

PARENT CONNECTION

January 2018

Kids “R” Kids of West Houston
“The First Step to Higher Education”
Home of Oscar, our Ocelot

Starting the Year Out Right, Upcoming Events in January

Featured Family, STEM Spotlight January Birthday Celebrators

January Calendar of Activities

Starting the Year Out Right: Making this year’s goals for your child’s development

We are excited to begin a new year with each one of our students– to see continued growth and development in very special ways. Each stage of development has it’s challenges, and then achievements surely follow, as we work in tandem for the benefit of the students, partnering with the families & teachers of each unique and special one.

We love to sit down with all of our families to offer feedback on the individual growth of their young learner, as well as offer support through each stage of this learning taking place in these critical years. If you choose, please see a member of management to set a conference time with your child’s teacher.

If you are wondering how to you can support *specific* growth in your child in target areas,

we’d be happy to share that with you in a conference. Otherwise, here are some basic themes you should mold into your daily routines to promote your own child’s success in learning.

It is something that can be easily done by *being present* to your child and engaging them in conversation and pretend play, and new learning as it arises in new experiences with you. Most importantly, sitting down *with your child to read aloud to them every day*. A strong literacy foundation is the key to all other learning.

This list of developmental milestones is from *Starting Out Right: A Guide to Promoting Children’s Success*. The Texas Education Agency regards this frequently.

Birth to Three Year Old Accomplishments:

Recognizes specific books by cover.

Pretends to read books.

Understands that books are handled in particular ways.

Enters into book sharing routine with primary caregivers.

Vocalization play in crib gives way to enjoyment of rhyming language, nonsense word play.

Labels objects in books

Comments on characters in books.

Looks at pictures in books and realizes it is a symbol for a real object.

Listens to stories.

Requests/commands adult to read or write.

May begin attending to specific print, such as letters in names.

Uses increasingly purposeful scribbling.



Occasionally seems to distinguish between drawing and writing.

Produces some letter-like forms and scribbles with some features of English writing.

Three to Four Year Old Accomplishments:

Knows that alphabet letters are a special category of visual graphics that can be individually named.

Recognizes print in the local environment.

Knows that it is the print that is read ins stories.

Understands that different text forms are used for different functions of print (a list for groceries is different than the list on a menu)

Understands and follows oral directions.

When being read a story, connects information and events to real life experiences.

Questions and comments demonstrate understanding of literal meaning of story being told.

Displays reading and writing attempts, calling attention to self: “Look at my story.”

Can identify about 10 alphabet letters, especially from own name.

Writes scribbles/messages as a part of playful activity.

Soccer Shots New Season Starts

January 8, Enroll your child at
Soccershots.org/Houston

Warm & Wooly Read Aloud

January 12

Please sign up at the Front Desk if you would like to participate as Guest Reader

Vet Visit in Pre-K Classrooms

January 19

Mommy & Daddy University with Dr. Cutler

Thursday, January 26, 5:30 p.m.

Dentist Visit in Pre-K Classrooms

February 3

Meet our Featured Family, the Sonniers



We are delighted to have the Sonnier family as a part of our Kids R Kids West Houston family!

Elliot began with us as a young infant in the Summer of 2015 and is flourishing in our preschool program. He enjoys the learning environment in classroom 400 and he is getting ready for his approaching transition to Pre-K.

His parents are very supportive of his learning with us and enjoy being involved with Elliot's classroom activities. It is exciting to see parents who come into the classroom during special events with expectation of what they will learn too! They are most supportive of his overall development as he has grown up here with us which makes them really shine as our feature family. Here is what Mr. and Mrs. Sonnier had to say about their preschool experience with us in their own words:

"...He started at the school when he was 6 months old. He has been encouraged to do everything while at school, crawl, walk, eat, use a regular cup, and use the potty!

While it's true that he would've learned these things eventually, Kids R Kids has given him so much encouragement and guidance that he has done everything without an issue and so much faster than he would if he was elsewhere.

He has his favorite teachers, but I believe each one has been instrumental in reaching a milestone in his life. He crawled in Ms. Tiffany and Ms. Jennifer's care, he learned to sit in a regular "big kid" table with Ms. Paola, he walked in Ms. Ivania and Ms. Karen's room, he learned to use the Potty in Ms. Melissa's room and perfected it in Ms. Daisy's room, and currently he is learning how to share experiences through Show and Tell with Ms. Vanessa and Ms. Sara. Each and every teacher has meant something special in his life and has helped us in raising Elliot, after all, it takes a Village!

The very first sunshine award he received was for crawling. I remember feeling very proud of him, it was a big accomplishment! I will also never forget how proud Ms. Jennifer seemed when she gave me the award. It is little things like that that show how much the teachers care for your kids at Kids R Kids that give ease to a working mom's heart like me, and frankly gets rid of a little bit of guilt."

You can read more about this feature family in the lobby. Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Sonnier!



