

# Little People's Press

Fraser Public Schools

Little Learner's @ Dooley Center

December 2019



Our Dooley Center Staff wishes you and yours the warmth and joy of the season! May 2020 be all that you want and more!

## Dooley Center

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Roseville, MI 48066  
586-439-7600  
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ATTENDANCE  
586-439-7690

## WINTER BREAK

Dec 17th- Last day for Tu/Thur  
Preschool classes  
Dec 18th—Last day for M/W/F  
Preschool classes  
Dec 19th- Last day for Focus Four  
Flex & Early Childhood Care  
December 20th—Last day for  
ECSE & DK Programs



## POLAR EXPRESS DAY Dec 18th

This is a very special day when Mrs. Claus & the train Conductor come to visit and we lose ourselves in the word of The Polar Express, written & illustrated by Chris VanAllsburg. We will read the book, show the movie, dress in our PJS, and enjoy many activities. Your teachers will give you more details soon!

**Find us on the WEB**  
Dooley.fraser.k12.mi.us  
Look for us on Facebook  
[https://  
www.facebook.com/  
littlelearnersfraserpub-  
licschoolsdooleycenter1](https://www.facebook.com/littlelearnersfraserpublicschoolsdooleycenter1)

### EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE

*(will be open to DK before/after school  
Dec 20th)*

**All classes will resume on  
Monday, January 6th, 2020**





## REINDEER GAMES DECEMBER 17TH



Our three year-old preschool programs will enjoy fun "reindeer games" set up for them in the gym. We are looking forward to this festive day!!!

We want to thank all those who donated food items to the Thanksgiving baskets. Your generosity will surely bring joy to others this holiday season!



## BAD WEATHER DAYS/SCHOOL CLOSINGS



All OF THE Dooley Center programs follow the procedures of Fraser Public Schools on days when weather conditions make driving dangerous.

Fraser Public Schools uses, School Messenger. You will get an email and/or auto-mated phone call letting you know that your child's school has been closed.

You can also stay tune to **WJR** or your favorite radio or television station for school closing announcements. If Fraser Public Schools is closed, the Dooley Center is CLOSED.

### OUTDOOR CLOTHING

Please dress appropriately!



We try to go outdoors as much as possible, so please send appropriate clothing.

In winter we do not go outdoors if temperatures or the wind chill is below 20°

Please help your child learn how to put on his/her snow pants, boots, mittens and coat. These skills build independence and confidence!

### MEDICATIONS

Please be aware that medicine should NOT be sent to school with your child or in their backpacks. This includes chewable pain relievers & cough drops.

Any prescription medicines that needs to be given to your child should be brought to the office and a medicine release form filled out.

Thank you for your cooperation!



## HANDWASHING & ILLNESS PREVENTION



We are having the "Germ Stompers" from the Macomb County Health Department, here at Dooley to teach the children how to wash their hands properly. We emphasize the importance of hand washing. Germs on our hands are the main reason for colds and the way many serious illnesses are spread. Please help your child develop the habit of washing his/her hands often. After bathroom visits, nose blowing, before eating, etc...Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.

Remember: Sneeze and Cough in your Elbow!

**These need to become healthy, life-long habits! Thanks for helping us keep the Dooley Center a healthy place to be!**

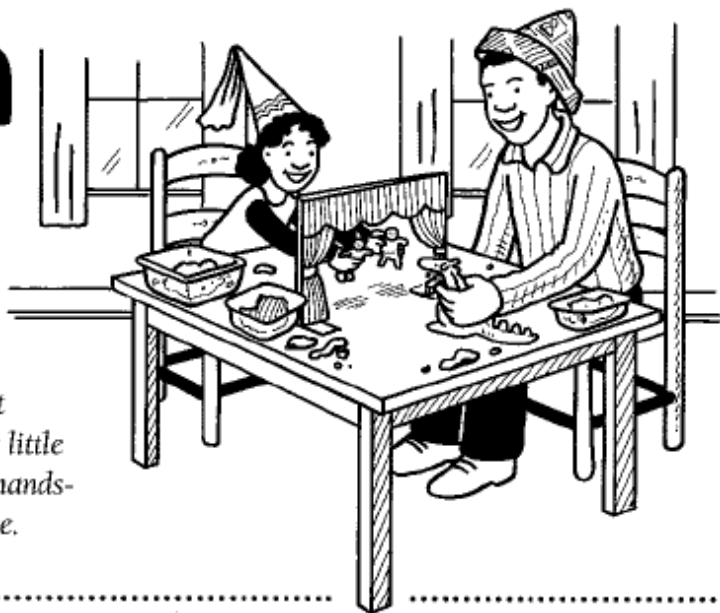
### LOOKING AHEAD!

