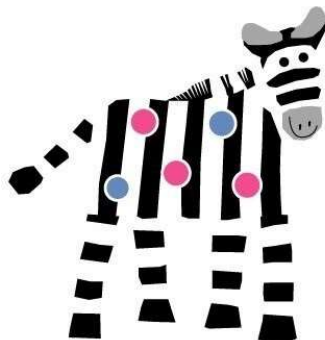


# THE SPOTTED ZEBRA Learning Center

April 2025

**Reminder:**

- There is no Special Education programming 4/14-4/17 (Teal and Yellow rooms are closed), day care is still open!
- The Center will be closed on Friday 4/18 for Good Friday



## Admin News

Happy April! We are so excited to be out on the playground more, going on walks, cloud watching, and doing all sorts of outdoor activities now that it's warmer out!

Thank you to all of our families for getting your kiddos ready for picture day! Everyone was enthusiastic about posing for the camera, and we will have collages and individual shots back soon! If your child was not able to get their picture taken please make an appointment online at [ismilestudios.com](http://ismilestudios.com) to do a make-up as soon as you can.

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming back to Spotted Zebra! The Book Fair will run from 4/21-4/25 on site with books to purchase via card and E-Wallet.

A note on cyber security: Spotted Zebra Learning Center will never ask families for gift card payments, whether they be apple, amazon, or otherwise. If you do receive an email asking for anything of that sort, please notify us immediately.

Also, if anyone has lost an Apple Airtag in the parking lot it is at the front desk!

Be on the lookout for a new door code as well!

**Ms. Sheri, Mr. Matt, Ms. Shannon, Ms. Rachael, and Mr. Derek**

## What is Happening in the Classrooms...



## Teal Room News

Dear Families,

March has been an exciting month of learning, and we look forward to the prospects April will bring! Our weekly themes will reflect the change of seasons as we transition to spring, and we will continue to structure learning activities around a word (or phrase) of the week.

We are incredibly proud of the progress your children have made with regard to following the classroom routine, participating in activities, and communicating with our picture exchange system (PECS)! It is our privilege to support your children as they learn and grow!

We are excited to welcome two new students and one new staff member later this month! We are also excited to celebrate one of our students' birthdays this month!

A few notes/ reminders:

- Please note that the Teal Room will be closed the week of April 14-18th due to Spring Recess.
- If your child is going to be absent from school (regardless of the reason), please let us know in advance by emailing [TealRoom@SpottedZebra.org](mailto:TealRoom@SpottedZebra.org) or by calling (518) 438-4800 ext. 206. If your child is absent due to illness, please note that Spotted Zebra's Health Policy requires students to be symptom-free for at least 48 hours before returning to school.
- As we transition to spring, we will be spending more time on the playground! Please send a coat or sweatshirt to school daily along with appropriate footwear (sneakers are ideal).
- Please continue to check your child's backpack/folder daily along with the Daily Check-In sheet for important information, notes, and reminders.
- At this time, email is our primary (and preferred) method of communication. If you have questions or concerns pertaining to your child or the Teal Room, please initiate contact by emailing [TealRoom@SpottedZebra.org](mailto:TealRoom@SpottedZebra.org).
- Looking forward to another exciting month together!

Warmly,  
**Mr. David, Ms. Sara, Ms. Lauren, Ms. Olivia, Ms. Rachael, Ms. Marlis, & Ms. Alli**



## Violet Room News

Spring is just beginning, and we are excited for plenty of days outside in the sunshine! During the month of March we started diving into themes surrounding early springtime. We conducted an author study on Dr. Seuss and celebrated St. Patrick's day with a visit from a naughty leprechaun. We learned about the many different helpers that keep our community running, opened our own post office, and were finally able to venture outdoors for some long walks. We've enjoyed the responsibility of jobs, which has blossomed into helping our friends, strengthening our own self-help skills, and caring for the classroom.

In the month of April, we will concentrate our learning on themes surrounding the further progression of spring and changes in the environment around us that we are beginning to notice. We will focus on life in the garden, as well as above and below the pond. We will learn about insects, types of weather, and farm animals. We will integrate more outdoor components into our learning as the weather warms up with nature walks. We will also discuss Earth Day, recycling, and how to take care of our planet as the month comes to an end. We are learning so much about letters, how they look and how they sound. We've become familiar with our names and will begin to work more on tracing and writing them. During circle time we are counting to double-digit numbers and recording the weather each day. We will soon incorporate dressing for the weather and daily questions.

