

Creating a Community Where Every Voice is Heard

We are making very good decision as a group. The kids have decided together how to behave in the community and what it looks like to feel safe and happy. We all agreed that it is important to be nice and respect each other and the environment we share.

We elected the rule “Treat each other with kindness and respect” and agreed it is a great one. We did round to help us decide what respect and kindness look like, sound like, and feel like. Here are some comments from the group:

- Listen to each other.
- Be nice.
- Think about each other’s feelings (empathy).
- Think about how your actions affect others.
- Just be nice. Don’t be mean just because you disagree with them.
- Be friendly.
- Respect space bubbles.
- Saying please and thank you (manners).
- Address mistakes with kindness.

In the end, we concluded that the world’s problems could be solved if everyone followed this rule.

In another round, we discussed what being responsible looks like:

- Be responsible.
- Keep the toys off the floor.
- Don’t litter.
- Pick up your messes.

We then took a stab at finding the right wording for a rule that would include all of those ideas about how we treat the environment. We took words and phrases from the group and molded them into the rule that would be posted on the wall. When we create rules at Children’s Choice, we want them to tell us what to do instead of what not to do. So instead of “Don’t litter” We might say, “throw your trash in a trash can.” They should also be easy to remember and easy to follow and teach the expectations of what is right or wrong.

Oliver, 11: Share the toys. Share, just share.

Facilitator: Share everything? The toys, supplies, that materials, the equipment, even the space?

Oliver: Yes, exactly.

Facilitator: Does that meet all of the criteria that good rules help us not get hurt, be safe, be happy, have fun, get along, be kind and be accountable? Are there any objections? Before we ask for everyone’s consent on this rule, does anyone have any changes to the rule, “Share materials, supplies, and space with others?”

Rowan, 6: If you bring something from home, you shouldn’t share it because it has germs on it.

Facilitator: So, “Share the Children’s Choice supplies, materials, and space with others.” Is that OK with you, Rowan and Oliver?

It was, indeed, and the rule was elected by unanimous consent!

Forts

We have been exploring the areas and creating our own activities. One of the more popular activities has been building forts. The kids wanted to create small, private spaces. Daiya, Laken, Lawson and Cruz built a fort out of some poles and connectors. "We can build a room for all of us!" They added drama clothes to cover the top for more privacy. Jasmine and Amelia enjoyed hiding out in their own fort. When they wanted more forts, they used other materials around the environment. We found that the white, plastic cubes connected to create many different patterns.



This is our planet of Cone Heads.
We have our own language too!



Harleen, Cicely, Hector and Elijah.



THIS
WEEK...



Bree

Bree found some kids who want to lead their own clubs and teach different skills. "I would like to make scarves and stuff out of yarn! I am very good at it and can teach some of the kids." - Indigo

"I think we should try some more science experiments like something we have to do outside. Maybe like something small that could explode or burst." – Lucas

"We can make exploding volcanoes like we did in my class!" - Cruz

"I think it would be neat to learn some kind of bracelet patterns out of the rubber bands. I already know a few, but learning some new ones would be nice." -Gabby

Jonah

Jonah wants to do an Outdoor Activities Club. The kids could plan a calendar of outside activities like their favorite sports and outdoor games. They could also make up their own sports and games.

Additionally, they could do outdoor art projects, science experiments, and nature activities. Jonah shared his ideas with the circle and got a great response from the kids!



Mike and Addie

Mike and Addie brought in a cool science experiment. They want to do more science activities and when we asked about clubs in our activities' circle, many children enjoyed participating and can't wait to do more!

Christy

Christy noticed that the kids have been excited about looking under the microscope and finding more samples to view. She also wants to look for rocks and create a CC rock collection that we can view and break open to see what treasures they will find. "My favorite is the tiger's eye." – Ethan
My favorite out of all of them is the purple one" - Rowen



Helpful Information

Site Phone: 730-2411 Office Phone: 296-2880

Site Email: ea@childrens-choice.org



Financial Assistance Available: (505) 827-7499 or 1-800-832-1321
or email at Child.care@state.nm.us.



Absences

If your child will not be attending Children’s Choice on a day they are scheduled to be there, **please call the site phone, 730-2411**, to let us know. When a child does not show up when they are expected, we want to ensure that the child is safe and accounted for. This means calling their adults. For each call we have to make to learn the whereabouts of each child that has not shown up, that is time that one staff member is out of ratio and time that could have been spent with the children that are there learning and having fun. Please help us keep all of our children safe and happy!

Donations

We always welcome donations of materials we can use for art or construction projects: boxes of all types, paper, newspaper, paper towel tubes, clean containers that you might have put aside for recycling, etc.

Also, if you have old games or sports equipment to get rid of, please consider sending it our way

We also have an Amazon Wish list at:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/6MQ9LXC7ARS0?ref=wl_share

Thanks so much for your support!



Harleen, Cruz and Gael-
setting up the bowling
pins together so they
could bowl outside, while
enjoying the fresh air.