FINDING NEMO
Drive-In Movie
142 Arlington Ave NW
Canton, OH 44708

Tuesday, February 6th
10AM-12PM

Come and make your own car from a cardboard box for our drive-in movie then sit back in your car and enjoy watching Finding Nemo and eating some popcorn with us. RSVP by 2/5/2018 so we have enough supplies for everyone.

SKY ZONE TRAMPOLINE PARK

TODDLER TIME
4831 Whipple Ave
Canton OH 44718

Tuesday, February 20th
9:30am-11am
COST $10

Toddler Time is a great shared experience for child and parent. A time for your little ones to discover the joy of being active, bouncing under the supervision of their parents, and without interference from the big kids. All toddlers must wear SkySocks. A Sky Zone liability waiver must be signed by each parent or legal guardian and can be done online or at Sky Zone. SkySocks are required and included in the price.

PETSMART
5465 Dressler Rd NW
North Canton, Ohio 44720

Tuesday, March 6th
10-11:30AM
FREE

Join us as we explore and tour the PETSMART store. We will be able to watch the animals being groomed and trained through the glass window, see the fish and reptiles up close, and if they are not too busy an associate will get out a guinea pig or small animal for us to pet. You might even decide to go home with a new pet.

Please RSVP by March 5th.

CONTACTS:

Chris Ehmer
330-479-3608 (work); 330-704-2400 (cell); ehmerc@starkdd.org

Paula Moore
330-479-3710 (work); 330-354-7919 (cell); moorep@starkdd.org

In the same complex as the Barn Restaurant next to ToyRfix.

jump n SHOUT!

887 West Main street
Smithville, Ohio. 44677

In the same complex as the Barn Restaurant next to ToyRfix.

Tuesday, March 20th
10AM-12PM

jump n SHOUT offers lots of fun in a safe, clean and friendly environment. With a range of inflatables from small bounce houses to large obstacle courses, the two floors offer separate age ranges of play. Small kids’ activities on lower floor which include: bounce houses, small slide just for little kids, train table, puzzles, chalk board, building blocks, bouncy horses and stackable balance toys. Snacks are available to purchase or you can plan to eat lunch at The Barn following our playtime.

Less than 36" tall = $10 per child;
36" tall or more = $12 per child;
Parent is FREE.

Don't miss the Egg Hunt!

We will be having an egg hunt on Friday, March 23rd @ 11AM

Bring a basket or bag to collect your eggs in and don't forget your camera for pictures! Playgroup will begin at 10 AM and we will end playgroup with the egg hunt at 11AM.

It's that time of year again!

Here's what you need to know to stay up to date when weather conditions are questionable.

Calamity Day Procedures for Early Intervention
Watch/listen for Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

If we are operating on a 2 hour delay:
EL services scheduled AFTER 10 AM will continue; those scheduled before 10 AM will not be delivered; Playgroup will be canceled.

Code One or Two: Early Intervention Services will not be delivered; No playgroup.

*To see if we are under one of the above check our website www.starkdd.org/elecandclosings, WHBC 1480-AM radio, or WEWS-5 television for up to date information on closings or delays.
Brown Sugar Blondies

**Ingredients:**
1 cup all purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/8 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup butter
1 cup packed brown sugar
1 egg
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 cup to 1 1/3 cup M&Ms

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, mix together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Set aside.
2. Melt 1/3 cup butter. Cool slightly. In a mixer or separate bowl, add the butter to 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar and mix well. Add the egg (beaten) and vanilla and mix well.
3. Add the flour mixture a little at a time and mix well. Mix in 2/3 cup M&M’s (Valentine colors).
4. Spread in a greased 9x9x2 inch pan. Sprinkle 1/3 to 2/3 cup M&M’s on the top.
5. Bake for 20-35 minutes. Recipe from: Baked Perfection

Valentine’s Day Heart Scavenger Hunt

I am sure you can think of lots of things you love about your children, but they don’t necessarily always hear them. I think as parents, it’s so easy to get wrapped up in the day to day realities of parenting and we don’t slow down and just appreciate each other. What we say to our children ends up being what they say to themselves and it’s so important they hear good things. Try this activity with your family...

