

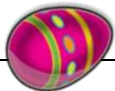





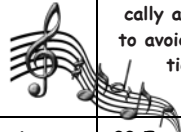
















# Month of the Young Child April 2010

## GIANT STEP PRESCHOOL & CHILD CARE CENTER

"School Readiness describes both the preparedness of child to engage in and benefit from learning experiences, and the ability of a school to meet the needs of all students enrolled in a publicly funded preschool or kindergarten.

School Readiness is enhanced when schools, families, and community service providers work collaboratively to ensure that every child is ready for higher levels of learning in academic content." [www.cde.state.co.us](http://www.cde.state.co.us)

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Resources	Giantstepcenter.com	Read "Roots of Empathy" By Mary Gordon "Development of the heart must run parallel to development of the mind" <a href="http://www.rootsofempathy.org">www.rootsofempathy.org</a>	<a href="http://www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org/">www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org/</a> <a href="http://www.bornlearning.org">www.bornlearning.org</a>	<a href="http://www.streetplay.com">www.streetplay.com</a> (outdoor games)	1 <a href="http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/resources/family.html">http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/resources/family.html</a>	2 <a href="http://www.zerotothree.org">Www.zerotothree.org</a> <a href="http://www.allianceforchildhood.org/">www.allianceforchildhood.org/</a>	3 Do not use excessive rewards. Praise and rewards should be based upon children's effort and persistence, rather than the accomplishment.
Social-Emotional Development	4 Recognize and show appreciation for your child's efforts "You put your coat on all by yourself." Elks Club Easter Egg Hunt 	5 Honor your child's choices with reasonable limits. "Do you want the red shirt or the blue shirt?" Color eggs 	6 Respond to and acknowledge your child's feelings. Sort, share and eat a colored egg.	7 Model positive social and sharing behavior in your everyday interactions. 	8 Provide lots of guidance and initiate sharing and turn-taking games 	9 Loving touches and Encouraging words send messages that your child is special and provides the brain stimulation that growing brains needs. 	10 Appreciate individual differences and Similarities which will help your child learn about respect for others.
Cognitive Development	11 Turn chores into learning activities. Help separate lights and darks, match and count socks, or put away the silverware. 	12 Encourage your child in problem-solving. 	13 Look for visual patterns in the environment. "Your shirt has a pattern -yellow-blue, yellow-blue" 	14 Listen to a variety of music. Sing along with the music. Make up songs. 	15 Children with better social skills and emotional health succeed academically and are more likely to avoid high-risk activities as adolescents.	16 Set the table for dinner. Count how many plates, cups, spoons, forks, knives, and napkins are needed for each person. 	17 Talk to your child about what is happening today, tomorrow and yesterday. 
Language and Literacy	18 Ask: "What was your favorite thing about today?" 	19 Eat together as a family. Research shows this helps build language/literacy skills. 	20 Have quality, rich in vocabulary books for your child. READ, READ, READ! Library Story time @ 10:30	21 Provide large pieces of paper for creativity (the smaller the child, the larger the piece of paper). 	22 Encourage your child to write and draw using Finger paint, watercolors, crayons, markers, and shaving cream. Fill a tray with salt or sand.	23 Read the road and business signs aloud when traveling.  	24 Children's Festival at Giant Step from 12-2 When reading, ask open-ended questions: "What will happen next?" Ask them to recall important events from a story.
Physical Development	25 Talk, sing, and play Everyday 	26 Check out <a href="http://streetplay.com">streetplay.com</a> For games and rules that you can play outside (marbles, jump rope, Hopscotch) 	27 Turn off the TV and video games. Run, climb, and play in the mud and water. Wash the car or rake leaves. 	28 Children need self-initiated play. Over-scheduled lives leave little time for play. 	29 Play music and dance!  	30 Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy and imagination.	 They are less aggressive and show more self control and higher levels of thinking.