



## MI CASA ES SU CASA BILINGUAL FAMILY DAYCARE

8315 Hawkshead SE · Byron center, MI 49315 · Phone: 616-554-7762

### *January 2016 Newsletter*

Dear Parent:

We are very excited to start the new year off on the right foot! This year we will continue to focus on improving and implementing new teaching techniques to keep promoting a healthy learning environment for our children.

We will continue to use an interactive schedule, in which the children have choices on upcoming activities.

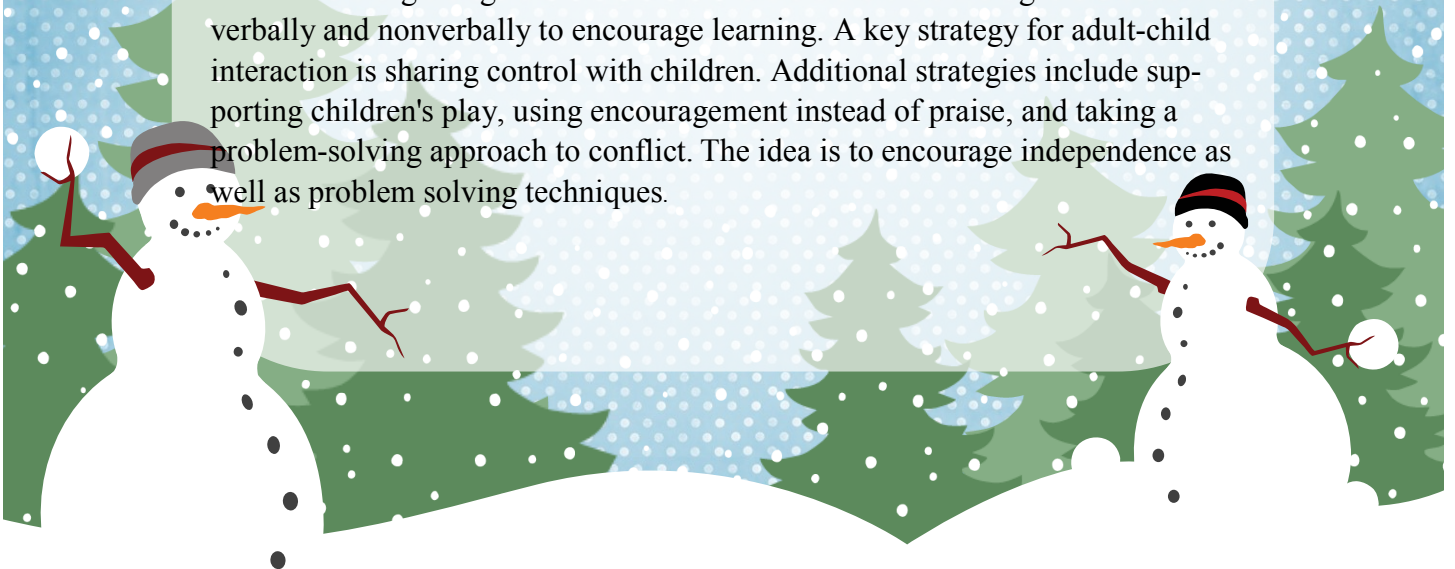
This month we will be working on zoo-phonics, and will continue to do so throughout the year. Our goal will still be further developing each child in their learning and recognition of the sound of each letter. We would like to reassure that the type of activities that we will be doing will be specific to each child developmental stage and what they have already mastered. We are using zoo-phonics flashcards, zoo-phonics bingo card, and other zoo phonics material we have bought to help us accomplish our goal.

Also, we daily review colors, shapes, numbers (#'s recognition & memorizing), and Spanish. In our Spanish Immersion program we are focusing on teaching basic Spanish concepts. Our goal is that by the end of the year children will be able to learn and recognize letters, numbers, colors, shapes, body parts, and simple sentences.

Furthermore, to strengthen our program we are implementing The High Scope Curriculum. Three of the main components of the High Scope that are particularly important are — adult-child interaction, classroom layout and materials, and the daily routine.

#### **Adult-Child Interaction**

We are working alongside with the children and communicating with them both verbally and nonverbally to encourage learning. A key strategy for adult-child interaction is sharing control with children. Additional strategies include supporting children's play, using encouragement instead of praise, and taking a problem-solving approach to conflict. The idea is to encourage independence as well as problem solving techniques.







