



## Spring Conference Wrap-Up and More!

Thank you so much to those of you who were able to participate in parent conferences! Please never hesitate to reach out if you ever want to schedule a time to sit down with us.

Many of us discussed the intentionally non-academic nature of our program and the evidence that by meeting children under six with developmentally appropriate expectations, they will naturally absorb the brain functionality to acquire the language and math skills which our brains evolved to possess.

That being said, if they show interest in sounds and numbers there are MANY fun ways to encourage that curiosity. Check out our past issue: [3.1 Instead of ABCs, the Eye Spy Game \(back page\)](#)

Many of you asked about specific phrasing examples. We heavily encourage everyone to read or re-read our previous issues on phrasing:

[1.2 It's not just what we say but how we say it](#)

[1.3 Tell them what they can do](#)

[2.10 Resolving conflict away from school](#)

Phrases from 2.10 that we use everyday:

**I need some space please.**

**Can I have a turn when you're all done?**

**Look at \_\_\_\_\_. How do you think they are feeling? How did that make you feel?**

**What do you want to say to \_\_\_\_?**

**I won't \_\_\_\_\_ again. Or. I'm all done \_\_\_\_\_.**

**I didn't mean to \_\_\_\_\_, are you OK?**

## Appropriate responsibilities at home:

There are many ways for your preschooler to steadily increase their responsibilities in the home.

In the kitchen, they can chop bananas with a butter knife without much supervision and you can freeze them for later. They can practice their fine motor skills by pushing cloves into oranges and you can make cider. The internet abounds with fun, safe activities to keep them busy while you are busy.

Keeping a small array of their toys available at any given time is a great way to provide organization in the home and promote responsibility in various ways. If only some of their possessions are accessible at a given time, everything can have a very specific spot where it belongs. Also, the process of trading out toys week to week can be a great lesson in negotiation and the limited nature of resources.

Another great thing to encourage when time allows is having them clean themselves up as much as possi-

### More phrases we use everyday:

For child (adult should offer these phrases but not necessarily expect the child to repeat the whole thing):

I will be more careful.

Do you want \_\_\_\_\_ to feel sad?

Do you want \_\_\_\_\_ to be hurt/sick?

I will listen to your words.

Thank you for helping me. I will help you now.

For adult (multiple options to try):

I really want to help you. Please help me help you. I can help you when you find a smile in your voice. That voice is very hard to understand. When you can ask me nicely I will be so happy to help you.

I know you'd like to do it yourself, watch me one more time, then you can try again. Let's do it together!

Remember, my job is to keep you safe and healthy. Are you helping me?

We can try again when \_\_\_\_\_.

You can help me by \_\_\_\_\_.

As much consistency as we can create between school and home will benefit your children, however, please remember that the maturity we witness at school is them practicing the skills they will hopefully master by the time they are older.

As their parents, you will always be their safe space and we know you will use your judgement to know when they just need a hug.

ble before you assist. You can help them feel successful while simultaneously reminding them that your job is to make sure they're VERY clean after they've done their part. We often provide our students with a baby wipe and ask them to check their faces in the mirror.

Our students are all used to the following progression:

**Adult: What's inside our spit? (Or in the dirt, only IF they'll be eating/bedtime)**

**Child: germs!**

**Adult: what do germs do?**

**Child: make us sick!**

**Adult: do you want to be sick/ do you want \_\_\_\_\_ to be sick?**

**Child: no!**

**Adult: tell me you're all done spitting/putting \_\_\_\_\_ in your mouth (or tell me I will wash my hands/face/etc)**

Don't hesitate to remind your children your job is to protect them and that they always have a choice to help you do that.

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

We have officially filed paperwork to create a **Nonprofit organization** to help support our program! The fundraising focus will be for **scholarships, staff development, and infra-structural growth.**

**It's called: FRIENDS OF PISGAH COLLECTIVE**

**Check out the two fundraising opportunities in March on the 21st and 22nd to help get us started and spread the word! ----->**



## TRASH PICKUP

As some of you may have noticed, (and used!) we have a trash can at the entrance of the trail on your way to the barn. Feel free to utilize this for your own needs, and also help keep the area clean from other people's litter! Thank you!

**Save the Date for March 28 from 10-12 for a community clean-up event.**

In our classroom we have a compost bucket and talk to the kids about why we separate our food waste from other trash and recycling. We thank the students for helping make healthy soil for our garden! We have a compost tumbler we empty our small tub into every few days. If you have compost from your house and would like to send it in a sealed container (tupperware, plastic bag, etc) with your child, we would love to dispose of it at school! This will be a practice in connecting their home life to their school community.



### Compostables:

Fruit/veggie scraps, egg shells, coffee grounds and filters, tea bags, loose leaf tea, old herbs/spices, old oatmeal, juice pulp, stale snacks and seeds, dryer lint, used matches, sawdust—the list continues!

## Rooster Head Plantation Deals!

Rooster Head Plantation, who now operates the farm our program originated on, is offering Pisgah Collective Families a **10% off** discount at their amazing farm store!

They have amazing local products and a CSA program you should check out!

Located at 1200 Old Hendersonville Hwy

**Hours (March-September):**

**Wednesday-Saturday 11 - 6 \*Weather permitting\***

## Important Dates

Family-Friendly Third Thursday Potlucks at the Canteen

March 19 | **5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

We have teamed up with the local group, Moving to Conservers, to offer a family-friendly educational series from March-May. Join us at the Cedar Mountain Canteen for a zero waste potluck and educational gathering. We will be in charge of the kiddo portion while parents get to hang with the adults.

Forest Plan Panel Fundraiser  
March 21 | **4 - 8 p.m.**

Mountain True is hosting a discussion on the new Forest Service Plan that will effect both Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests. Ecusta Brewing is donating \$1 of two different beers to Friends of Pisgah Collective!

Non-Profit Party @ Canteen  
March 22 | **3 - 6 p.m.**

The Cedar Mountain Canteen is hosting us as their organization for this month. The bar is open and they ask for donations! Please bring a non-disposable place setting and/or a glass, and invite your friends!

**CLOSED: Spring Break**  
April 6 - 17

**SPRING BREAK CAMP**  
April 14 - 17

**Our regular programs are also closed this week** and we will be running a Spring Break Camp. This is a separate program from our regular semester and there is still space to sign-up!

Earth Day Festival  
April 19

We will be running the kids area at Rooster Head Plantation's Earth Day celebration! More details to come.

Last Day of Spring Seedlings  
May 13

Last Day of Spring Sprouts  
May 22

**Spring Payment #3 Due:  
Wednesday, March 4**