Date	Names	Classroom
01/01	Kenzie Rae K.	500
01/05	Ms. Aris R.	250A
01/08	Connor N.	550
01/09	Ms. Vanessa R.	400
01/11	Mia O.	AP
01/12	Adriana P.	300
01/13	Noelle N.	400
01/15	Abram T.	Gym
01/16	Mila M.	150
01/16	Eric Y.	500
01/18	Jayden R.	400
01/18	Alexander D.	Gym
01/19	Luke K.	400
01/19	Ms. Neven H.	100
01/20	Diego P.	Gym
01/21	Ryan K.	250B
01/21	Ms. Cecilia	
01/21	Mr. Keith P.	Gym
01/22	Zion G.	250A
01/22	Sebastian S.	Gym
01/22	Noelle S.	250B
01/23	Adriella A.	150
01/23	Taylor Q.	350
01/23	Cooper H.	Gym
01/25	Bradley E.	300
01/26	Makayla M..	350
01/27	Carter M.	500
01/27	Kacie H.	500
01/30	Julian G.	Gym
01/30	Christina B.	250B
01/31	Ina Z.	500
01/31	Azrian R.	250B

S.T.E.M. Spotlight

Skittles Experiment, January 1-5
 Abacus Making, January 8-12
 Black Light Messages, January 15-19
 Craft Stick Catapult, January 22-26



"EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE" KIDS R KIDS WEST HOUSTON "THE FIRST STEP TO HIGHER EDUCATION"

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 <i>School Closed for New Year's Day</i>	2 Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i>	3 Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450	4 S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500	5 Spanish: 250B, 400 & AP Show & Tell: 400-600 HATCH Tech: 350 & 400 Technology: 400, 550
<p><i>Classroom Themes: Snowflakes Falling (100-250); Warm and Woolly (300-350); Animals in Winter (400-450); Life in the Tundra (500-600)</i></p> <p><i>Literary Features: Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats; The Mitten by Jan Brett; How Do You Know it's Winter? By Ruth Owen; Polar Bears by Gail Gibbons</i></p>				
8 Technology: 150, 250A, & 450 HATCH: 550 Spanish: 200 & 250A	9 Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i>	10 Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450 <i>Soccer Shots Day</i>	11 S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500	12 Spanish: 250B, 400 & AP Show & Tell: 400-600 Special Snack: 500, 550, & 600 HATCH Tech: 350 & 400 Technology: 400, 550 <i>Warm & Woolly Read Aloud Guest Family Readers</i>
<p><i>Classroom Themes: Winter Dreams (100-250); Winter Animals (300-350); Talk about Penguins (400-450); Over in the Arctic, Where the Cold Wind Blows (500-600); The Three Snow Bears (AP)</i></p> <p><i>Literary Features: Polar Bear Morning by Lauren Thompson; Tacky the Penguin by Helen Lester; Over in the Arctic: Where the Cold Wind Blows by Marianne Berkes; The Three Snow Bears by Jan Brett, Jazz Baby by Lisa Wheeler, & P. Bear's New Year's Party by Paul Owen Lewis</i></p>				
15 Technology: 150, 250A, & 450 HATCH: 550 Spanish: 200 & 250A <i>Soccer Shots Day</i>	16 Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i>	17 Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450, <i>Soccer Shots Day</i>	18 S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500	19 Spanish: 250B, 400 & AP Show & Tell: 400-600 Special Snack: 500, 550, & 600 HATCH Tech: 350 & 400 Technology: 400, 550 <i>Vet Visit for Pre-K Classrooms</i>
<p><i>Classroom Themes: Bundle Up (100-250); High Flying Circus (300-350); Water, Water, Everywhere! (400-450); Pet Adoption(500-600); Adventures in Alaska (AP)</i></p> <p><i>Literary Features: The Jacket I Wear in the Snow by Shirley Neitzel; If I Ran the Circus by Dr. Seuss; I am Water by Jean Marzollo; Caring for your Pets by Ann Owen; Polar Bear Night by Lauren Thompson & Stephen Savage</i></p>				
22 Technology: 150, 250A, & 450 HATCH: 550 Spanish: 200 & 250A <i>Soccer Shots Day</i>	23 Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i>	24 Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450, <i>Soccer Shots Day</i>	25 S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500	26 Spanish: 250B, 400 & AP Show & Tell: 400-600 Special Snack: 500, 550, & 600 HATCH Tech: 350 & 400 Technology: 400, 550 <i>Mom & Dad University</i>
<p><i>Classroom Themes: Animals in the Winter (100-250); Jack and the Beanstalk (300-350); Circus! Circus! (400-450); The Adventures of Taxi Dog (500-600); The Penguin Who Wanted to Fly (P)</i></p> <p><i>Literary Features: Red Sled by Lita Judge; Jack and the Beanstalk; If I Ran the Circus by Dr. Seuss; The Adventures of Taxi Dog by Debra Barracca & Sal Barracca; The Penguin Who Wanted to Fly by Catherine Vase</i></p>				
29 Technology: 150, 250A, & 450 HATCH: 550 Spanish: 200 & 250A <i>Soccer Shots Day</i>	30 Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i>	31 Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450, <i>Soccer Shots Day</i>	Feb. 2 S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500	3 Spanish: 250B, 400 & AP Show & Tell: 400-600 Special Snack: 500, 550, & 600 HATCH Tech: 350 & 400 Technology: 400, 550 <i>Dentist Visit for Pre-K Classrooms</i>
<p><i>Classroom Themes: Love is in the Air (100-250); Happy Hearts (300-350); Count Me In (400-450); Taking Care of Animals (500-600); Penguins, Penguins, Everywhere!</i></p> <p><i>Literary Features: Little Blue & Little Yellow by Leo Lionni; The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister; What Pet Should I Get? By Dr. Seuss; Penguins, Penguins Everywhere! By Bob Barner</i></p>				