As the weather continues to warm up we will be going outside as much as possible. Please ensure your child has multiple labeled replacements of warm-weather clothing and is wearing playground appropriate footwear each day.

Lastly, we would like to wish a happy birthday to Sonny (1st) and Julian (8th)!

**Ms. Brittany, Ms. Laura, Ms. Terry, and Ms. Allison**



## Blue Room News

Hi Families, it's hard to believe that March has come and gone, and we're now ready to welcome spring!

As we all know, April is known for its unpredictable weather. We say, "April showers bring May flowers!" This month, we will focus on various weather-related themes including clouds, raindrops, and sunshine. We will learn about Farm animals in this month. We'll also be celebrating Earth Day on April 22nd and engaging in fun activities related to the Easter Bunny and egg hunting. Last month, the kids had a blast with their gym activities, and they enjoyed creating crafts featuring flowers, trees, and rainbows. We also worked on learning the letters Y, Z, O, and Q. This month, we'll continue our exploration by learning four new letters. Thank you all for your ongoing support and help!

We are excited to celebrate one upcoming birthday in April.

Sadie Perillo – 04/29

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a month full of learning and celebration! We appreciate your continued support and enthusiasm. For important information, please refer to the "N.B. part" within the weekly lesson plans and Class Dojo.

**Ms. Sunita, Ms. Katina, Ms. Jackie**



## Green Room News

### Spring is Here!

The Green Room is buzzing with excitement as spring arrives. With the weather warming up, we're making the most of it by spending as much time outdoors as possible. We're especially looking forward to taking walks in The Crossings and searching for signs of spring as we wrap up March.

As we step into April, we'll dive into fun and engaging topics. We will be observing the changes in weather and discovering its effects. We will also learn how to be an "Earth Helper" through exciting Earth Day activities. Later in the month, we will explore the world of bugs and insects, followed by a study of zoo animals as we close out April.

During circle and story time, we continue to strengthen skills like patterning, counting, and identifying the months, days, and weather, which helps us decide where to have our gross motor play. One of our favorite activities is guessing the daily picture. Everyone is doing a fantastic job reading our circle time report with a loud and proud voice.

We have also introduced a "Question or Comment" section after circle time, where kids can share thoughts or ask questions. It has been wonderful to hear their curious minds at work and to learn fun new things along the way.

As outdoor play increases, please send a labeled water bottle with your child's name so they can stay hydrated during playground time.

A special birthday shoutout to Carter this month—happy birthday!  
We hope everyone has a wonderful April.

**Ms. Michelle, Ms. Elle, Ms. Jennifer**



## Orange Room News

Dear Orange Room Families,

Spring is in the air, and we're so excited to finally get outside and enjoy some fresh air! The kids have been loving the chance to explore our outdoor space—and we're thrilled to share that **the sandbox is officially open!** There's been so much creativity, discovery, and joy as we dig, build, and play together.

This past week, we had a blast learning all about **farm animals**. From mooing cows to clucking chickens, we explored the sights and sounds of the barnyard in fun and engaging ways.

Coming up in the second week of April, we'll be diving into the fascinating world of **insects!** We'll learn all about different bugs and explore their life cycles—perfect for springtime curiosity!

**Non-program week** will take place **April 14th–18th**, so there will be no regular programming during that time.

When we return, we'll hop into a fun theme on **bunnies**, just in time for spring festivities! We'll also end the week by learning about and celebrating **Earth Day** with activities focused on caring for our beautiful planet.

**Friendly Reminder:** Since we're heading outside more often—and in the cooler morning air—please be sure to send your child with a **labeled coat** to keep them warm and cozy while we play.

We're looking forward to a month full of fresh air, learning, and lots of fun!

Happy Birthday to Knico, Bennett, and Tanner!

**The Orange Room Team**



## Yellow Room News

Happy spring everyone! We enjoy getting to go out on the playground more often, and we have had opportunities to take walks around the neighborhood as well. New life is beginning in our flower garden, and we have enjoyed tracking the weather and learning about clouds to close out March. In April, we will continue to explore spring with units on maps, Earth Day, life cycles, and baby animals.

