

Home City Families

FEBRUARY 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- 2/2 & 2/16 Baby and Me Playgroup
East Forest Park Library @ 10:00AM

***See Facebook or website calendar for details**

Programs to Highlight

Lots of special programs coming
soon! Check Facebook for
Registration

Dads and Kids Program presented by
the Fatherhood Project

The Eric Carle Museum Bonding With
Books Program

Little Notes Music Program with The
Community Music School of
Springfield

Baby Massage Classes

Behaviors That Drive You Nuts Parent
Workshop

Renee Coro Music Group

Family Learning Guide Theme

CREATIVE ME

*download guide from
Facebook or our website

frogstreet

**Stay up to date on all things
Home City Families:**

WWW.HOMECITYFAMILIES.COM

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HOMECITYFAMILIES

Literacy Lens Dialogic Reading

An easy way to remember basic dialogic
strategies is to "Follow the CAR."

Follow the CAR stands for:

- Follow the child's lead
- Comment and Wait
- Ask questions and Wait
- Respond by adding a little more and Wait



The Importance of Social Development in Early Childhood

The early years of a child's life are not only about acquiring academic skills. Just as vital, if not more so, is social development. It lays the groundwork for how children perceive the world, relate to others, and handle challenges as they grow. Nurturing social skills in young children can have profound, long-lasting effects.

- **Building healthy relationships:** As children interact with their peers, they learn the fundamentals of empathy, sharing, and cooperation. These skills are foundational for building and maintaining healthy relationships throughout their lives.
- **Developing communication skills:** Early social interactions expose children to various ways of communicating. They start understanding verbal cues, body language, and the essence of listening.
- **Boosting self-esteem:** As they learn to navigate different social situations, children begin to gain confidence in their abilities. Over time, they develop a sense of self-worth that propels them to explore the world around them.
- **Problem-solving and conflict resolution:** Through play and interactions, children encounter disagreements and challenges. They learn to negotiate, compromise, and, in the process, develop problem-solving skills.

Do you know where Milo visited? Yes, the Springfield Quadrangle! Lots of things to do there. You can check out the Central library and the Springfield museums. Springfield families are always free!



Milo's Adventures

Did you know?

If babies' bodies grew at the same rate as their brains, they would weigh 170 pounds by 1 month old!



COURTNEY'S CRAFTY CORNER

"Heart attack" your child's bedroom door! Cut out paper hearts, write reasons why you love your child on each heart, and tape them to their door every night so they wake up to some love every morning in February.



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.

