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Downtown Ithaca Children's Center
January 2015 - Newsletter

CLASSROOM NEWS

Firefly Room – We are continuing to work on the alphabet. We would love to have some 48 piece puzzles for our classroom.

Green Room – We are learning new drawing (people and shapes) and writing skills. We are learning to write our names. We are also learning new sight words every week.

Purple Room – This month we are doing sensory activities and having fun with Pete the Cat.

Rainbow Room – We have been introducing new friends to our classroom. Kids are working together, playing, and teaching new friends the daily routine.

Dragonfly Room – This month we will be focusing on winter as our theme. We also have many new friends to welcome to our classroom.

Butterfly Room – We have two new friends in our room. We have been working on projects and activities that are focusing on the winter theme.

Blue Room – We made footprint snowmen.

Yellow Room (School Age Program) – We have been learning to sew and make new outfits for our stuffed animals. We are going to learn to knit.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Cold Weather Is Here** – Please make sure your child has the appropriate outside clothing as we will be going outside unless it is raining or extremely cold. They will need a jacket, hat, mittens, snow pants and boots. They will also need sneakers every day.

-**Attendance** – Please call the center before 9:00 am if your child will be later than 9:00 am or will be absent.

-**Training Days** – March 12-13, 2015 we will be closed due to training days.

-**New Staff/Staff Leaving** – We are sad to be saying goodbye to Jazamene in our main office who has accepted another position, Lia from the Blue Room who will be attending school to become a nurse, and Sue from the Rainbow Room who is expecting another baby in the beginning of February. We wish them well. We would like to welcome Morgan and Kedrin to our staff. We are in the process of hiring for Jazamene and Lia's position. We will also be hiring another teacher in the Butterfly Room to expand our enrollment.



Upcoming Events – January

19

Closed – For Martin Luther King Jr Day

Family Fun Magazine



Photograph by Joe Polillio

Munch of the Penguins

A little birdie tells us your kids will love making these fruity treats on a chilly afternoon.

To create four - halve two bananas. Trim dried apricots into feet and a beak for each bird. In a medium microwave-safe bowl, melt 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips according to the package directions. Stir in 1 tablespoon vegetable oil. Dip each banana into the chocolate as shown, then place it on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Add white chocolate chip eyes and use a toothpick to dab on chocolate pupils. Use more melted chocolate to attach the beaks and feet. Place the penguins in the freezer until the chocolate is set, about 25 minutes. Now huddle together and eat!



Beary Cute Cupcakes

Surprise your own little den of cubs with this cool dessert. Working with one at a time (so that the icing doesn't dry out), top a cupcake with a generous layer of vanilla frosting.

Add texture by using the tip of a toothpick to pull the frosting up into tiny peaks. Press on a black jelly bean nose, chocolate chip eyes, and a tongue snipped from a stick of pink bubble gum.

Halve a white spice drop and press the pieces into place for ears. Brrrrilliant!

Cute tip: To give your bears puppy dog cuteness, set the eyes and ears wide apart and place the nose below the center.