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## DURANT ROAD

## PRESCHOOL

DECEMBER 2017

[Durantroadpreschool.com](http://Durantroadpreschool.com)



Addison sorting trash and recyclables

### ***Preschool Investigative Study: Trash & Garbage***

Trash and garbage are all around us. They are in our homes, on the streets, and in places where we work and play. Children are fascinated by what is in garbage cans and often pick up trash against our wishes. Studying trash and garbage engages children in learning because they are curious about them.

A study of trash and garbage offers opportunities for firsthand exploration, information gathering, consciousness raising, and problem solving. Children will observe, gather data, learn new information, and propose solutions to problems. We'll start our investigative study by asking, "What do we know about trash and garbage and what do we want to find out?" We'll investigate how trash and garbage are produced by people in different places, the people who have jobs working with trash and garbage, and the different ways we take care of trash and garbage.

We have chosen the following books for our investigative study: Where Does the Garbage Go?, Smash! Mash! Crash!, Earth Day – Hooray!, I Can Save The Earth, I Stink!, The Adventures of an Aluminum Can, and Smash That Trash!. Each book has a series of discussion cards for our children to think about and answer.



### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- 4 Letters to Santa begins (in lobby)  
***bring in a letter to Santa!***
- 6 St. Nicholas Day (all classes)
- 11 Museum Visit
- 13 Hanukkah Stories & Dreidel Game
- 14 Preschool Nature Program-2 older classes
- 15 Make Holiday Cards for the elderly
- 15 Spanish Class
- 22 Hallway Caroling-all classes
- 22 Classroom Holiday Parties
- 25 & 26 Closed

**Holiday Spirit Week: December 18-22**

***...see lobby easel for details***

### **Fitness Fridays**

- 1 Bounce & Catch
- 8 Jumping Rope
- 15 Punting
- 22 Dribble Kick
- 29 Galloping

### ***Our Specials***

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Math Lesson	Literacy Lesson Computer Class	Music Class Tumble Bus	Spanish Class Soccer Shots	Math Lesson

## Infants and Toddlers



Shane and Bryce doing scribble art

### Why Creative Activities?

The holidays are a wonderful time for art and music. Creative activities show toddlers that they can do interesting things by themselves. When toddlers can do things by themselves, we step back and admire and talk about what they are doing. Scribble drawings and other art work is hung up for all to see.

Toddlers like to be admired for what they have made all by themselves, not what they have copied. Daily, our children are involved in exploring the *process* of art. The process of art is gluing, collaging, scribbling, and painting in a free form style.

Music activities add a lot to the children's day. Songs help infants and toddlers practice the words they are just learning to say. Moving to music helps children learn that they can use their muscles in many different ways.

### BOOK OF THE MONTH

This month our preschool children will read, *What a Waste: Where Does Garbage Go?* by Clair Eamer.

*What a Waste!* answers the question: when we throw something away, where is "away"? Ever since cave people cracked open seafood shells for dinner, humans have produced garbage, and we've had to figure out what to do with it. *What a Waste!* explores the history of garbage from earliest times to today, covering subjects including dumps, human waste, water pollution, "problem" garbage, and modern "throwaway" culture. "

## NC Museum of Natural Science

### *Dinosaur Discovery*

Fossils tell us about the past. We will find out some of the things paleontologists know from studying fossils. We will learn about some of these prehistoric wonders while comparing dinosaurs to some animals that live today.



## CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

Owen K. Addison Avery Trent  
Natalie Rylan Liam B.



## SPANISH CLASS

Feliz Navidad! This month will revolve around las estaciones (the seasons), color and the holidays. We will also review our weather words: *hace frio, hace fresco, hace calor* and *hace viento*. Ask your children what this means!



## MUSIC CLASS

Our music class is a time to experiment with sounds, rhythm, music, and movement. This month, we will be doing musical activities centered around our December holidays: Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa. We'll also enjoy a musical *freeze parade*.

