



## *Every Day is Earth Day at LT!*

Happy Earth Month! Now's the perfect time to show our FAVORITE planet some love! Here at The Learning Tree, we do celebrate Earth Day every Day which makes this month one of our favorites to continue to share everything we do to teach and live a green lifestyle at The Learning Tree.

Throughout the newsletter, you will find different ways how we live and teach a green lifestyle at LT. We are also very excited to celebrate with LT families on Monday, April 22nd! We will be hosting a pickup event where families can join us in a fun activity celebrating Earth Day!

On top of our Earth Day event, teachers will be creating an Earth Day related lesson plan and working on many creative projects to learn about our Earth and everything Earth Day!

## *Inside:*

Earth Day

Green Lifestyle

Recipe to try at home

Employee Celebrations

and more!

# Day Camp Enrollment

We are one month closer to Summer Day Camp and we can't wait to have the BEST summer with our School Ager! Our day camp program is one your school ager won't want to miss...

Our Day Camp team is working hard planning multiple weekly field trips, cooking projects, STEM activities, and so much more!

We hope to have your child in our Day Camp program this summer! To learn more about our program or to enroll, please email our Enrollment Specialist at [Kim.Avendt@learningtreechildcare.com](mailto:Kim.Avendt@learningtreechildcare.com)

We can't wait for a memorable Summer with our School Ager!



## Did you know...

### WE HAVE GARDENS AT EVERY CENTER?!

We have our own gardens at all five of our locations that we will be planting WITH the children the week of Earth Day to kick them off for the season. Each location has a Garden Resident Expert Teacher who takes the best care of our gardens.

Children will be planting inside at first and we will be sharing photos, progress and the best of it all... eating the fruits and veggies very soon. Teaching children to care for and garden is a great skill that can last a lifetime!







# Recipe to Try at Home!

## PEACH PARFAITS



### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 peaches, pitted
- 1 date, pitted
- 1/2 cup 2% plain Greek yogurt
- 1/2 cup low sugar granola
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

### DIRECTIONS:

- In a food processor or blender, pulse the date and one peach together until finely chopped.
- Fold peach mixture into Greek yogurt to combine and stir in vanilla extract
- Slice remaining peach into chunks
- In small mason jar, layer granola, sliced peaches, yogurt; repeat
- If meal prepping, store with lid in refrigerator until ready to eat



Serving a fresh,  
*Organic Menu*

## Tip from Sarah!

### INTUITIVE EATING FOR KIDS

@sarahhammer X The Learning Tree

"You need to eat 3 more bites!"

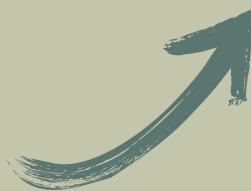


Can lead to mealtime battles, further picky eating, and eating beyond fullness

"Is your tummy done eating?" The kitchen will be closed for the next 2 hours



Can lead to listening and trusting their body



Our goal as parents is to raise children who trust their bodies first and foremost when it comes to eating. We want them to learn how to self-regulate and know what "subtle hunger" feels like, as well as "comfortable fullness". But in order for them to learn to truly listen to their natural intuition, we as parents need to ... well... back off. I mean, we need to set a meal and snack structure that allows our kids eating opportunities every 2-3 hours, with lots of variety.

But when it comes to amounts, we really do need to let them decide. When we pressure, coax, bribe or even just go into mealtime with an agenda, it can really turn kids off even more, create bigger picky eating issues and also teach kids to eat BEYOND their fullness (to please us). This is not what we want.

So even when your child doesn't eat as much (or maybe eats more!) than we want or anticipated, remember that each child is so different, their appetites are ALL over the place and there are SO many factors that come into play. When we trust our kids, they will trust themselves.

# Plants in every classroom

## BENEFITS & WHY

Each of our classrooms at all five of our locations have plants inside their rooms! Not only do we love having plants in our classroom to create a green environment studies have shown that having plants in a classroom can actually improve concentration, memory and reduce stress!

### HERE ARE 5 REASONS WHY WE LOVE HAVING PLANTS IN OUR CLASSROOMS:

- Plants freshen the air and remove pollutants
- Plants improve wellbeing
- Plants raise environmental consciousness
- Plants make for a great lesson subject
- Plants encourage responsibility



There are SO many benefits of growing plants in your room and we tried to pick out the most important ones just to show you how great they are for you, the children and learning!

## Teaching a Green Lifestyle

### CORE VALUE HIGHLIGHT



Teaching a Green Lifestyle is our Core Value that supports being Eco-Friendly. We believe in creating environments and opportunities that will hopefully last a lifetime for children and employees. We do all things the most natural way possible, which means no harsh chemicals, no materials that are harmful to the environment.

