

Early Education Curriculum

Happy June! Below, please find the curriculum planned for the month.

UPK/Preschool

Bruins and Patriots: Unit 4- Growing & Changing

This unit celebrates children's growth and encourages them to observe and wonder about other living things as they grow and change. They'll garden, observe caterpillars as they transform into butterflies, document their observations. Key questions include: How does a seed become a plant? How does a baby become an adult? What observable changes do we notice? As we begin to wrap up the school year on June 21st, we will prepare for our K1 students for graduation and for several of them, their last days at Ellis.

Big Ideas:

- Plants are part of the community.
- Like animals, plants have specialized parts that help them meet their needs (water, food, air, sunlight).
- Living things depend on each other and their local environment.
- All living things grow and change over time.
- Living things need to grow and be healthy.
- We have already grown, we will keep them growing, and we each grow in our own way.

Maple, Celtics, and Red Sox: Unit 5- Growing & Changing

In this unit children will learn about how humans, plants, and animals grow and change. They will plant seeds, learn about the life cycle of the butterfly, and create a pretend flower shop this month.

Big Ideas:

- Animals (including humans) and plants are living things.
- All living things need food, water, and proper conditions to grow and be healthy.
- All living things grow and change over time.
- We have already grown, we will keep growing, and we each grow in our own way.
- We can care for ourselves, and other living things.

Toddlers

Exploration Unit- Playing With Materials

Over the next 2 months, the toddlers will explore a variety of materials such as paper, boxes, fabric, blocks, and constructive toys. Engaging with these materials offers children the opportunity to explore their imagination and creativity and tell stories through their designs.

Big Ideas:

- How do different materials interact with each other?
- How can material be used to create something new?
- How do different materials look, feel sound, and move?
- What are containers for? How do containers hold materials?

Infants

Our youngest scholars are growing and learning so much!

You will be receiving your child's **individual curriculum** so you can try the activities they are doing in the classroom at home.

Infant Reminders:

- EEC requires all children to have something on their feet. Please make sure your baby has socks, booties, or shoes to wear in the classrooms.
- Please make sure your child has a daily, labeled, supply of sippy cups or bottles for every feeding. These will be sent home daily for cleaning.

Social Emotional Development

The UPK classrooms will be continuing Housman Institute's ECSELEnt Adventures Supplemental Curriculum. ECSELEnt Adventures is a circle time curriculum that uses storytelling and guided questions to help children have conversations about their emotions and enhance their emotional intelligence, self-regulation, problem-solving, and conflict resolution skills and how they connect to their own experiences.

Toddlers and infants will continue work on identification of feelings and developing empathy.

Classroom Requests

1. Please ensure your children have extra, seasonally appropriate clothing in their cubby.
2. Please ensure your children come prepared with shoes for outdoor play.
3. Please wash your child's hands upon entering the classroom.
4. Please arrive no later than 9:30 each day. Late arrivals disrupt the classroom and curriculum.

Dates to Remember

June 14th- Lemonade Stand in Honor of Father's Day. See flyer [here](#)

June 19th- Ellis Closed for Juneteenth

June 20th- Ellis JP Graduation 4-5 PM

June 21st- Ellis Bruins (K1) Graduation 9:30-10:30

Ellis Patriots (K1) Graduation 11-12

June 23rd- Ellis Family Meet up at the Boston Nature Center 10-12

Congratulations to our Class of 2024 K1 Graduates

Patriots

Nicolas
Anthony
Cyrus
Vivian
Londynn
Anselmo
Jaxon

Maple

Ava
Isabella
Jaxson
Ben
Alia
Zora
Jordan


Bruins

Ari
Tre'lyk
Neavaeh
Connor
Jaxson V.
Malakai
Andrew
Zayvian
Miracle
Steven
Ella
Philip
Kaleb
Mical
Josiah

June Menu

June Vegan/Vegetarian/Allergy Menu

June Birthdays



Lazaro 6/1	Flynn 6/14	Vivian 6/22
Suraya 6/3	Benjamin 6/15	Axel 6/25
Yionel 6/4	Eli 6/17	Hailey 6/25
Zander 6/5	Ethan 6/18	Jordan 6/26
Cyrus 6/7	Zaiden 6/19	Liam 6/26
Zephorina 6/8	Jenesis 6/20	Alia 6/28
Charlotte 6/14	Otto 6/21	
	Leo 6/22	

Birthday at Ellis- Policy Reminder

With a focus on equity and accessibility, Ellis does not permit outside food to be served at Ellis. Birthdays will be celebrated with joy and merriment.

