



CITY OF LAFAYETTE  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

# TINY TOTS



## Autumn

Signs of Autumn are all around us! Owls about at night, squirrels scurrying during the day and leaves are falling down to the ground... These are just a few of the topics we will be learning this month.

### Family to Family Program

The preschool program will be giving back to our community this holiday season! We will be "adopting" two families to help ensure they have a wonderful holiday season. We are coordinating this through the City's Human Resource Department and Family-to-Family, a Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services program. We hope it provides a wonderful experience for you and your family and we thank you in advance for your support and generosity as we give back to our community. More information will follow as this develops.

### Parent Teacher Communication

If your child will be out sick or not in class for any reason, please let us know. You may contact your teacher, via email at:

Ms. Kris

[kris.mahar@cityoflafayette.com](mailto:kris.mahar@cityoflafayette.com)

Ms. Lindsey

[lindsey.nelson@cityoflafayette.com](mailto:lindsey.nelson@cityoflafayette.com)

OR you can call the Front Desk @

303-665-0469 and leave a message.

You may also call or email Karen Snortland at: 303-665-0469 ext 3458, [karens@cityoflafayette.com](mailto:karens@cityoflafayette.com)

### November Birthdays

Does your child have a November birthday? Great! We are looking forward to celebrating with them!

Please let us know, in advance if you will be bringing in a special snack for the class to enjoy. Due to many allergies, all snacks must be store bought and have the original label on the packaging.

Thank you!



Session "D"

Date: November 1 - 30, 2012

### Special Points of Interest

- King Soopers Parent Work Shop - Monday, Nov. 5th, 6-7pm - Register at the front desk
- No School/Veterans Day - Monday, Nov. 12th
- Fall Break...Enjoy! - Nov. 19th - Nov 23rd
- Register for Falling Leaves Preschool Camp at the front desk
- Pre School Payment Due: Monday, Dec. 3rd

### Autumn

Autumn time has come at last. Yes, oh yes, it has! And while it's here we'll have a blast! Yes, oh yes, we will! With a pumpkin here and a scarecrow there. Watching leaves drifting in the air Autumn time has come at last. Yes, oh yes it has!

Dear Parents,

In light of the recent terrible tragedy here in Colorado, we want to reassure you that staff here at the Bob L. Burger Recreation Center are on alert for suspicious behavior and we ask that parents and guardians report any suspicious behavior to the local law enforcement agency as well as staff here at the recreation center. If you believe there is an emergency, call 911.

I want to make you aware that in our classrooms we typically do not have discussions with your children about these types of events. It is our desire to honor the preferences of each family in discussing these issues at home in your own personal way. If you would like assistance in starting this conversation in your home here are a couple of helpful online resources: <http://safelyeverafter.com/> and [www.parentingsafechildren.com](http://www.parentingsafechildren.com). As you know, the safety of your children is always our first priority.

In order to help us maintain safety please review the following information:

### **Keep Your Contact Information Updated**

It is extremely important that parents and guardians keep all of their contact information current. If your contact information changes during the school year please notify your child's teacher as soon as possible so your information can be updated. Parents can also update their email addresses and phone numbers on their own through our online registration system Web Trac. The website is [www.register.cityoflafayette.com](http://www.register.cityoflafayette.com). You will enter the same username and password you use to register for programs. If you do not have a username and password you may contact Leslie Mathis at [lesliem@cityoflafayette.com](mailto:lesliem@cityoflafayette.com) and she will set this up for you. If you do make changes online please be sure to make your child's teacher aware as well. If contact information is not current we won't be able to reach you when it is most important.

### **Call in Student Absences Promptly**

Parents and guardians can help staff account for a child's whereabouts by promptly calling in sick or absent children. The following is taken directly from the Preschool Parent Manual:

#### **Absences or Changes in Schedule**

It is the parent's responsibility to inform the preschool program staff of their child's absence or any schedule changes. Please complete an Absence/Schedule Change form (print online or ask a staff member for this form). If your child is sick and will be absent please call the Recreation Center at 303-665-0469, or email your child's teacher directly.

Fostering a safe and secure environment is truly a partnership between staff, parents, students and the community. We value the priority our community puts on safety and thank you for partnering with us to focus on the safety of children.

Thank you so much for your cooperation with the above.

Karen A. Snortland, CPRP  
Recreation Supervisor  
[karens@cityoflafayette.com](mailto:karens@cityoflafayette.com)

303-665-5506 ext 3458

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# **Early Development - Online Resource**

The first three years of life are a period of incredible growth in all areas of a baby's development. Learn how development unfolds, and what you can do to support and nurture optimal growth and development. In this section of their website, you will find information on topics such as early brain development, how young children build social and emotional skills, and ways you can support language and literacy development starting from birth.

