



---

# The Spotted Zebra Learning Center

---

May 2024



**Reminder:**

May 3 – Spotted Zebra is closing at 1:30 for staff training; Bizzy Beez  
No PM class!

May 27 – All facilities closed for  
Memorial Day

Happy May! We wanted to thank you all for participating in our Book Fair! Thanks to everyone's participation, we qualified to put on another one next year. As always, if you have any positive or constructive feedback regarding the fair please feel free to send us an email or leave a note in our comment box in the back vestibule. We are always looking to improve and would love for you to be a part of that! There are still ways to continue shopping with Scholastic (or finish out the eWallets!) by going to [shop.scholastic.com](http://shop.scholastic.com), selecting the parent store in the top left corner, and selecting "Reward Your School" and searching for "Spotted Zebra Lrng Ctr Inc". Purchases made with this selected will benefit the school through May 2.

We are delighted to announce that work will start on adding another classroom to the Spotted Zebra location in June, 2024. We will be using this opportunity to make some improvements to the building as well, which will allow us to create a better usage of the existing space.

During the construction work, the area that is being worked on will be fully enclosed, as the safety of the children is paramount. **Please know that there are no changes/modifications being done to the existing classrooms. There will be no construction in those classrooms with the exception of painting, etc... in August when we are closed. All of the work for this project will be done on the opposite side of the building with the exception of staff bathrooms.**

Please be assured that you will be kept fully up to date with the project and any implications during the build phase.

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

## What is Happening in the Classrooms...



### VIOLET ROOM NEWS

Welcome Spring! Our kids have been enjoying going for walks and playing on the playground now that the warm weather has arrived. We have been looking for birds, bugs, and flowers on our walks.

In April we celebrated Earth Day and the kids learned the difference between trash, recycling, and compost. We talked about weather (rain, sunshine, and rainbows) and we wrapped up the month with some flower activities.

For the month of May we will be learning about what rows in a garden. We will also be learning about bees. We will have a camping week, and lastly we will have a dinosaur week! Lastly, now that the weather is nice, please bring in some shorts and short sleeve clothes for your kids to leave at school.

We would like to wish Nora S. a very happy birthday!

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



## Blue Room News

Happy May! Warm sunny days are finally upon us. The children are overjoyed to be outside on the playground and going for walks. If you haven't already done so, please start applying sun block on your child before they come to school. It helps to alleviate some of the chaos that may occur when going outdoors. Please send in a LABELED bottle of spray-on sun block.

The themes for the month of May are flowers, Insects, Nutrition, Sports, and Memorial Day. To Welcome June we will celebrate our families.

Our Letter's for the month: G, S, A, T, and I

Graduation is scheduled for Wednesday June 18, 2024. Graduations will take place from 11:00 (Pizza will follow each ceremony).

Upcoming Dates to Note for Holiday Closures

- Memorial Day – May 27, 2024
- Juneteenth- June 19, 2024

**Happy Birthday to:**

**Ethan Politi 05/01**

**Grayson Slaver 05/04**

**Delaney Calderon 05/10**

**Donovan Borey 05/11**

**Iris Epstein 05/25**

**Kalani Morocco 05/29**

We would like to wish a Happy Mother's Day to all our Blue Room moms. Thank you for all that you do!

**Ms. Katina, Ms. Maria, Ms. Paige, Ms. Sunita**



## Bizzy Beez News

Bizzy Beez is hopeful that April showers will bring May flowers! This month we will continue to explore the topic of spring by discussing springtime animals, flowers, gardening, and changes we can see in the weather as we transition from spring to summer. To wrap up the month we will talk about one of our friends' favorites: dinosaurs! Finally, we will learn about each other's families. Once we start to have some nicer weather, we will be able to get outside to play some games and use our sidewalk chalk and bubbles.

This month, we want to wish our friend Jacob Hamilton a very happy birthday!

