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Small Wonder June News 2019

Swimming—

Summer is here!!! And with the beginning of summer comes an excitement for water play! We will be doing lots of pool and water play at Small Wonder—here's the rundown: Swim lessons run from July 8th through July 19th this year. A slip confirming your child's lesson time and class will be handed out soon! Small Wonder will transport children age 4 and older to and from swim lessons during the July session only. Please make sure your child has slip-on shoes, their swimsuit, and a towel here at Small Wonder. Bring everything **labeled** with your child's name.

On the last day of swim lessons, July 19th we will finish up the lessons with a picnic at the City Park. Look forward to more information on the picnic! **Swim Lessons here we come!**

Outside of the scheduled swim lessons, our Kids Club (school age group) will make regular trips to the swimming pool this summer, approximately 2-3 times per week. Our Yellow and Purple Rooms will also go to the pool making trips to the pool 2x weekly. All other classrooms will do water activities on-site at the centers including water tables and sprinklers.

Mark Your Calendar—Summer Dates to Know:

Every day at Small Wonder is full of fun and exploration, but there are a few days this summer that we wanted to point out to parents so you know what's coming!

June 18th: Bikes and Trikes Day at the Preschool Center

June 20th: Kids Club Field Trip to Billings—ZooMontana and Chuck E Cheese

June 27th: Family Pool Party and Picnic at Frank Day Park/ City Pool from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.! Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy great food and beautiful outdoors!

July 4th and 5th: Closed for Fourth of July Holiday

July 11th: Relay for Life Walk and Bake Sale

July 8th—19th: Swimming Lessons with picnic at Frank Day Park on the 20th

July 24th -27th: Central Montana Fair

July 25th: Fair Parade- Small Wonder walking in the parade to celebrate our 30th Anniversary!

August 23rd: Closed to Kids for Staff Development and Cleaning Day

August 26th: ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE!

**More information on all events will follow
closer to the date of each activity.**





On behalf of all of us here at Small Wonder, thank you to all the families who contributed to our Staff Appreciation Week held in May! Thank you to everyone who acknowledged their child's teachers hard work and dedication! Your thoughtful cards, gifts, and donations towards our dinner made this week a wonderful experience for us all!

We enjoyed celebrating an amazing year together, I know am truly humbled to lead such an amazing staff of teachers. We love what we do and we love to come to work every day looking forward to the memories we will be making and all the fun we will have with your great children!

Policy & Procedure Highlight

Small Wonder has a policy in place to protect children from cold, heat, sun injury, and insect-borne disease. It is imperative that all children come to Small Wonder dressed appropriately for the current weather. We spend time outside in all seasons, so in order for your child to take part, please make sure appropriate clothing is available including appropriate closed-toe shoes. Also, please make sure we have extra clothes that are seasonally appropriate in case of messy activities, accidents, and unpredictable weather.

Our play area does provide some shade, but when we are playing in the sun staff will use clothing and sunscreen to protect your child from the sun's rays. In order for staff to apply sunscreen we need to have permission in the form of our Over the Counter (OTC) medication form and our parental sunscreen consent form. Thank you for helping us to keep your child safe during the warm, sunny days ahead!



Parent Corner

The Imagination and Self-Regulation

Self regulation is a critical life skill; and the best time to learn these skills is during childhood. A great way for kids to do this is through use of imagination! Teach your child how to use their imagination like you did when you were a child by putting the toys away and grabbing simple materials and just begin to play!

"Active toys create passive children, passive toys create active children."

A sheet, box, and a stick. The sheet can be laid down to represent water, the box is the boat, and the stick is the fishing pole. Your child can be fishing for sharks out in the open waters when pirates attack. Playing make-believe actually helps children develop critical cognitive skills. Self regulation is one of these and helps children control their emotions, behavior, resist impulses and exert self-control and discipline.

Simon says is another great game that requires no toys and helps develop such skills. Simon says is a game that requires children to inhibit themselves because they have to think and NOT do something.

Another great idea to foster self-regulatory skills is to do joint storybook reading. Reading storybooks promotes self-regulation because it fosters language development and because storybooks are filled with characters who model self control. So get out there and use the imagination. The possibilities are endless, and summer is among the one of the best times to explore!

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