

BIRTHDAYS

Children love to share their birthdays with their friends. If you would like to share your child's birthday, we will celebrate it during our group time. Ask your child's teacher if you need any suggestions. Please consult with your child's teacher with respect to his/her celebration time.

There may be celebrations where we take pictures of the children, their families, staff and their families. These pictures will be used to show on the parent board or given to parents. Occasionally, an employee may need to take pictures of the children for a class project/assignment. In this case written permission will first be obtained from the parent.

TOYS AND SHARING

Participating in sharing at group time enables the child to feel important and special. It also facilitates verbal expression. Good suggestions may be seashells, rocks, library or special books, or treasures from a trip somewhere. Please consult with your child's teacher with relationship to suggestions relating to the unit of study for the week.

We do ask that toys be kept at home or leave them in the car when it is not your child's share day. When toys are brought to school it often creates power struggles among other children. See your child's teacher for their scheduled share day.

SEPARATION

It is often difficult for both parent and child to make it through the first few days of school. If you anticipate tears or other anxious expressions, here are some suggestions based on our experiences: Read a book about the first day of school (Director may have one to loan you) and bring your child by for a visit before his/her first day of school. Make sure that your child knows when school is over and who is picking him/her up. Express your own happiness about school. Encourage a hug and kiss, wave goodbye, and **promptly** leave. Try to avoid power struggles by sticking around! Your child will usually get involved in an activity after a few minutes. It is normal for your child to feel separation anxiety, however it is best to make your good byes short. We will do our best to help your child feel comfortable and offer reassurance. We encourage you to call during the day if you would like to know how your child is adjusting. Once this process has successfully passed, we do encourage parents to become reacquainted with your child's teacher and classroom.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are an integral part of the learning process in any educational setting. When we have field trips we will be letting the parents know usually a month ahead of time. Early Beginnings staff will transport children to and from field trips. Parents will