- January 6th: School Resumes
- January 15th: DK & ECSE EARLY RELEASE DAY
- January 20th: NO SCHOOL/Martin Luther King Day
- January 22nd & 23rd: Little Creatures Presentation
- January 23rd: Skating Party 6:00 pm-8:30 pm  
@ GREAT SKATE, 29100 Hayes Rd/Rsvl

Happy New Year!  
**Happy New Year!**  
2020

# Hands-On Learning

Have you ever watched your child examine a rock or a leaf while turning it over in her hands? Or use clay or paint to make letters, numbers, or shapes? She's learning the way little ones often learn best—by touching and creating. Here are hands-on activities that let her explore language, math, and science.



## PLAY DOUGH

This childhood staple is ideal for squishy learning fun. Use store-bought dough, or make your own. For each homemade batch, help your youngster mix together 1 cup flour,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup salt, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water. She could add food coloring to make different colors. Then, try these suggestions.

### Storytelling sculptures

Make up a story together, and create play-dough characters and props to go with it. Your child might begin a story about a cookie-eating dragon and make cookies and a dragon out of dough. You could add another dragon and ask her what happens next. ("The dragon makes friends by sharing his cookies.") You'll encourage creativity and sharpen language skills that will come in handy when she writes stories.



### Number "snakes"

Your youngster will practice recognizing and using numbers with this activity. First, have him roll dough into "snakes" and shape them into numbers, 0-9. Then, point to a number (4), and ask him to make that number of objects (say, 4 balls). He can count the items as he sculpts them. Take turns until you have the correct number of objects for each play-dough number.

## FINGER PAINT

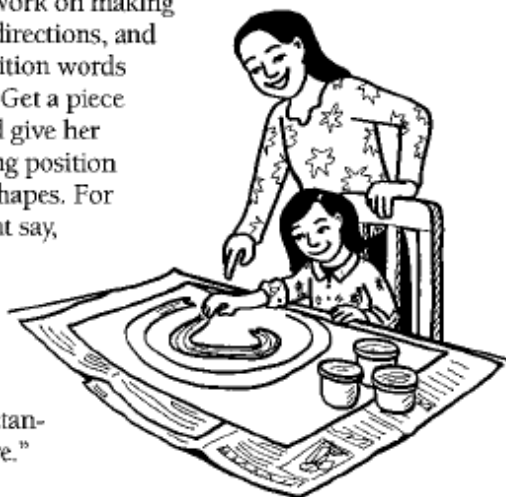
With finger paint, your child can not only paint pictures, but also write letters and words and experiment with shapes. Invite him to get his hands messy with these activities.

### Bathtub "graffiti"

Let your youngster finger paint on the sides of the bathtub to practice writing his ABCs. He could write a letter (*b*) and draw a picture of something that starts with that letter (*bas-ketball*). Also, encourage him to try writing simple words like his name or words he has seen many times (*cat, stop*). *Note:* Always supervise your youngster in water.

### Shape paintings

Your child can work on making shapes, following directions, and understanding position words with finger paints. Get a piece of white paper, and give her instructions—using position words—to paint shapes. For example, you might say, "Paint a big circle. Now, paint a triangle *inside* the circle. *Next* to the circle, paint a square. Add a rectangle *under* the square."



*continued*

## NATURE'S BOUNTY

There are new things for your child to touch and explore every time she goes outside. Whether she plays with mud or collects seeds, rocks, or leaves, here are ways nature can help her build skills.



### Magnificent mud

Let your youngster play in the mud! She can use science and math to make the best mud pie. Go outside with a pitcher

of water, measuring cups, and measuring spoons. She could combine different amounts of water and soil, squish the mud in her hands, and shape it into patties. When she has a pie that's just the right consistency, she can serve it to you. Also have her think of other ways to play with mud—she might dig a "road" for toy trucks or write with mud on the sidewalk, for instance.



### Pattern play

Making patterns with objects will help prepare your child to use number patterns. Gather items outside, and lay them in a pattern for him to complete (3 pebbles, 1 stick, 3 pebbles, 1 stick). Ask him what comes next (3 pebbles). Then, have him collect items and start a pattern for you. *Idea:* Try a "growing" pattern like 1 acorn, 1 blade of grass, 2 acorns, 1 blade of grass, 3 acorns, 1 blade of grass. (He should put down 4 acorns next.)

## LOOSE PARTS

What kinds of treasures are in your junk drawer or scattered around your home? Let your child fill a container with tiny household objects, such as old keys, washers, bolts, leftover party favors, corks, beads, and other small items. Suggest these ideas to help him learn from his collection.

### Alphabet hunt

Help your youngster label 26 cupcake liners from A to Z. Tell him to search through his objects for ones that start with each letter and then look around the house for more. He might use a rubber band for R, a quarter for Q, and a button for B. He can name the item as he drops it into the correct liner.



### What belongs?

Build your child's science skills with this classifying and comparing game. First, name a category (things made of wood). Ask her to pick out items from her box that belong in it (toothpick, craft stick, golf tee). Then, let her choose a category for you. *Idea:* After a few rounds, have her use two or more characteristics to make a category (things that are silver and round).

## Early Years