Hello!

It is with great excitement that I write this letter to you all. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you as the new Director for the USM Center for Child Development. Most of you know me, but for those who do not I would love to meet you personally very soon. I am looking forward to this journey, and I cannot wait to get started!

As we look forward, it is also important to look back at what we’ve done as well. I would like to thank Mr. Jeff Leffler for his outstanding commitment to the quality and betterment of the CCD. He has been such a wonderful leader, mentor, and friend to all of us here at the center, and has done many wonderful things for us. I cannot thank him enough for all of the time and dedication he has put into the center and for all of the things he has done for us. He will be sorely missed, but I am sure that we all wish him the best of luck on his new adventure.

Since many of you were not able to be present for my parent interview session that was conducted, I want to take a moment to share with you my thoughts and vision for the center. At the very foundation, I believe that this center runs on the positive relationships and collaborations that occur every day with every person that is a part of our building. This includes staff, parents, children, and administration. I hope to continue our excellent journey by building on these existing relationships.

I would like for you to know that my door is always open for any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. You can contact me by calling the front desk, emailing me at Stephanie.haney@usm.edu or stopping by my office for a friendly hello. I look forward to working with all of you and helping our staff to continue to provide the best care possible!

Stephanie Haney, M.S.
Program Director
USM Center for Child Development

*From Ms. Stephanie’s Class...*

The infants will spend the month of July exploring gardening and then will begin a unit on food. We are looking forward to seeing not only where our food comes from, but learning all about the different types of food there are. Although we may not be eating “real” food yet, we are looking forward to learning about it!
Check out these fun titles for Infants and Toddlers

Recommended Reading...

3 books for birth to 12 months:
1. Peek-a-whoo, Nina Laden
2. Guess how much I love you, Sam McBratney
3. Blue hat, green hat, Sandra Boynton

3 books for 12-18 months:
1. I love you through and through, Bernadette Rossetti Shostak
2. On the night you were born, Nancy Tillman
3. 10 Kisses, Karen Katz

The 4 E’s: TAKE A BOOK TOUR...

- Explore the parts of a book with your child, including the title page, the dedication and table of contents, page numbers and index.
- Explain what the author does and what an illustrator does for the book.
- Experience it! Allow them to feel the cover, smell the pages, listen the crinkle of turning pages and explore the pictures before reading it.
- Estimate it! Ask your child what they think/predict about the story based on what they’ve seen and share your ideas.

Look for these at your public library!

“The first 5 years have so much to do with how the next 80 turn out.”

-Bill Gates, SR.

3 Books for 18 months to 2 years:
1. Bear’s loose tooth, Karma Wilson
2. LMNO Peas, Keith Baker
3. Whoever you are, Mem Fox

3 Books for 2 years to 2-1/2 years:
2. Sleep Big Bear, Sleep, Maureen Wright
3. Slugs in love, Susan Pearson

3 Books for 3-4 years:
1. I love you, Stinky-face, Lisa McCourt
2. A book of sleep, Il Sung Na
3. Goodnight, Little Monster, Helen Ketteman

3 Books for 3-4 years:
1. Love is..., Heidi Pross Gray
2. I love you forever, Robert Munsch
3. The Giving Tree, Shel Silverstein

3 Books for 2-1/2-3 years:
1. I love you, Stinky-face, Lisa McCourt
2. A book of sleep, Il Sung Na
3. Goodnight, Little Monster, Helen Ketteman

3 Books for 3-4 years:
1. Love is..., Heidi Pross Gray
2. I love you forever, Robert Munsch
3. The Giving Tree, Shel Silverstein

3 Books for 4-5 years:
1. We are all born free: The universal declaration of human rights in pictures, Amnesty International
2. I have a right to be a child, Alain Serres
3. Child of the Civil Rights Movement, Paula Young Shelton

3 Books for 5 years and up:
1. Sister Anne’s Hands, Marybeth Lorbiecki
2. Where the Wild Things Are, Maurice Sendak
July Resources

The University Clinic for Family Therapy

*Serving Southern Miss and the surrounding community since 1990.*

Individual, Couple, and Family Therapy

*Sliding Scales*

*Evening appointments available*

*Please call 601.266.5475 to set up your appointment today!*

2016-2017 Closings

USM Center for Child Development

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*Closing dates are subject to change due to changes in the USM holiday calendar, closings by the university president, and in-

“Silence is golden… unless you have kids, then silence is suspicious.”
For the Month of July, Ms. Sherrie’s class will be learning about gardening and food. We will discuss the steps in gardening, we will look at the different tools to garden and we will do a little gardening ourselves. The last two weeks we will focus on food. We will discuss the different types of food, we will touch and feel different food and we will try the food that we grew in our classroom. We will continue water play every Friday. We are looking forward to a month full of learning and exploring in Ms. Sherrie’s classroom.