In our Learning Without Tears Curriculum, we are finishing the alphabet with Xx and Qq. Then we will take time to learn more about vowels before beginning word families and word building. The kiddos are doing great matching beginning and ending sounds with the corresponding letter in words. We are excited to focus on vowels to get medial sound practice as well. We will continue practicing pre-writing and writing skills. We encourage labeling drawings and many are beginning to write simple sentences also. As always in our Mat Man letter books and other thematic books, we continue to think about characters, events, problem and solution, fiction vs. nonfiction, and character traits.

After a strong finish to our math unit on addition, we have moved on to subtraction. A solid foundation of understanding that subtraction means to "take away", "separate", and "get less/fewer" has been built largely using story problems. In April, we will spend time learning about subtraction equations and then practice both addition and subtraction math facts. By the end of April, we will move on to understanding teen numbers and developing a beginning understanding of place value.

We have no birthdays to announce or celebrate this month. We are looking forward to filling our Star Reward Jar for the second time, as we only have three more starts left to earn. Then, we will choose something from our class "bucket list" to enjoy together. We will keep you posted!

**Ms. Carol, Ms. Megan, Ms. Chris, and Ms. Khrista**

# Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

## Therapists and Special Educators

Ms. Juli	Psych
Ms. Marlis	OT (O, V)
Ms. Shawna	Speech
Ms. Kaylyn	Speech (Yellow)
Ms. Caitlin	OT (V, B)
Ms. Rachel J	Speech (Orange)
Ms. Rachel M	Music
Ms. Carla	OT (Y, B, G)
Ms. Allison T	Speech (Violet)
Ms. Wendy	Speech
Ms. Cindy	PT (B, G, O)
Ms. Laura	Speech
Ms. Allison R	PT (Y, V)
Ms. Jesse	Speech (Blue)
Ms. Olivia	Speech (Green)

## Offsite Therapists

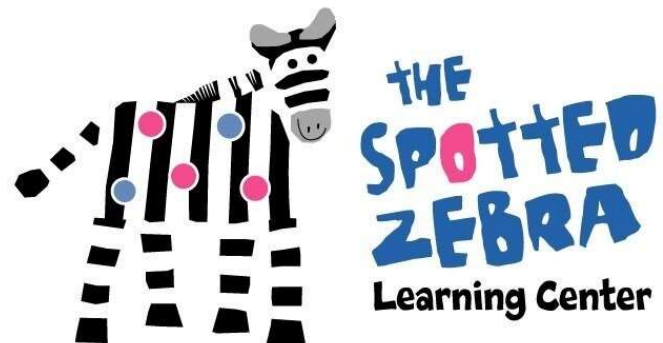
Ms. Shawna	Speech
Ms. Nicole Ge	Speech
Ms. Kathi	PT
Mr. Peter	OT
Ms. Nicole S	SEIT
Ms. Sarah	PT
Ms. Wendy	Speech

## Floating Teachers

Ms. Chantal  
Ms. Alaina  
Ms. Tristyn  
Ms. Nakisha  
Ms. Mollie  
Ms. Karen  
Ms. Emily  
Ms. Allison K  
Ms. Madison  
Ms. Thea

## Admin Team

Ms. Sheri  
Mr. Matt  
Ms. Shannon  
Ms. Amy  
Ms. Victoria  
Ms. Rachael  
Mr. Derek





# Newsletter Features



## Jesse LeVan

## Speech

### What is your hometown?

Pittstown, NY

### Who are your favorite musical artists?

Chappell Roan, Blink-182, and Tyler Childers

### What is your favorite season?

Spring (Tulips and daffodils are my favorite flowers)

### What is a fun fact about you?

I studied abroad in Belize to provide speech therapy services to rural communities!

## Elle Malcolm

## Green Room

### What is your hometown?

Niskayua, NY

### Who are your favorite musical artists?

I bounce around a lot, but I like All Time Low, All-American Rejects, and The Maine

### What is your favorite season?

A tie between summer and winter!

### What is a fun fact about you?

I am a certified level 1 adaptive snowboard instructor, and I taught adaptive snowboarding for 10 years!

