

Home City Families

JANUARY 2024
NEWSLETTER

Family Playgroups

Mondays- Indian Orchard Library @ 10:30AM

Tuesdays- Forest Park Library @ 10:30AM &
Sixteen Acres Library @ 1:30PM

Wednesdays- Mason Square Library Gross Motor
group @ 10:30AM

Thursdays- HCF Family Space @ 10:30AM

Fridays- East Forest Park Library @ 1:30PM &
1st and 3rd- 1/5 & 1/15 Baby and Me Playgroup
East Forest Park Library @ 10:00AM

*See Facebook or website calendar for details

Programs/Dates to Highlight

Collaboration with the
Community Music School of
Springfield-

Little Notes Music Class
Series for families with
children 0-3 years old.

Monthly 30 minute series

January - June!

Details and
registration posted monthly
on Facebook



Family Learning Guide Theme

Compare and
Contrast

*download guide from
facebook or our website

Stay up to date on all things
Home City Families:

WWW.HOMECITYFAMILIES.COM

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HOMECITYFAMILIES



Literacy Lens Dialogic Reading

The fundamental reading technique in dialogic reading is the PEER sequence. This is a short interaction between a child and the adult. Here's how it works:

The adult:

- Prompts the child to say something about the book,
- Evaluates the child's response,
- Expands the child's response by rephrasing and adding information to it,
- Repeats the prompt to make sure the child has learned from the expansion.

Imagine that the parent and the child are looking at the page of a book that has a picture of a fire engine on it. The parent says, "What is this?" (the prompt) while pointing to the fire truck. The child says, truck, and the parent follows with "That's right (the evaluation); it's a red fire truck (the expansion); can you say fire truck?" (the repetition).

Everyday ways to enhance your child's GROSS MOTOR development:

Gross motor skills are the movements we make with large muscles, like those in your legs, arms and torso. "Gross," in this case, means "large," and "motor" means "movement." Walking and waving your arm are examples of gross movements.

Gross motor skills require proper coordination and function of:

- Skeletal muscles (the strength and power behind the movements).
- Bones (the structures that your muscles attach to).
- Nerves (the "messengers" of your brain that tell your muscles when and how to move).

They're also related to other functions, including:

- Balance.
- Coordination.
- Body awareness and spatial awareness.
- Reaction time.



Milo's starting the year outside! He was exploring Springfield's Nathan Bill Playground on Plumtree Rd. Be sure to check out all the great parks in Springfield!



Milo's Adventures

Did you know?

A child will need about 7300 diapers before they are potty trained!



Time to get potty training!

COURTNEY'S CRAFTY CORNER



1000 HOURS OUTSIDE™

Winter can be a challenging time to get outside. Join the 1000 Hours Outside (1000hoursoutside.com) challenge! Print a free tracker, or create your own, to track your progress. Create an outdoor scavenger hunt or do a snow activity to keep your bodies moving and warm!



HOME CITY FAMILIES, the Springfield Coordinated Family and Community Engagement grant funded by the Department of Early Education and Care, offers a network of information, support and programming for families in Springfield.

