



SAFETY FIRST

Over 100 children come to EMCCC daily. Some stay for 11 hours a day. Many are under five years of age. Maintaining their well being and keeping them safe is very serious business. It is the most important thing that we do. A number of steps are taken to complete this ongoing task.

Fire drills are conducted regularly, as are internal safety inspections. Required employee to child ratios are maintained. Criminal background and reference checks are done on employees. Employees receive training in safety procedures and protecting children from abuse during each licensing cycle. Most are trained in First Aid and CPR. Ten staff members are trained in administering medication.

The Department of Health and the local fire departments inspect the building regularly, as does the New York State Office of Children & Family Services. Our site has illuminated exit lights, fire extinguishers, fire rated doors, sprinkler systems, and smoke, heat, carbon monoxide and gas detectors. If an alarm sounds, other than a scheduled fire drill, the fire department is automatically dispatched. All safety equipment, including the sprinkler system and kitchen equipment, is regularly inspected and kept in proper working order.

Fire safety is included throughout the year as part of the EMCCC curriculum and is at the forefront each October during fire safety week culminating with a visit to Sheldon Avenue by representatives of the Tarrytown Fire Department. At that time safety instruction is given, an equipment demonstration is conducted, and children are given the opportunity to experience fire fighters and fire trucks up close.

Over the years, we have been a recipient of grants by Burn Care...Everywhere, the monies which have enabled us to purchase a fire engine for the toddler playground, as well as additional sensors throughout the building.

We have shelter in place drills, as well as lockdown drills. The staff has training in all aspects of safety. We review our procedures after any incidents or unscheduled evacuations.

Our goal is to provide the best safety practices to ensure the well-being and protection of all children, staff, families and visitors.



The Importance of Reading Aloud to Children

By Tracy Buckler

According to Mem Fox, author of *Reading Magic*, "If parents understood the huge educational benefit and intense happiness brought about by reading aloud to their children, and if every parent—and every adult caring for a child—read aloud a minimum of three stories a day to the children in their lives, we could probably wipe out illiteracy within one generation." This is a pretty bold statement, but one that many Early Childhood professionals firmly believe in. Reading to a child can and should begin as soon after birth as possible, as it will help with brain development, speech skills, as well as simply bonding with the child, which will help in other developmental areas as well.

It may seem to some that infants will not benefit from being read aloud to, but many experts on the subject disagree. Most people don't realize that when a child is born, only twenty-five percent of the brain is developed, and the rest develops within the first year of life. This is an extremely crucial time in a child's life where reading aloud and simply talking to the child will help tremendously with brain development along with their speaking skills. "The sense of dislocation and confusion that occurs when kids and parents don't connect disturbs children long after childhood is over," (*Reading Magic* pg. 21).

In his book *The Read-Aloud Handbook*, Jim Trelease gives several examples to emphasize the belief that there is a literacy problem in the United States. One such example follows:

"Every workday afternoon a courier shows up at the door of the fifth largest insurance company in America, New York Life. There his is handed a satchel of insurance claims, which he drives to JFK Airport. The satchel is then loaded aboard an Aer Lingus jet and flown to Dublin, Ireland, where American insurance claims will be processed by another people in another county. Why? Because New York Life cannot find enough young people in the metropolitan area, between the ages of twenty and thirty, who know how to read, write, and think clearly and critically enough to process insurance claims. Ireland has them."

There is a simple solution to this problem, read aloud to your children every day, even when they are old enough to read to themselves. "The more you read, the better you get at it; the better you get at it, the more you like it; and the more you like it, the more you do it." (*The Read Aloud Handbook*, pg. 4). Reading aloud should be fun, exciting and pleasurable for both the person reading and the child being read to, if it's not, the child will not want to be read to and consequently not like to read later in life.

There are several do's and don'ts one could follow when reading aloud to children. The most important thing to do is to begin reading to infants, as soon as they are born! Use rhyming book, such as Mother Goose rhymes and songs to help with language development. "Rhymers will be readers." (*Reading Magic*, pg. 85) There are many more do's about reading to children than don'ts, as it's simply most important to just read!

A few don'ts to follow when reading to your children include: Don't read books you don't enjoy yourself. Have fun reading and make it a special time for both of you. Use books that are age appropriate for the child and make sure you have read the book prior to reading it aloud to be sure of it's contents. Using books that the child doesn't understand can turn them off of books for good.

Most parents being working with their children by teaching them their letters first, then they move onto words and then the stories. According to Mem Fox this is exactly opposite of the way it should be done. If a parent reads aloud to their child early and often then the letters and words will naturally come into the child's world.

One very important aspect of reading aloud to children is to discuss what's being read to them. This helps the child to not only learn to read the words on the page, but to understand what they are reading, or being read to them. A child can learn the words and read them from a book, but if they don't understand what they are reading, then they are not reading.



