

February 2015

## SAVE THE DATES

Fri., Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>

Valentine Class Parties

Thurs., Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>

Palm Beach County Schools  
Early Release Day  
No afternoon VPK – Camp is  
available

Mar. 16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>

Palm Beach County Schools Closed  
SPRING BREAK - NO VPK  
SIGN UP FOR OUR SPRING BREAK  
CAMP! Ages 5-12 years old!

## CURRICULUM

Week 1: The Petting Zoo / Mr. R  
Week 2: Wild Animals / Mr. Z  
Week 3 & 4:  
Insects Everywhere / Mr. I

## SPECIAL LEARNING: Dinosaurs

Week 1: George Washington  
Carver & Groundhog Day  
Week 2: Valentine's  
Week 3: Dental Health  
Week 4: Harriet Tubman

## DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN PAY TUITION ONLINE?

[www.tuitionexpress.com](http://www.tuitionexpress.com)

## DON'T KNOW WHAT TO REQUEST FOR A SPECIAL OCCASSION GIFT?

How about a GIFT CERTIFICATE  
for use at our center! Great for  
tuition, camps, aftercare,  
evening care... Ask at the front  
desk for more information!



## Be Kind To Animals

Today more than ever, teachers and other educators are looked upon to help shape not only good students but also good citizens. Overwhelmingly, our nation's public supports the idea of character building and service-learning as tools in the educational community. What better way of teaching students the fundamentals of good character than with one of their all-time favorite topics: animals? When it comes to teaching core skills and core values, humane-themed lessons can capture a child's attention, imagination, and heart in ways that other subject matter may not.



When you teach a child to be kind to animals, you help pave the way to a brighter future for all living beings. Animals benefit because the next generation has learned to treat them with respect and compassion, reducing instances of animal cruelty. Children benefit because learning about compassion and empathy early in life builds moral character, reduces violence, and builds a sense of empowerment and responsibility. And society as a whole benefits when its members are more caring towards each other and the animals who live among us. Unfortunately, not all children are taught to be kind to animals. This gap may lead them to tease animals or otherwise disregard their feelings; in the worst cases, it can lead to acts of animal cruelty.

How to Make a Difference...Teach by example! Children learn much of what they know by watching those around them, so one of the best ways to teach children is by showing them that you care about animals. Take good care of your pets, including spaying and neutering them; involve children in building birdhouses or walking shelter dogs. Speak out when you see animals being mistreated, and encourage children to do the same. Also, expose them to animal habitats through the zoo and out in nature. Teach them to respect an animal's environment and care for those animals that need it! For more information about helping animals go to: <http://www.americanhumane.org/interaction/programs/humane-education/>



## BIRTHDAY CORNER A special HAPPY BIRTHDAY goes out to...

Delena A. - Feb. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Olivia B. - Feb. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pablo R. - Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>
Jasmine S. - Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Brianna V. - Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Jesenia V. - Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup>
Brian H. - Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Darly J. - Feb. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Urally M. - Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>
Alina M. - Feb. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Genessis N. - Feb. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Destiney P. - Feb. 26 <sup>th</sup>



## DID YOU KNOW WE OFFER AFTERCARE?

### AGES 5-12 YEARS OLD!

Our aftercare is available 5 days a week. We DO provide pick-up service from most area schools.

#### We offer:

- Teacher assisted homework
- Arts & crafts
- Enrichment activities & more
- Computer room
- Games
- Snacks provided

To register or get more information, ask at our front desk or call us at 561-629-8005.



## DID YOU KNOW YOU WE OFFER EVENING CARE?

Mon. thru Fri. 6pm to 11:30pm.

We offer drop-in, babysitting services, date night, night shift hour care. Dinner and snacks included! Ask at the front desk to see how we can provide your child great care that fits your schedule – at great rates!

NOW OFFERING

EVENING CARE!

GREAT NEWS!

Bright Beginnings now offers EVENING CARE Monday thru Friday from 6pm-11:30pm!

## HAVE YOU "LIKED" US ON FACEBOOK?

Take a minute to "LIKE" us on Facebook so you will get the latest news, event info, center information and more!

[Facebook.com/BrightBeginningsFlorida](https://www.facebook.com/BrightBeginningsFlorida)



## Animal Safety For Kids

<http://www.mychildsafety.net/animal-safety-for-kids.html>

Kids are naturally drawn to animals. In order to help make "man's best friend" your child's best friend, it is important to take into account the guidelines for the safety of your child around animals. Having a pet can be a very positive and rewarding experience for a child. Children learn

responsibility and compassion through caring for a pet, and gain a wonderful companion as well. As a parent, you must be the one to decide the appropriate time to introduce a pet to the family based on your child's age, behavior, maturity, and interest. In making such a decision you will need to determine how much of the animal's care you expect the child to be responsible for and/or how much you intend to be responsible for.



The most important lesson to teach your children is to always treat animals gently and with kindness. Animals that are in pain, are afraid, or feel threatened are most likely to bite or scratch to protect themselves. Animals, like humans, have times they just want to be left alone. Help your child learn how to recognize your pets mood, and to give him/her some space when they would rather be left alone. To ensure animal safety for kids teach your child never to pull an animal's ear, tail, or feet when playing and to not wrestle roughly with animals. Children should never restrain animals against their will.

Family pets adjust to children best when they are treated as part of the family. Dogs should never be left outdoors chained up - dogs that are permanently chained up are more aggressive and more likely to bite.

Spay or neuter your pets; pets that have been spayed or neutered are less likely to bite than pets that have not been "fixed." Consider enrolling your dog in basic obedience classes - even a well-behaved dog can benefit from such instruction and it is a great bonding experience between pet and owner.

#### TIPS FOR KIDS:

- Avoid the face and head area when petting dogs and cats. Stroke along the neck, back, and sides. Cats, unlike dogs, may bite or scratch when rubbed on the belly.
- Leave animals alone when eating, sleeping, chewing on a toy, or caring for its babies.
- Pay attention to warning signs - an animal that is growling or hissing wants to be left alone!
- Explain to your child that animals may be startled by loud, high-pitched screams or noises and sudden movements.
- Never approach an animal you do not know. Animals in vehicles and yards may behave aggressive and territorial and are likely to bite. Always ask permission from an animal's owner before approaching a friend, neighbor, or acquaintance's animal - even if you have played with the animal in the past.
- Never approach an animal that appears injured or sick.
- Never approach stray animals.
- Teach your child not to run when approached by a strange dog. Running may provoke the dog to chase and attack. Teach your child to act like a "tree" by standing still and staring straight ahead until the dog leaves or acting like a "rock" if sitting or knocked to the ground by curling up in a ball keeping his/her hands over his/her ears. If a dog attacks teach your child to throw something like a backpack or coat for the dog to bite.
- If your child is responsible for cleaning animal cages, litter boxes, or cleaning up the yard after a dog have him/her wear rubber gloves and always wash his/her hands when done.
- Keep food dishes and litter boxes out of reach of babies and toddlers.

Florida FREE VPK Enrollment Now Open.  
Check with our front desk for availability!