Use their interactive resources, parent handouts, charts, Tip Sheets, FAQ's, articles, and powerpoint slideshows to discover the amazing process of early development!

Zero to Three, National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families  
<http://www.zerotothree.org/child-development/early-development/>

## **Learning Adventures**



### **Math**

- Sorting Fall leaves
- Counting Nuts
- Matching Fall leaves

### **Movement**

- Flying Like an Owl
- Rolling Like a Pumpkin
- Gently Falling Leaves

### **Art**

- Owl Masks
- Leaf Painting
- Corn Cob Painting
- Making Fall Trees

### **Gym Time**

- Gym time is on Tue/Thur
- Please wear tennis shoes on these days!

### **Songs**

- Five Little Leaves
- I'm a Little Pumpkin
- All the Leaves are Falling Down



### **Blocks**

- Tree wood building
- Lego train set

### **Fine Motor**

#### **Skills**

- ABC Lacing Cards
- Color Sorting
- Lacing Beads

### **Science**

- Magnifying Leaves
- Nuts and Bolts
- Leaf Rubbing

### **Literacy**

- Nuts to You
- Leaf Man
- Friends all a Flutter
- Let it Fall

### **Dramatic Play**

- Dress up
- Babies



### **Sensory & Water Table**

### **Circle-Time Fun**

- Autumn tree felt board
- Colors per week
- How do owls get their food?

- Frozen Cranberries
- Cutting with Scissors
- Corn and Scoops

## **“Stranger Awareness”**

### **What every parent or guardian should know!**

1. Define for your child who is a “stranger.” Each family may have different people to warn a child against.  
Many people look friendly, but if you don’t know them personally they are strangers.  
Strangers can be men, women or even other children. They can be tall or short, old or young, big or little.
2. Keep a recent photo of your child, a copy of your child’s fingerprints, and an updated record of his or her height and weight . Also, make a mental note of what your child is wearing every day.
3. Never mark your child’s clothing, toys, book bag, etc. with his or her first name.
4. Carefully check all baby-sitter references.
5. Never leave small children home alone or unattended in a car or in public.
6. If you must go out without your child, designate a neighbor’s house or apartment as a “safe house” where your child can go in the event of a problem. Tell the neighbor when you’re leaving and when you plan to return.
7. Be sure your child knows his or her name, address, city, state and phone number (including area code). Show him or her how to dial 911 in case of an emergency.
8. Encourage your child to respect his or her body and mind. Explain that he or she has a right to safety and self respect.
9. Show your child love and attention to help him or her not to be easily swayed by a stranger’s interest. One way of doing this is by taking the time to listen to your child and help him or her feel comfortable discussing sensitive matters with you.
10. If your child is old enough to visit friends on his or her own, be sure that you tell him or her to let you know, “WHERE they are going, WHO they are playing with and WHEN they will return.”
11. Stay involved with your child’s life. The more actively you participate in what your child does, the better chance he or she will have of avoiding strangers, as well as situations involving drugs and gangs.
12. Rehearse possible “stranger” situations with your child so he or she will know how to say “No,” should the real situation ever occur.

#### **Important safety facts that children should know!**

- Never tell anyone on the phone when you are home alone. Say your parents are busy and you will take a message.
- If someone comes to the door, always ask who it is before opening the door. Never open the door for anyone you do not know.
- Internet safety is important. Never give out your name, address or personal information to anyone over the internet. Never agree to meet anyone who has contacted you online.
- If a stranger offers you a ride you should run away and tell someone, i.e. your parents, your babysitter, the police. Never go near the car. Teach your child a secret code word for emergencies. If the person picking them up does not know the code, do not go with them!
- Never wander away from your parents when you are out in public. Try not to panic if you become lost.
- If you are out shopping with your parents and become lost, go to the nearest checkout counter and tell the clerk. Do not leave the store. He/she will help you find your parents. If you are lost and see a police officer you can ask them for help. It is important to know your name, address, and telephone number.
- Never take anything from a stranger! Say “NO!”
- Never go near a stranger who is offering you candy or money.
- Never go with a stranger who says they are looking for a lost pet. These are tricks to get you close to the stranger. Say “NO!” RUNAWAY! Tell your parent or guardian and the police right away.
- It is okay to tell someone if they make you feel uncomfortable. Loudly tell them NO!
- It is safer to be with a friend or group when you are out in public. Stay near your parent or guardian when you are out.
- Never wander away alone.