June Anniversaries

Ms. Aiyauna 6/19
Ms. Patti 6/22



Family Resources

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) at Home Series by Liz Muscolino, M.Ed., EdS UPK Behavioral Health Services Liaison

What Is Positive Behavior Support (PBS) and why should I care?

Positive Behavior support, or PBS, is an approach to interacting with children that has been shown to improve child behaviors and adult feelings of well-being. All behavior is communication. When we acknowledge our child's behavior, even behaviors like tantruming, as communication, we can move away from snap judgements and knee-jerk reactions and start to use every situation, no matter how unpleasant, as an opportunity to support a "child's capacity to love, trust, explore and learn". Although most parents (91% from a large, diverse sample) find parenting to be a source of great joy, they also report having many questions about child-rearing practices. PBS, Responsive Caregiving, and Positive Parenting can offer some answers on the journey of parenthood. Each month in this year's family newsletter, we will share, review, and provide examples of one of the nine key elements of Positive Parenting.

Watch this 5-minute video <https://vimeo.com/136542836> from Zero-To-Three about Positive Parenting.

The full original article can be found here - <https://www.zerotothree.org/resource/nine-elements-that-power-positive-parenting/>.

Notice and celebrate your child's strengths, abilities, and capacity to learn and develop

Element description: This element of Positive Parenting is all about taking moments to notice who your child really is and celebrate whatever you find. Is your child someone who boldly explores new places and gets into everything? Is your child someone who likes to stay close to familiar people until he gets comfortable? There are lots of qualities that may be easy to celebrate. It may be easy to celebrate that your child is curious with toys or sensitive to the feelings of others. There are also lots of qualities that may be difficult to find a positive perspective on. No matter what qualities we see when we make observations about our children, we can find something positive to celebrate. Celebrating who our children are can be a great opportunity to stretch our creative muscles.

Ideas for using this in everyday moments: Notice that your child bosses other children around? A positive perspective may be that they are a natural leader. Notice that your child cries a lot? A positive perspective may be that they are really expressing how they feel! Notice that your child touches everything? A positive perspective may be that she is curious about how things work.

Additional Resources: If you want to learn more about noticing children's behavior and celebrating what you find, check out this free 30-minute webinar from Conscious Discipline on perception and attention - Tools for Your Parenting Toolbox <https://consciousdiscipline.com/e-learning/webinars/tools-for-your-parenting-tool-box/>.

This school year, Ellis is continuing its partnership with The Housman Institute, an early childhood education training, professional development, curriculum, and research organization that promotes the development of emotional intelligence from birth.

In this partnership, our staff will be a part of the research-based begin to ECSEL (Emotional, Cognitive, and Social Early Learning) Educator Training Program. Teachers and administrators will take courses and work with Housman Institute Coaches to teach children how to effectively identify, understand, express, and regulate their big emotions.



The program teaches educators and children to:

- Understand the cause and effect of emotions
- Develop empathy and prosocial skills
- Gain problem-solving and conflict resolution skills to support healthy development, emotional well-being, and academic success

You, as your child's first teacher, will be working together with their classroom teachers to ensure collaborative communication continues in the best interest of your child's ongoing growth and development.



Throughout the year, our team will complete ECSEL courses and receive ongoing support and feedback from ECSEL coaches. We will utilize ECSEL language, tools, and techniques in our classrooms with your children. We will continue to provide families with updates and additional information in the coming weeks.

We are so excited to see the impact that this program will have on children, classrooms, staff, families, and on the Ellis community!