Cut out many paper hearts in different colors. Write things you love about each child on each heart. While your child is asleep or elsewhere scatter them all over the house. When your child gets home or wakes up from their nap give them a little bucket or Valentine’s Day mailbox to put the hearts they find in and let the hunt begin.

Afterwards, sit together and read each one. They will probably tell you why they love you too and they may ask you to re-hide them so they can find them again!

Candy Heart Picture Frame

What a cute Valentine to make and give to loved ones.

**Supplies needed:**
Candy hearts
Glue
Craft/popsicle sticks
Construction paper, foam sheet, or cardboard
Photo

**Directions:**
Glue the ends of four craft sticks together to make a square. Cut your construction paper, foam sheet, or cardboard the size of the craft stick square and glue it to the back of the frame. Turn your frame over so that the back of the frame is on the table. Cut out a photo to fit in the middle of the frame (You can also cut the photo out in the shape of a heart) and glue your picture inside the frame. Glue candy hearts on the craft sticks. Let the hearts/glue dry completely. You can use spray sealer or Modge Podge on the candy hearts to seal it and make it shiny (cover picture before spraying or add the picture after you seal it.)
Dealing with Tantrums

If you are the parent of a toddler, then you more than likely have had this experience at one time or another....the "public meltdown"; it can be one of the most challenging and embarrassing parts of being a parent. A tantrum can happen ANYWHERE...at church, in the middle of the supermarket, at the end of a playdate, at the playground, etc. The best way to solve tantrums is to prevent them by going home before they are tired, hungry, etc.; however, this isn't always possible. As your child gets older and acquires more language skills he/she will be better able to communicate and tantrums will become less frequent. Whether the tantrum is at home or out in public, here are a few tips to help you and your child get through it.

- **Stay calm** - if you're upset or frustrated it can make it worse.
- **Wait it out** - ignore or wait for it to pass. Once he's in full tantrum, it's doubtful he'll listen to reason or be easily distracted.
- **Make sure there's no reward** - if your child gets what he/she wants by having a tantrum, he'll just keep doing it.
- **Leave** - if he/she is completely out of control or you can't ignore it, stop whatever you're doing and leave.

Hands on Valentine's Day Activities

Babies love to explore and it's good to give your baby something new to explore. Here are some Valentine's Day items you might have around your home for them to explore.

An empty box of chocolates can be the newest toy that they love to open and shut and hide their toys inside.

Try cutting out some felt hearts in various sizes. Make sure to make the hearts in both matching colors, sizes, and shapes creating learning opportunities to sort and match objects. Use words like big, small, same, different, red, pink and purple with your child when playing together with the hearts. Using and demonstrating new vocabulary is important at any age.

Heart cookie cutters can become manipulative toys that your child will love putting in and out of a bowl, box, or can. They can also be used to paint with by dipping the heart in paint and stamping it onto a piece of paper.

Finding things around the house shaped like hearts and talking about them provides discovery, stimulation, and vocabulary for your baby's development.

Making Music With Young Children

Young children love to pound, shake, and bang things. They also love MUSIC! Have some fun with your infant or toddler by making homemade instruments to enjoy together out of items you probably already have around the house. If your child is old enough they can help you make them.

**Here are some ideas...**

**Empty containers** like coffee cans, oatmeal containers, etc. make good drums. Give your child a wooden spoon or other item to use as a drum stick. Pots, pans, lids, and bowls are great too!

**Empty bottles or containers** such as pop bottles, spice containers, etc. or plastic eggs make great maracas to shake. You can fill them with anything like dry bean, corn, rice, etc. Try different items to create different sounds. Be sure your child cannot get the lid off by sealing it with glue or tape to prevent choking. Be creative and try different containers and items to put in them.

You can decorate the instruments or leave them just as they are. Turn on some music and march or sing with your child while playing your instruments. Your child will LOVE IT!!
February Book Picks...