According to Mem Fox, there are three secrets of reading: being able to make the print mean something; understanding the language; and our knowledge. The more a person knows about life, the easier it will be to learn to read. One thing to keep in mind when working with older children; if the child is having trouble pronouncing a word, don't have them try to sound it out, just tell them what it is and move on with the story. If the child worries too much about what certain words are they will forget about what they are reading, that in turn means they really are not reading, if they are not comprehending the story.

In addition, if an older child is having trouble reading a particular book, it may be that it's just too difficult for them. Suggesting nicely that maybe you could read some of it aloud to them might be a good idea. If the child is struggling with reading a book that is a bit out of their reading level, it very well might turn them off of reading forever. That is not what we want to happen!

Some simple things that parents can do to ensure their children become readers are to, first and foremost, read to them. Second, have books readily available around the house and take them to the library as often as possible. Make reading fun and make sure it's done often. "Whatever happens in the world of school, continuing to read aloud to our children at home should solve most reading problems and will always be a lifeline to their happiness, their literacy, and their future." (*Reading Magic*, pg. 152).

Works Cited

Fox, Mem. *Reading Magic*. New York, San Diego, London: Harcourt, Inc., 2001.

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Butler, Shelley. *Helping Young Listeners Become Successful Readers: Babies & Toddlers*. 2003, Earlychildhood.com. 12 February 2005 .

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SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 21, 2018

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Let's help make EMCCC shine!

Volunteer Day

Parents, Staff, Board Members, Friends

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Rain Date: Sunday, April 22, 2018

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM



- **Paint, Landscape, Clean-up**
- **Bring: Rakes, Ladders, Step Stools**
- **Powerwash Toddler Playground Equipment**
- **We will provide paint and paintbrushes**

**Coffee! Donuts!
Bagels!**

**CONTACT ALISON MADRIGAL TO SIGN UP.
ALIROSE1010@GMAIL.COM**

THIS EVENT IS FOR GROWN-UPS ONLY

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ELIZABETH MASCIA CHILD CARE CENTER 50TH ANNIVERSARY

ELIZABETH MASCIA
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FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL

A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY
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Soul Shine
An *Alman Brothers* Experience



SATURDAY
MAY 19, 2018
12 NOON - 9PM

www.masciamusicfestival.com

RAIN OR SHINE

PIERSON PARK, 238 W. MAIN ST., TARRYTOWN, NEW YORK

\$30 in advance, \$40 Day of event. Each adult admission allows one child admission. Each additional Child Admission, \$10.
In the event we need to cancel the festival due to extreme adverse weather condition threatening participants all ticket proceeds will be considered a donation to the Elizabeth Mascia Child Care Center.
There are no refunds or exchanges. Small Chairs and Blankets ok. No Pets allowed. No Coolers allowed. Free parking at Tarrytown Train Station (Metro North parking lot) - a short walk away.



ELIZABETH MASCIA CHILD CARE CENTER, INC.
2018 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
Monday June 18, 2018
 Salem Golf Club North Salem, New York



\$250.00 PER PERSON
 INCLUDES: GOLF/CART
 LUNCH BUFFET
 COCKTAILS
 BUFFET DINNER
 RAFFLE & PRIZES

\$75.00 PER PERSON
 INCLUDES: COCKTAILS
 BUFFET DINNER
 RAFFLE & PRIZES

PROPER GOLF ATTIRE REQUIRED
 NO T-SHIRTS-NO JEANS
 SOFT SPIKES ONLY

REGISTRATION CHECK IN 10:30 AM

Buffet Lunch @ 11:00 am
 Shot Gun Start Best Ball @ 12:00 pm
 Cocktail Reception @ 5:00 pm
 Buffet Dinner @ 6:00 pm

RSVP BY JUNE 8TH, 2018
 CUT DOTTED LINE AND SEND IN FORM BELOW

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PLATINUM SPONSOR - \$2,500
 2 Foursomes
 Name and/or Logo on hole
 Includes Banner of Recognition

GOLD SPONSOR - \$2,000
 1 Foursomes
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 Includes Banner of Recognition

SILVER SPONSOR - \$1,500
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BRONZE SPONSOR - \$500
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 Includes Banner of Recognition

HOLE SPONSOR - \$200
 Name and/or Logo

I CANNOT ATTEND THIS YEAR
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TOTAL SPONSORSHIP=\$ _____

GOLFER REGISTRATION FORM

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- PLATINUM GOLD
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 HOLE DONATION

Sponsorship Total=\$ _____
 Golfers Total \$250 X _____ = _____
 Dinner Only \$75 X _____ = _____
 Golfers (Guests) Names
 1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____
 4 _____

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