**Best,**

**Ms. Hope, Ms. Tami, and Ms. Christiana**



## Green Room News

The Green Room is excited to welcome May and consistently warmer weather! We will be going outside as much as possible! As the weather starts to get warmer and we go outside more frequently, please send in a labeled bottle of water and sunscreen. We will be applying the sunscreen before we go outside. We are cruising through our handwriting program; it is hard to believe we only have a few letters left! Your kiddos have been working so hard in their journals, they are excited to show you at the end of the year. They are doing such an amazing job!

Thank you to all the families that were able to be mystery readers! Your kiddos loved getting to guess who was coming in to read to us. It was a huge success, and we would love to do another one.

We are super excited for our May themes – transportation, construction and an author study about Eric Carle. To finish the month, we will be taking a trip to outer space to learn all about the planets and our solar system! Many virtual field trips will be had.

We want to wish a very Happy Birthday to Kyler!

We hope everyone has a marvelous May!

**Mr. David, Ms. Elle, Ms. Lauren**



## Orange Room News

May?! Already?! It is hard to believe that there are less than 2 more months left in this school year! The children have demonstrated phenomenal growth and we are so proud of our community of learners. Planning for this year's Graduation Celebration will be underway soon. Ours will be on Friday, June 21st (more details forthcoming).

April was busy and seemed to fly by quickly. We ended the month with a unit about maps by focusing on the compass rose, map key/legend, directions, and "Me on the Map". We practiced "zooming in" on a map from Earth, to the United States, then to NY, and then to our school in the town of Colonie, and our homes. The kiddos had fun working together to create their own maps during morning Choice Play.

We are excited to continue our learning about living versus non-living things and the life cycles of butterflies, ladybugs, frogs, birds, and plants and trees. Then we will continue on to farms, and gardens. To expand on these topics, a unit of pollinators and pollination will follow.

We continue to plug away on learning math concepts. First in May, we will work on subtraction within 5. Next, we will focus on addition within 10, finding the missing part of 10, subtraction within 10, and addition and subtraction word problems. Of course, we also continue to practice graphing, comparing numbers and groups, using flat and solid shapes, as well as counting up to 100 by 10s and 1s.

We have completed the alphabet with Mat Man and his letter books. Each child now has their own Book Bag that contains letter books and other reading materials that will help them use previously learned literacy skills, and build more. We have created reading groups to meet everyone where they are at, and to help develop skills further; they are – letter learning, phonemic awareness, executive function (to organize language), and comprehension.

Before we close, we would like to wish the moms in our families a Happy Mother's Day. Look out for information about our upcoming Family Day (typically held somewhere between Mother and Father's Day). Also, Happy Birthday to Ms. Megan this month!

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

# Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

## Therapists and Special Educators

Ms. Tonya	Psych
Ms. Marlis	OT (BB)
Ms. Shawna	Speech
Ms. Emily	Speech
Ms. Kaylyn	Speech (G, O)
Ms. Charlotte	SEIT
Ms. Megan	PT (BB)
Ms. Rachael	Speech (Blue)
Ms. Caitlin	OT (Orange)
Ms. Nicole G	Speech
Ms. Kathleen	PT
Ms. Rachel	Speech (BB)
Ms. Susan	PT
Mr. Peter	OT
Ms. Rachel	Music
Ms. Carla	OT (V, G, O)
Ms. Abigail	PT
Ms. Allison	Speech (Violet)
Ms. Nicole S	SEIT
Ms. Emilie	Speech
Ms. Sarah	PT

## Floating Teachers

Ms. Lauren B  
Ms. Lauren C  
Ms. Chantal  
Ms. Meghan  
Ms. Mollie  
Mr. William  
Ms. Emma  
Ms. Alaina  
Ms. Leanna  
Ms. Tristyn

## Admin Team

Ms. Sheri  
Mr. Matt  
Ms. Shannon  
Ms. Amy  
Ms. Brenda  
Mr. Derek