

Bright Horizons Los Angeles Hope Street

Fall/Winter 2014



From the Director

Wow can you believe that we are approaching on a New Year, 2015 here we come! As we switch gears from summer and begin to get ready for another Fall and Winter Season, I would like to thank you for spending your summer days here with us.

We enjoyed having your children participate in the various activities and field trips offered at our center.

Hope to see you soon!

Alice Ontiveros

Register & Reserve Back-Up Care

Your child must be fully registered before a reservation can be made. Our online system makes it simple to:

- Edit/update registrations
- Request a reservation
- Cancel a reservation
- Print daily information sheets

www.brighthorizons.com/back-up

High Demand Days

November 11

November 24, 25, 26 & 28

December 22, 23, 24 & 26

December 29, 30 & 31

Don't wait... reserve 30 days in advance.

Important Dates

November – 5 & 19th Farmer's Market Field Trip

November 28 – Yoga at Grand Park

December 22 – School Age Field Trip to Ca. Science Center and IMAX Theater

December 26 – School Age Field Trip – Ice Skating and Pershing Square.

December 29 – School Age Scavenger Hunt

December 30 – School Age Field Trip – Natural History Museum.

Click below to view the full classroom calendar.

www.brighthorizons.com/losangeles



Bright Connections is a web resource that provides relevant information for you and your family's caregivers — from articles to webcasts — on caring for infants to adults.

Find us at

www.brighthorizons.com/brightconnections.

Classroom Highlights



Infants

The infants have been engaging in many activities. In this picture, an infant is exploring and investigating a book. As she flips through the pages of the book, she is developing her fine and gross motor skills.



Toddlers

Children are active learners who learn best from activities they plan and carry out themselves. In this picture, a toddler freely explores in the sensory table. Given a few tools to use to explore such as boats and funnels, this toddler decides to use his hands to move the water back and forth to create bubbles in the water.



Preschool

The preschoolers had the opportunity to discuss and learn about the role an architect plays in the design of buildings. As a group they looked around at the different building that surrounds the center. They were then given a small scale blueprint of the center and provided with colored pencils and paper. The children then had the choice to create 'blue prints' of their very own.



School-Age

The school age children experienced X-treme Summer Camp at Bright Horizons LA Hope Street this summer. In this picture, the group had the opportunity to attend a baseball game at Dodgers Stadium. What a great experience it was for everyone that attended. Go Dodgers!



READY for SCHOOL Parent News: Measurement

Preschool children like to compare objects or people and often want to figure out which is bigger, longer, or heavier. They especially love to compare themselves to others – who is taller, whose hair is longer, who is the oldest, etc. We can take advantage of these opportunities to help children learn the basics of measurement. Children typically progress through a series of stages in understanding measurement (Copley, 2000):

- 1) Comprehending that objects can be compared and measured and understanding the meaning of questions like “how long is this?,” “how heavy is that?,” etc.
- 2) Making comparisons themselves, such as judging which block is shorter, which rock is heavier, etc.
- 3) Determining an appropriate unit and process for measurement
- 4) Using standard units of measurement (inch, pound, centimeter, etc.)
- 5) Creating and using formulas to help count units

During the preschool and kindergarten years, children primarily focus on stages 1 and 2 and may begin to work on the concept of “unit” in the third step. Steps four and five are typically focused on in the elementary school years.

What kinds of activities encourage the development of measurement in preschool and kindergarten children? Here are a few samples to get you started:

- Use measurement and comparison language frequently in your incidental conversations with your child.
 - “This grapefruit feels really heavy. Is it heavier or lighter than this orange?”
 - “This tablecloth is too short for this table. Let’s find a longer one.”
 - “Do you think this pitcher will hold all the juice?”
- Include language that compares time (earlier, later, tomorrow, next week); temperature (warmer, colder); and capacity (holds more, holds less).
- Consider introducing non-standard measurement. “This fire truck is four blocks long.” Offer children opportunities to practice non-standard measurement. “Let’s see how many hands long this rug is.”
- You can also incidentally introduce standard measurement language (Talk about gallons, liters, yards, meters, etc. during your daily life as you pour milk or juice, measure wood for a home improvement project, etc.)
- You might provide a plastic bin filled with water or cornmeal as a place for your child to practice with volume and capacity. As children pour from a tall, thin cylinder to a short, fat cylinder, for example, they are developing a concept that Jean Piaget called “conservation.” If a child understands the concept of conservation of volume, he/she knows that a tall, thin container can hold the same as a short, fat container. Piaget’s research showed that children learned to conserve around age seven or later. More recent research has been showing children conserving earlier than that.
- Provide tools for measurement for children’s easy access throughout the day (rulers, meter sticks, bathroom scales, etc.).

Reference:

Copley, J. V. (2000). *The Young Child and Mathematics*. Washington, DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Bright Horizons News



Submit your art during Nov. 10-23, and it will be displayed in a Bright Space!



Voices of Gratitude: What Are You Thankful For? is an opportunity for the Bright Horizons community, parents and teachers alike, to come together and support the **Bright Horizons Foundation for Children®** by submitting art that illustrates the answer to “What are you thankful for?” The resulting piece of collaborative artwork will be proudly displayed in all **Bright Spaces®** (Bright Spaces are warm, safe, and enriching spaces in agencies and shelters across the country that allow children to experience the joy of childhood and heal from trauma through play).

Submissions will be accepted from November 10-23. Artwork can be uploaded through [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or [Twitter](#), or it can be emailed to thankful@brighthorizons.com. Participation is optional.

How to Grow a Giver this Holiday Season: Family Resources for Teaching Compassion



As a parent, you try to raise your child to become an active, compassionate member of society. [Growing Givers](#) is a resource to help you find age-appropriate activities, projects, and volunteer opportunities to encourage empathy, caring, and compassion for the world and all its people. *Growing Givers* offers ideas for how you can promote empathy and social awareness through your daily interactions and modeling with children and through service opportunities from home or out in the community.

As fall and winter holidays approach, we’ve collected a list of resources from *Growing Givers* that can help you come up with easy ways to incorporate giving into your family’s routine:

- **(Parenting Blog Posts)** [Family Volunteering: Tips for Finding Ways to Give Back](#), [Teaching Manners and Good Behavior Through Books](#), [How to Raise a Grateful Child](#)—join the conversation on *The Family Room* blog: <http://blogs.brighthorizons.com/familyroom/>.
- **(Community Topics)** [Volunteering with Small Children](#), [Donating Old Toys to Charity](#)
- **(E-family News)** – [The Caring Connection: Teaching Empathy to Children](#), [Raising Caring and Giving Children](#)
- **(Family Matters Series Webinars)** Raising a Socially Responsible Child ([Part I](#) & [Part II](#))—featuring *Bright Horizons* early education experts and guests from *The Volunteer Family*

Visit www.brighthorizons.com/growinggivers for additional resources and at-home activities to promote empathy and social awareness.