



# APRIL 2025



## April Insight

Spring is finally here, and we're ready to embrace the warmer weather with plenty of outdoor adventures! As we spend more time outside, please remember to send spare clothing in case your little one gets wet or muddy while exploring. We have an exciting month ahead, starting with a fun-filled Easter egg hunt around the center and a special classroom celebration with themed activities and treats. We'll also be celebrating Earth Day by engaging in creative crafts and hands-on activities that teach the importance of caring for our planet. Throughout the month, children will enjoy sensory exploration, physical movement, and plenty of outdoor play to support their development and creativity. We are thrilled to make wonderful memories together this April!



## Safe Arrival Policy

To support the safety and well-being of all children, we follow the **Safe Arrival Policy** mandated by the Ministry of Education. This policy ensures that all children who are expected to attend arrive safely at the center. If your child will be absent, please notify us by phone or email **before 10:00 AM**. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

## Health Reminder

If your child is feeling unwell or has been sent home due to illness, please ensure they remain at home for the required isolation period of 48 hours after symptoms lessen or after the last episode. Children will be sent home from the Centre if they have a fever, two episodes of diarrhea, or one episode of vomiting. This helps keep our Centre a safe and healthy environment for everyone!





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## The Importance of Sensory Exploration

Have you ever noticed how kids just can't resist jumping in puddles, running their hands through sand, or squishing playdough between their fingers? That's because children learn best when they're using their senses to explore the world around them! Sensory play isn't just about making a mess (though that's definitely part of the fun!)-it's actually a huge part of early childhood development. It helps build fine and gross motor skills, strengthens brain connections, encourages creativity, and even supports emotional regulation.

At Beaver Creek, we love giving children lots of hands-on sensory experiences every day. Whether they're scooping and pouring in our sensory bins, mixing colors with paint, or exploring different textures in nature, they're building important skills without even realizing it. Plus, sensory play is a great way for children to express themselves, work through big emotions, and engage with friends in a fun and meaningful way. So the next time you see your little one covered in sand or completely absorbed in squishing some playdough, just know-they're learning in the best way possible!

## Ways to Explore Sensory at Home!

**DIY Sensory Bins:** Fill a container with dry rice, beans, or kinetic sand-add scoops, cups, and small toys for digging fun!

**Water Play:** Set up a bowl of water with sponges, cups, and funnels for pouring and squeezing.

**Frozen Treasure Hunt:** Freeze small toys in ice cubes and let your child melt them using warm water.

**Nature Walks:** Collect leaves, pinecones, or smooth rocks and explore different textures.

**Cooking Together:** Let your child help mix, knead, or roll dough for hands-on sensory fun!





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Daycare

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## No-Cook Playdoh Recipe

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ cup salt
- 2 tbsp cream of tartar
- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 to 1 ½ cups boiling water (added gradually)
- Food coloring (optional)

### Instructions:

1. In a large bowl, mix the flour, salt, and cream of tartar.
2. Add the vegetable oil and a few drops of food coloring (if using).
3. Carefully pour in the boiling water a little at a time, stirring continuously, until the dough starts to come together.
4. Once cool enough to handle, knead the dough until smooth. If it's too sticky, add a bit more flour; if too dry, add a tiny bit more water.
5. Store in an airtight container or zip-top bag to keep it soft for weeks!

These colorful sensory materials are perfect for scooping, shaping, pouring, sorting, and even practicing fine motor skills. Try mixing different colors for a rainbow effect or adding scents like vanilla or peppermint extract for an extra sensory experience!

## Dying Pasta/Rice at Home

### What You'll Need:

- Uncooked white rice or pasta
- Food coloring (liquid or gel)
- White vinegar or rubbing alcohol (helps the color set)
- Zip-top bags or containers
- Baking sheet or paper towel for drying

### Instructions:

1. **Measure:** Add 1-2 cups of rice or pasta to a zip-top bag or container.
2. **Color:** Add a few drops of food coloring—start with 3-5 drops and add more for a stronger color.
3. **Set the Color:** Pour in ½ to 1 teaspoon of white vinegar or rubbing alcohol. This helps distribute the color evenly and prevents it from rubbing off.
4. **Shake It Up!** Seal the bag and shake until all the rice or pasta is coated in vibrant color.
5. **Dry:** Spread the dyed rice or pasta on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper or a paper towel. Let it dry for about an hour (or overnight for best results).
6. **Play & Store:** Once dry, it's ready for sensory play! Store in an airtight container for months of fun.