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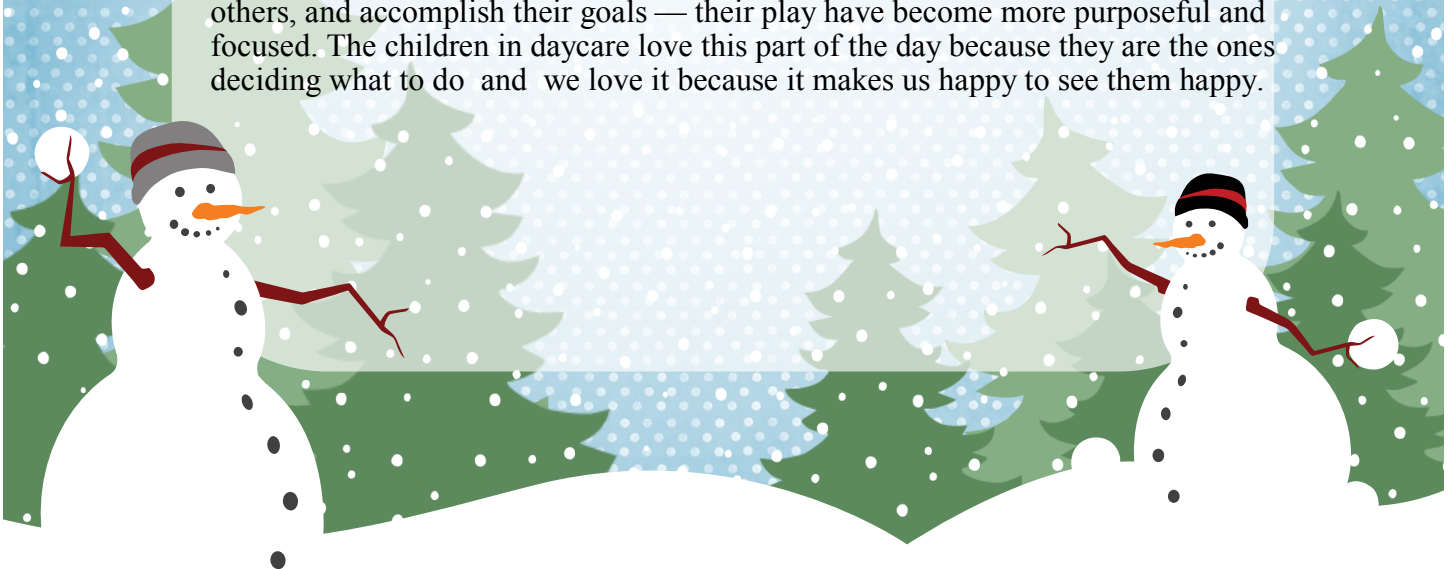
### **Our Classroom**

Our settings are divided into interest areas or stations stocked with a stimulating range of materials designed for specific types of play, for example, dramatic play area, art area, block area, small toy area, and reading and writing area. Our materials are arranged in consistent places and the shelves are tagged with child-friendly labels so that children can get out and put away materials themselves. The classroom's organization also helps children understand how the world is organized, and concepts like more, less, same, different, large, small, in, out, in front of, etc.

### **Our Daily Routine**

We are trying to have a consistent yet flexible framework for the day that provides a balanced variety of experiences and learning opportunities. Children engage in both individual and social play, participate in small- and large- group activities, assist with cleanup, socialize during meals, develop self-care skills, and exercise their small and large muscles. The most important segment of the daily routine is the **plan-do-review sequence**, in which children make choices about what they will do, carry out their ideas, and reflect upon their activities with adults and other children in daycare.

**Plan-do-review sequence** — (planning time, work time, recall time). This three-part sequence is unique to the HighScope Curriculum. It includes a 5- to 10-minute period during which children plan what they want to do during work time (the area to visit, materials to use, and friends to play with); a 15- to 25-minute work time for children to carry out their plans (or shift to new activities that interest them); and another 10- to 15-minute period for reviewing and recalling with an adult and other children what they've done and learned. By doing the plan, do, and review the children are learning to take initiative, solve problems, work with others, and accomplish their goals — their play have become more purposeful and focused. The children in daycare love this part of the day because they are the ones deciding what to do and we love it because it makes us happy to see them happy.







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We are focusing on these areas to assure they are getting what they need to be ready for Kindergarten. We encourage you to ask your child about their day and what they have learned in daycare, we would recommend for you to reinforce those practices with your child as well.

### **Infants and young toddlers**

Our infants and young toddlers will be learning their body parts. We have lots of silly songs and games to help us learn the various parts. The toddlers will begin to work on knowing shapes and recognizing different colors. Another area in which we will be working and focusing on will be hand eye coordination, along with fine & gross motor skills.

### **Just a friendly reminder:**

\*As the weather is still cold, please remember to bring appropriate attire for outside. (snow boots, thick jacket, pants, gloves, and hats). We are required by the State of Michigan, to allow 1 hour of outside play a day (30 minutes twice a day, weather permitting).

\*Please keep reading the anecdotal notebook every day. Feel free to review, leave comments, and sign it as you pick your child up from daycare.

\* Please remember to sign your child both in and out each day at the time of drop-off or pick-up.

\* Please remember to label EVERYTHING! This will avoid confusion and lost items.

\* Please bring the Ages and Stages Questionnaires as soon as possible.

Thank you,  
Mi Casa es su Casa

