



FDLRS-University of Miami
Multidisciplinary Educational Service Center

Holiday Newsletter Supplement

Volume 3, Issue 2 December 2015

Resources At the Center

- Developmental screenings and assessments help determine each child's needs
- Individualized behavioral support strategies for school and home
- Social service resource information
- Transition planning support and linkages with Head Start and PreK services
- Ongoing opportunities to meet and strategize on each child's educational needs and linkages to services
- Information about alternative educational options for your child

The Linda Ray Intervention Center (LRIC) is a University-based Multidisciplinary Educational Service Center within the Department of Education's Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System. Additionally, the LRIC is one of the five Early Intervention Birth-Two Programs in Miami within the state's Early Steps program for young children with disabilities. The LRIC is part of the Department of Psychology within the College of Arts and Sciences. The mission of the Linda Ray Intervention Center is to support and facilitate positive developmental outcomes, thereby improving young children's chances for school readiness.



KIWANIS OF LITTLE HAVANA

The children at the Center received gifts through the generosity of the Christmas-giving Festival of Kiwanis. Members bring joy annually to the children through a major gift distribution.

Miami Coral Park Senior High School students helped to brighten the season for children at the Center with holiday gifts and lots of one-on-one time with the students. This annual event is led by Miami Coral Park's Cheryll Small and Ruth Tisdoll with support from Principal Alicia Hidalgo.



December 2015				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

The Perez Family from Miami brought their 8th Annual PJ Party event with Santa to visit the children at the Center and provide warm pajamas for them to take home.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TARGETED INTERVENTIONS IMPACT STUDENT OUTCOMES

In order to promote and support positive developmental outcomes for all of our students, we understand the need for our teaching staff to be appropriately trained in curriculum, classroom management, early literacy activities, social-emotional development of young children and language development. Our Center continues to provide a broad range of training for our staff. Here are some of the strategies we are using to support your children's progress in the program.

HANEN LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Learning Language and Loving It is an in-service education program that equips teachers with practical, interactive strategies for building the social, language and early literacy skills of preschool children. Thanks to the program's three-pronged approach aimed at prevention, intervention and enrichment, our teachers and classroom assistants continue to learn how to ensure that *every* child in the classroom receives the support he/she needs – including those with language delays and those who are second-language learners. Our teachers are using these strategies to build language skills in your children everyday.

CONSCIOUS DISCIPLINE

Conscious Discipline is a longtime leader in integrating classroom management and social-emotional learning. It utilizes everyday events rather than an external curriculum, and addresses the adult's emotional intelligence as well as the child's. We learn to respond to daily conflict in a way that transforms it into an opportunity to teach critical life skills, and watch every aspect of classroom life improve! The seven skills are Composure, Encouragement, Assertiveness, Choices, Empathy, Positive Intent and Consequences. Ask your child's teacher to tell you about our strategies.

BOOK SHARING FOR EARLY LITERACY

Your children are learning the basic steps for requesting an adult or sibling to read to them, how to handle a book and turn the pages and how to follow along as the story is read. These skills will help your child become more familiar with book sharing and prepare your child for reading when he/she is older.

BABY DOLL CIRCLE TIME

We also know it's hard for young children to be away from their parents and for you to be away from your children. Baby Doll Circle Time helps us form more caring relationships, and bridge the gap between the home family and the school family. The children interact with their baby dolls in the same ways we interact with the children individually. If we play peek-a-boo, stop and go, or tickling games with your child, your child will play the same game with the baby doll. In doing so, the children re-experience their connections over and over again, helping to optimize their development.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Behavioral Health Support is an important component of any early childhood program. Our teaching staff and you as parents can access behavioral strategies to support positive emotional development of your children by contacting your Behavioral Health Specialist.



Dressing up in dramatic play center.



Frost School of Music students work with the children.



Sebastian the Ibis visited the center prior to the holidays!