

# Winter Newsletter

2022



## Milton Early Childhood Alliance

a program of

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We're on on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#) at:

Milton Early Childhood Alliance



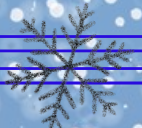
## Our Winter Programming...always free!

### Learning Through Play Preschool Playgroup Series

Was your child's preschool opportunity prevented or interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic? The Milton Early Childhood Alliance is offering a FREE 8-week Preschool Playgroup Series to residents of Milton, Quincy, and Randolph. We will meet on Saturdays, January 8 through February 26, 2022 from 10:00-11:30 AM at 101 Blue Hills Pkwy. in Milton. This program is for children who are 3 and 4 years old with their parent/guardian. It will be facilitated by Dotty Alexander, Ed.D., Professor of Education at Curry College and will focus on language, social/emotional, and fine and gross motor skills. Completion of the Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) will be required. The pre-registration link is <https://forms.gle/ZSt4y9i7NKT7LYVHA>. *This program is currently full, however, if space becomes available, we'll contact those who have completed the pre-registration form.* This program is funded through the Beth Israel Deaconess-Milton Community Health Grant. Feel free to email [cpcmecasld@verizon.net](mailto:cpcmecasld@verizon.net) with questions.

### Toddler and Preschool Playgroup Series

Join us for some fun stories, songs, movement, and engaging activities created just for toddlers and preschoolers, accompanied by an adult. This playgroup series will meet virtually via Zoom on Thursdays, March 3, 10, 17, and 24, at 10:30 AM. Activity bags, filled with supplies and materials, will be available for pick up and include everything needed to participate in this playgroup series! Completion of the Ages & Stages Questionnaire, to help better understand your child's growth and development, will be requested of you. *Registration is required* and can be completed here: <https://forms.gle/b2NM42hMoGScyNAJ9>. Upon completion of this series, you will receive children's books for you and your child to enjoy together!





## It's Kindergarten Pre-Registration Time!

It's time to pre-register for Kindergarten! Milton Public Schools Kindergarten Information Night will be held on Thursday, January 27th, 2022, at 6:30 PM. Children must be age five on or before August 31, 2022 to be eligible. Incoming kindergarten parents and guardians will be able to learn about kindergarten and have an opportunity to ask any questions they might have. This information session will take place virtually through a link posted on Milton Public Schools website prior to the event. The pre-registration form, *which should be completed prior to Kindergarten Information Night*, can be found at: 2022/2023 Kindergarten Pre-registration Questionnaire (google.com). Please contact Marti O'Keefe McKenna at [preschool@miltonps.org](mailto:preschool@miltonps.org) or [mmckenna@miltonps.org](mailto:mmckenna@miltonps.org), should you have any questions.

## Milton Public Library Children's Programming

Have you had a chance to meet Ms. Tory, the new Children's Librarian? Have you checked out the Library's new Story Walk, located on their outdoor patios? Make a plan to do so soon! You can also join the Library staff for lots of fun children's programming with 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, and Small Wonders for ages 0 to 5 on Wednesdays at 10:00 or 10:45 AM. Additional programs being offered for various ages are: SPUB Club, Pop-Up Art School, Take and Make Crafts, Tales from the Story Hat, Author Event: Thato Mwosa, Kids Creativity Hour, Baby Rhyme Time, and much more! For more details 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.

## 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 send you comprehensive information on all licensed childcare programs and family child care providers in town, surrounding cities and towns, or via your driving route.

## 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).

## Children Grow and Change Every Day

Through the Help Me Grow program, 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 birth 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, then, 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>.



## Mabel's Labels

Do you use clothing labels for back to school, sports, childcare or after school programs, senior housing, assisted living and/or nursing homes?

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

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

Simply visit: [www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com](http://www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com), type in Milton Early Childhood Alliance, and start shopping. Shipping is free!!

## 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

[www.wic.bamsi.org/](http://www.wic.bamsi.org/)

Interfaith Social Services

call 617-773-6203 x19

[www.interfaithsocialservices.org/food](http://www.interfaithsocialservices.org/food)

## Parents Helping Parents

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 on their website at: [www.parentshelpingparents.org](http://www.parentshelpingparents.org). Empowering parents to nurture children and build stronger families.

## Five Great Sledding Hills on the South Shore

(from The Patriot Ledger)

[Coast Guard Hill, Marshfield](#) - This popular sledding spot, at 900 Ferry St., is maintained by the town's recreation department. Hay bales are placed in front of trees to keep sledders from being injured. The long hike to the top of the hill is well worth making - for a couple of reasons. You can take in a beautiful view of the ocean, then ride down the 200-foot- slope.

[South Shore Country Club, Hingham](#) - South Shore Country Club contains a variety of hills. The golf course is largely free of trees, so there are lots of wide-open expanses for sledding. Check out the hills near the club entrance on South Street, or park on Fort Hill Street for the biggest slopes.

[First Parish Church, Norwell](#) - This hill is well-suited for those who have young children or are looking for a slower, easier ride. The spacious field, at 24 River St., has plenty of fenced-in space for sledding, and you can park in the church lot.

[Borderland State Park, Easton](#) - The hill behind the Ames Mansion has been a popular sledding spot for years. If pulling your sled up the hill isn't enough exercise for you, you can also hike the park's many trails or have a snowball fight in the spacious fields. Parking is \$5 for Massachusetts residents.

[Presidents Golf Course](#) - This golf course, on the Quincy-Milton border, is another location that provides clear paths for adventurous sledders. Its multiple hills make it a popular local spot, sure to be busy after a snowfall.

## Great Winter Books for Children



Sneezy the Snowman  
by Maureen Wright



Red Sled by  
Lita Judge



The Mitten by  
Jan Brett



Froggy Gets Dressed by  
Jonathan London



The Snowy Day by  
Ezra Jack Keats



Owl Moon by  
Jane Yolen

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