SNUGGLE PUPPY!
(a love song)

by Sandra Boynton

OOO, Snuggle Puppy of mine! Everything about you is especially fine. I love what you are. I love what you do. Fuzzy little Snuggle Puppy, I love you. Featuring a sweet and cuddly doggie cast and rhyming verse, Snuggle Puppy is the perfect bedtime book to read last, because of an ending that kids will want again and again.

Apart or together, near or far, day or night, from childhood to adulthood -- the never-ending reach and power of a mother's love touches every moment of every day, even when you least expect it. All you need to do is make sure to notice. Michael Jordan's mother and sister celebrate family in this reassuring book about the many special ways we cherish those we love.

"I love you like a skipping stone...I love you like a doggy's bone..." Celebrating the love between a parent and a child, this rhyming book features a host of animals and the things they love about each other. Perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and as a reminder to the big kids in your life.

February Songs and Fingerplays...

Heart Hopping
(Sung to: "Mulberry Bush")
Here we go hopping-round the room
Around the room - Around the room.
Here we go hopping - around the room
On St. Valentine's day.

Add additional actions such as jumping, clapping, spinning, etc...

The Love Bug
It begins with a grin
(smile broadly)
It turns to giggle
(put both hands on mouth and giggle)
You start to laugh
(throw head back and laugh out loud)
Your legs start to wiggle
(put feet in the air and shake)
You look all around for someone
to hug
(move eyes back and forth)
What can you do
(shrug shoulders)
You've caught the love bug
(hug another child or yourself)
ACHOO!

Do You Love Me?
(Rhyme)
Do you love me,
Or do you not?
You told me once
But I forgot.

A Great Big Hug
(Sung to: The Wheels on the Bus)
Oh, I just love your hugs and kisses,
Hugs and kisses, hugs and kisses.
Oh, I just love you hugs and kisses,
Come and give me some.
A great big hug and lots of kisses,
Lots of kisses, lots of kisses.
A great big hug and lots of kisses,
Ready? Here I come!

Build Your Child's Library
Order books through Scholastic Book Club to enjoy with your child. Go on-line to:

scholastic.com/bookclub or scholastic.com/newparent

to view the flyer and place your order.
The class activation code is: GJTR9
(Teacher's name Christine Ehmer)

Online orders are paid for by credit/debit and will be delivered to Eastgate and brought to you when your PSP visits.

Orders are due by February 22nd!
Orders will arrive within 1-2 weeks of the due date.
FAMILY COMMUNITY OUTINGS RSVP FORM

CHILD’s NAME____________________________________

PARENT’S NAME____________________________________

PHONE # ________________________________________

Mommy & Me Drive in Movie
Tuesday, February 6th
10 AM-12 PM
FREE

Child’s Name____________________________________

# of children attending

# of adults attending

Please bring a box to create your car for the drive in movie. We will have a few if you don’t have one.

SkyZone
Tuesday, February 20th
9:30-11 AM
$10 per child
RSVP by 02/19/2018

Child’s Name____________________________________

# of children attending

# of adults attending

PetsMart
Tuesday, March 6th
10-11:30 AM
FREE
RSVP by 03/05/2018

Child’s Name____________________________________

# of children attending

# of adults attending

FREE outings may be RSVP’d by returning slip, phone call, text or email.
PAID outings MUST have RSVP and payment turned in by due date.

ALL RSVP’s can be sent in with your PSP or mailed to:
Eastgate Early Childhood Center
Attention: Chris or Paula
2121 Ashland St

Chris Ehmer
330-479-3508 (work)
330-704-2400 (cell):
chmerc@starkdd.org

Paula Moore
330-479-3710 (work)
330-354-7919 (cell)
moorep@starkdd.org

Jump n SHOUT!
Tuesday, March 20th
10-11:30 AM
Less than 36” tall = $10 per child;
36” tall or more = $12 per child;
Parent is FREE.
RSVP by 03/19/2018

Child’s Name____________________________________

# of children attending

# of adults attending
Toddler Playgroups!

Join us on Friday mornings from 10-11:30AM at Eastgate Early Childhood and Family Center to explore and play in our dramatic play, creative arts and gross motor rooms. In February we will explore “WINTER ANIMALS” and in March we will be “EXPLORING COLORS”. Playgroups are intended for children birth to age 5 years old and their siblings. Each week we will explore our theme in new and interesting ways with activities that will tempt you and your child to discover and play together. You are welcome to bring family and friends along to join you! Here is a sneak peek at the February and March activities we have planned...

