

September NEWSLETTER

Center For Developmental Disabilities
101 Pocono Drive, Milford, PA 18337



Dear Families,

Welcome to CDD! We are so excited to kick off the 2026-2027 school year and welcome our returning preschool students and our new students back to the building. We look forward to a fun-filled year of learning, growing, and making wonderful memories together!

Thank you for your continued support! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email: nmessier@cddkids.org or on Lillio.

Warmly,
Nicole Messier
Director of Programs

What We're Learning

- **Early Head Start Classroom:** Our Little Learners are back! We will be getting comfortable with classroom routines and expectations while learning how to greet a friend, make new friends, share, and show kindness. Through our Creative Curriculum study and engaging activities, we will focus on building strong relationships and helping each child feel safe, welcomed, and excited to be part of our classroom family!
- **Preschool Classrooms:** Our preschoolers will be busy exploring, discovering, and learning through hands-on play as they visit each of the exciting learning centers. From building and creating to pretending, experimenting, and making new friends. We will learn a poem and create a special "All About Me" craft to share who they are, what they love, and what makes each of them unique. Everyday brings new opportunities for your child to learn, grow, and feel happy and confident in their classroom!

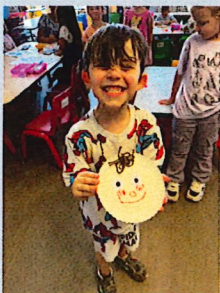
Upcoming Events

September 2: First day of School (Head Start only)

September 7: Closed for Labor Day

September 15: Grandparent's Day/Ice Cream Social 2:00-3:00pm

September 21: 14th Annual Golf Fundraiser at the Lords Valley Country Club (Contact Kathleen at 570-296-3992)



Classroom 5 Spotlight



September NEWSLETTER

Center For Developmental Disabilities
101 Pocono Drive, Milford, PA 18337



Speech – Talk, Play, Learn!

The School Year Is Beginning!

Is your child having a hard time telling you about their day at school?

For many 3–5-year-olds, broad, open-ended questions can be difficult. Children’s ability to answer questions and talk about past events continues to develop during these years.

At around age 3, children can often answer simple questions about familiar activities, especially when the question is specific and related to something that just happened.

By ages 4–5, children are typically becoming better at answering questions about past events and providing more details about their day — but broad questions can still be challenging, especially when they have to think about everything that happened over several hours.

So instead of asking your child to remember their entire school day at once, try breaking it down into smaller, specific parts!

Try making your questions more specific and time-focused!

Instead of:

“How was your day?”

Try:

“What did you do on the playground today?”

Instead of:

“What did you do at school?”

Try:

“What did you do during circle time today?”

Instead of:

“What did you eat?”

Try:

“What did you eat during morning snack?”

September NEWSLETTER

Center For Developmental Disabilities
101 Pocono Drive, Milford, PA 18337



Speech – Talk, Play, Learn!

Try a sentence starter!

Sometimes children just need a little help getting started:

“During playground today, I...”

“During circle time, we...”

“At morning snack, I ate...”

Or give them choices!

Choices can make it easier to remember and talk about what happened:

“On the playground, did you go down the slide or play in the sandbox?”

“During circle time, did you sing a song or do yoga?”

“At morning snack, did you eat crackers or fruit?”

Use familiar school vocabulary!

Using the words your child hears throughout their
school day can also help:

Morning snack

Lunch

Circle time

Playground

Centers

Small group time

Free play/Play time

Remember: If your 3–5-year-old has trouble answering “How was your day?”, try asking more specific questions! Breaking the day into smaller parts gives your child a better starting point and makes it easier for them to share what they did.

September NEWSLETTER

Center For Developmental Disabilities
101 Pocono Drive, Milford, PA 18337



Occupational Therapy – Little Hands at Work!

Fine Motor & Sensory Exploration

Apple Painting

-Slice an Apple in Half

-Dip the cut (flat) side of the apple into washable craft paint

-Stamp the apple onto paper to create a masterpiece (if your child is hesitant to touch the apple or paint; you can insert a popsicle stick into the apple which will create a 'handle' for them to hold)

-Gather leaves and small twigs from outside and glue them onto the stamped apples to finish off the apple stamping project

