert Series schedule. Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy! See schedule [HERE](#).

Summer in the City Concert Series!

The annual Summer in the City series returns for the 2023 season, kicking off a summer of free first class waterfront entertainment at the iconic Boston Harbor Hotel. From June 8th - August 25th, experience the best of a New England summer with sun-drenched days, waterfront views and breezy nights. Click photo for all details.



Splash Pads!

Olsen Spray Deck, 95 Turtle Pond Pkwy, Hyde Park
Ryan Wading Pool and Playground, 350 River Street, Mattapan
Alfond Memorial Spray Deck, 280 Charles St., Boston
Kincaide Park, 332 Water Street, Quincy
Taffrail Road Playground, 144 Taffrail Road, Quincy
Martin/Hilltop Playground, 95 Myrtlebank Avenue, just over the Granite Avenue Bridge, Boston
Dorothy Curran Play Area at Moakley Park, 1005 Columbia Road, Boston
Soule Recreation Center, Hammond Street, Brookline
Stony Brook Spray Deck, Lamartine Street and Boylston Street, Jamaica Plain

(continued on next page)

2023 Free Friday Flicks Summer Movie Lineup!

DCR Hatch Shell, 47 David G. Mugar Way, Boston

(all movies begin at sunset)

Friday July 14, Minions: Rise of GRU

Friday July 21, Ferris Bueller's Day Off

Friday July 28, Puss in Boots: Last Wish

Friday August 4, Goonies

Friday August 11, Back to the Future

Friday August 18, Super Mario Bros

Friday August 25, Thor Love and Thunder

For more information or cancellations due to weather, call the Free Friday Flicks Hotline: 617-787-7200 or visit wbz.com.

It's Show Time!

Prudential Center's South Garden

(all movies start at dusk)

Saturday, July 8th : Top Gun: Maverick

Saturday, July 15th: Matilda

Saturday, July 22nd: Minions: The Rise of Gru

Saturday, July 29th: Lightyear

Saturday, August 5th: Puss in Boots: The Last Wish

Saturday, August 12th: Princess Diaries

Saturday, August 19th: Spider-Man: No Way Home

Saturday, August 26th: The Bad Guys

Highland Street Foundation Free August Adventures

Visit designated cultural attractions in MA every Friday this summer! Free admission. No tickets required. Some locations require registration. Click photo for all details.



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Summer in the City Concert Series!

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Continued: Resources and Information

Splash Pads (continued)!

Boston Common Frog Pond Spray Pool, 38 Beacon St., Boston
Rings Fountain, Rose Kennedy Greenway, 224-230 Milk St., Boston
Beaver Brook Spray Deck, 621 Trapelo Rd., Belmont
Danehy Park, 99 Sherman St., Cambridge
Splash Fountain at Christian Science Plaza, 200 Massachusetts Ave., Boston



Food Assistance

Milton Food Pantry:
call 617-696-0221
www.miltonfoodpantryma.org

Project Bread:
call hotline 1-800-645-8333
www.projectbread.org

WIC - Women, Infants & Children
call Quincy's office 617-376-8701
www.wic.bamsi.org/

Interfaith Social Services
call 617-773-6203 x19
www.interfaithsocialservices.org/food/

Hotlines

Are you sad, stressed, lonely, or depressed? Help is here.
through the Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Call or text 833-773-2445

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

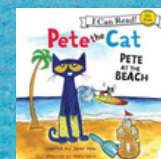
Did you know?

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance maintains a
comprehensive Milton Parents Resource Manual,
filled with a myriad of information for parents and
families, on our website. Check it out at
www.miltonearlychildhoodalliance.org.

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



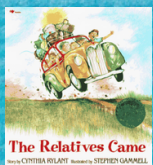
The Night is Yours
By Abdul-Razak
Zachariah



**The Storm
Book**
By Charlotte
Zolotow



The Hike
By Alison Farrell



**The Relatives
Came**
By Cynthia Rylant

The Milton Early Childhood Alliance is funded
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MA Dept. of Early Education & Care



We are very grateful to the First
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