Here are ways we teach and live a green lifestyle at our centers:

- We use a green cleaner called Force of Nature
- Zono!
- Blue Air Purifiers in every classroom and common areas
- Essential Oil Diffusers with Young Living Oils in every classroom and common areas
- Organic Garden!
- Cloth Napkins
- Minimal plastic items
- 3 plants in every classroom and more!

[Click HERE to watch our video to learn more about our core value.](#)



## The Hive Celebrations!

We have a friendly curriculum-based competition going on between all centers and the reward is The Hive Food Truck coming to provide breakfast and lunch!

So far, LT-West & LT-South Lyon have both earned the Hive and we had so much fun celebrating our teams! This friendly curriculum-based competition continues, and we can't wait to see where The Hive will be visiting next.

Huge thank you to Zach, our chef! He always goes above and beyond to create a unique and delicious menu for our teachers. We are so grateful for Zach and can't wait to see what the next menu will be!



## Did you know...

**THE LEARNING TREE ONLY USES GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS**



Force of Nature works as a sanitizer and disinfectant while having no bleach!

Force of nature uses salt, water and vinegar to create a multi purpose cleaner that we use regularly on all surfaces and materials. Force of Nature kills 99.9% of germs and has no toxic fumes or residues to rinse. The federal EPA has registered Force of Nature for disinfecting and sanitizing hospitals, ICUs, schools, childcare centers, veterinary clinics and more.

We feel it is important to communicate what cleaner we use around your children, to assure that children remain in the safest, eco-friendly environment.



# Spring Celebrations

Last week, we celebrated SPRING, and it was a BLAST! We had a visit from the Bunny, who hopped around classroom to classroom! Our teachers created a lesson plan that was everything SPRING with sensory, art, literacy cooking, and more!

We are so grateful for our teachers and admin for putting together such a fun celebration for our families to kick off Spring!



## Did you know...

**WE USE YOUNG LIVING ESSENTIAL OILS IN OUR CLASSROOMS?**



Each classroom and lobbies at our centers all have a essential oil diffuser where we use our Young Living essential oils. Using essential oils in a classroom can reduce undesirable behavior, calm children, clear unpleasant orders, boost mood, sharpen mental focus, and so much more.

Young Living Oils are an all green and eco-friendly essential oil. They are oils harvested from plants, herbs and trees that are carefully steam distilled or cold pressed. These pure, precious oils are more potent than the botanicals from where they're extracted and contain powerful, concentrated health and wellness benefits.

# St. Patrick's Day

For St. Patrick's Day last month, we did a friendly classroom competition by creating STEAM related leprechaun traps! Our teachers went above and beyond working with their classrooms to create their traps and it was a blast!

We are excited to share with you the winners!! Families were also able to vote for their favorite trap on our Facebook pages for teachers to gain more votes!

Congratulations!!  
SOUTH: Infant 2  
NORTH: Toddler 4  
WEST: Preschool 1  
SOUTH LYON: Infants  
HOWELL: Infant 2



## Did you know... The ZONO is eco-friendly



We have a ZONO machine in all five of our locations and we truly couldn't be happier with how safe they keep our centers. The ZONO kills 99.99% of common viruses on non-porous surfaces and 99.9% of common bacteria on non-porous and semi-porous surfaces.

The ZONO is very eco-friendly by utilizing a combination of process control, ozone concentration, humidity and time to achieve consistent and U.S laboratory confirmed disinfection and sanitization levels.

# Celebrating LT Employees!

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES!

We are so grateful for LT employees, and we LOVE celebrating birthdays and anniversaries each month! This month we are celebrating the following birthdays and anniversaries!

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Crystal LT Howell 4.12  
Erin LT Lyon Township 4.10  
Kelsey LT North 4.3  
Celeste LT North 4.4  
Madison LT North 4.5  
April LT North 4.13  
Rachel LT North 4.27  
Shannon K LT North 4.29  
Cynthia LT South 4.16  
Amber LT South 4.30  
Amanda W LT South Lyon 4.5  
Erin LT West 4.25  
Lee Regional Team 4.1  
Andrea Regional Team 4.25

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Destinee LT West - 1 year on 4.4!  
Randi LT Howell - 9 years on 4.13!  
Rosetta LT North - 1 year on 4.3!  
Sarah LT North - 3 years on 4.6!  
Jeffrey LT North - 1 year on 4.18!

# LET'S CELEBRATE!

# CONTACT US

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