From Mrs. Sharla’s Class

In July Mrs. Sharla’s class will be gardening and exploring the different types of food. For the first half of the month we will talk about all the different kinds of gardens (flowers and foods) and what we have to do with them to make them grow. For the second half of the month we will talk about "sometimes foods" and "anytime foods". We will also be discovering foods from around the world. We will have a tasting party at the end of the month. Stay tuned for info!

From Ms. Samantha’s Class

The month of July will be filled with hands-on learning activities inside and outside. For the first 2 weeks of July our theme is “Gardening.” For this theme, we will explore dirt by adding shovels, spoons and cups to our sensory table. We will also plant many different types of seeds and watch them grow over time. The last 2 weeks of July, the theme is all about food…how fun! For this theme, we will explore different types of food focusing on one week for fruit and the next week for vegetables. We will incorporate these weeks by learning about planting seeds to grow foods. We can’t wait for these exciting experiences!

From Mrs. Myrna’s class...

Summer has arrived! One of the beauty of summer is being able to eat fresh vegetables. For the month of July our themes will be Gardening and Food. Throughout the month we will be combining both of the themes to show the children the finished product after planting. We will be using our five senses to explore the produce, math skills to compare and the kitchen area to discuss eating healthy. The children will be able to taste a variety of produce (salad).
From Mrs. Zkela’s class...

This month, we will learn about Summer Foods, Leo Lionni Books, and Transportation. The letters for the month are K, L, M and N. Also, the children will listen to stories; explore; play games; create art; continue to learn how to work together; write; recognize numbers; shapes; and etc. We are going to have so much fun learning about these units.

From Mrs. Bridgitte’s class...

Oh my! We are feeling the heat of summer, but what fun we are having in the sun. Every Friday in our class is Water Play Day! We are enjoying water activities that include a drive through car wash for our outside riding toys, sponge color bombs on large cardboard canvases, baby doll washing, and fly swat splatter painting! July is also filled with fun themes, starting with summer foods. We are looking forward to our family picnic on Friday, July 8th, and can't wait to enjoy this time together with all of our parents. Next, we will explore many books written by one of our favorite authors, Leo Lionni. We will wrap up the month by learning about all kinds of transportation.

From Mrs. Carmen’s class...

Summer is here, and the fun does not stop in our class. I just wanted to remind everyone that we have water day every Friday morning. Please remember to bring an extra set of clothes and a towel. The children have enjoyed water day, and we hope to continue this activity for many Fridays to come. Also we will be having a family picnic on Friday, July 8th at 2:45. There will be a sign up sheet on the white board outside of the classroom. The event will be held outside, so remember to bring a blanket for sitting. In addition, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

“I believe that children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way. Show them all the beauty they possess inside.”

- Whitney Houston
July is here and it has brought some crazy hot weather along with it! We will kick off the month learning all about healthy summer foods. The children will learn the differences between fruits and vegetables, where these foods grow, and explore the food pyramid. Following that, we will go into an author study of Leo Lionni. He is one of my favorites and I cannot wait to share his books with the children! Lastly, we will run through two weeks of transportation. The children will learn about the many different types of transportation there are and hopefully get to see a few in person! We look forward to spending this month learning and growing with your babies!

_Patriotic hand print craft..._
Family Activities
July is National Blueberry Month!

BLUEBERRY PAINTING

Good for any summer day—but great way to celebrate 'National Blueberry Month!'

1. Give children blueberries to look at, touch, smell, and taste. (Good for the young)
2. After the children have observed the blueberries—add a little water to them and cook them in the microwave for one minute.
3. Have children mush them up. Use the blueberry juice to paint a beautiful blue blueberry picture.

SUPER BLUEBERRY SMOOTHIE

2 cups apple juice
1 cup frozen strawberries
1 cup frozen blueberries
1 teaspoon honey

1. Whirl all together in blender!