February

“WINTER ANIMALS”

February 2nd
Birdwatch
Miss Paula will be making handprint cardinals and there will be finger-painting in the creative arts room. We will be bird watching in the dramatic play room this week with binoculars.

February 9th
Cold Hands & Warm Hearts
There goes the mail truck...did you get a Valentine’s Day card in the mail today? We hope so! Help deliver valentines to your friends today in dramatic play. Miss Paula will help you to make a special Valentine’s Day card to give to someone special.

February 16th
BRRR...!
It’s cold outside!!! Build an igloo and pretend you are an eskimo in the dramatic play room. Miss Paula will be making eskimos in the creative arts room today then you can warm up by running and jumping in the gross motor room!

February 23rd
Bears Oh My!!!!
We’re going on a bear hunt today. Are you afraid? We hope not- it will be lots of fun!! Make a bear mask with Miss Paula then bring it with you to the dramatic play room to pretend you are a bear. Miss Paula will also be making tape resist snowflake paintings.

March

“EXPLORING COLORS”

March 2nd
PINK BLOSSOMS
I spy something PINK. Can you guess what it is? This week we are exploring the color PINK. The weather is changing and it will soon be spring. The trees will be budding and you will soon see PINK blossoms. Paint with PINK today and make a blossoming tree.

March 9th
STAFF IN-SERVICE
NO PLAYGROUP TODAY

March 16th
GREEN SHAMROCKS
I spy something GREEN. Can you guess what it is? This week we are exploring the color GREEN. Can you find all of the hidden shamrocks? How many gold coins can you find in the GREEN sensory table? Miss Paula will have shamrocks to make in the creative arts room.

March 23rd
COLORED EGGS
We’re going on an egg hunt, we’re going to get lots of eggs. What a beautiful day! Uh-oh! Grass! Long wavy grass! We can’t go over it. We can’t go under it. I guess we’ll have to search through it. Happy Hunting! Before the egg hunt be sure to make your own “Colored Eggs” book to take home and share with your family.

March 30th
PROGRAM CLOSED
NO PLAYGROUP TODAY
Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school. Just fill in the collection sheet and send it in with your PSP. Please do not staple Box Tops or attach Bonus Box Tops Certificates to any collection sheets. To see more ways to earn cash for your Early Intervention program, go to Box Tops for Education.com.
Peppermint Heart Cookies

Ingredients:
- 8 teaspoons peppermint extract
- 2 cups (1 lb) chocolate cream ready-to-spread frosting
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened baking cocoa
- 1 cup (16 1/2 oz) Pillsbury® refrigerated sugar cookies

Instructions:
1. Roll hard peppermint candies or crushed candy canes until well blended.
2. On lightly floured surface, roll out half of dough at a time to 1/8-inch thickness. With 2 1/2-inch heart-shaped cookie cutter, cut out heart shapes. On ungreased cookie sheets, place shapes 1/2 inch apart.
3. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until set. Remove cookies from cookie sheets; place on cooling racks. Cool completely, about 5 minutes.
4. In small bowl, mix frosting and peppermint extract until well blended. Spread about 2 teaspoons frosting on each cookie. Sprinkle with about 1/4 teaspoon crushed candy.
5. Heat oven to 350°F. In large bowl, break up cookie dough. Beat in cocoa with electric mixer until well blended.
6. Stir about 1/2 cup of the crushed peppermint candies into frosting. Drop by heaping tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart onto ungreased cookie sheets.
7. Bake 10 minutes or until set. Cool on cookie sheets 2 minutes; carefully transfer to wire racks. Repeat with remaining dough and frosting. Store in tightly covered container.

Start County Early Intervention
Thank you for clipping Box Tops for your PSP at any time.
These do not need to be glued on a collection sheet and can be sent in with Bonuses Box Tops!