



Bear Creek Newsletter



February 2019

Fantastic February!

Can you believe February is upon us already?! Ready or not it's time to start thinking about **Spring Break** coming up next month at Kendrick Lakes Elementary as well as ... summer camp!

Keep an eye out for emails from me regarding registration for **summer camp**. Pending approval from Jeffco, we expect that camp will be held at Kendallvue Elementary this summer as we dive into our theme: **A Novel Summer!** As always we'll have terrific field trips on Mondays and Wednesdays and we will swim on Fridays.

We expect spots to fill up fast so we encourage you to sign up quickly!

Please also note that we will be CLOSED as we shut down our school year sites and prepare for summer. **We will NOT offer care from May 23-27.** The first day of camp is Tuesday, May 28th.

Contact Information

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<http://www.rrcc.edu/school-age-childcare/online-bill-pay>

Hours of Operation

6:45 AM – 6:00 PM

Important Dates

Tuition Due

February 1st

Tuition is always due on the first of every month, even on weekends.

Full Day Sign-up

February 15 @ Kendallvue

Please fill out the registration form using Chrome or Internet Explorer by **2/1!**

Spring Break Sign-Up

March 25th – 29th
@ Kendrick Lakes

Please fill out the registration form using Chrome or Internet Explorer by **3/8!**

10 Life Skills by Age 10

With so much for children to learn in today's high-tech world, it's all too easy for them to miss out on practical life skills, whether it's running a load of wash, reading a map, or handwriting a letter.

A recent study by the online security company AVG Technologies found that while 58% of 3 to 5 year-olds in the U.S. can navigate a smartphone, fewer than 15% could make their own breakfast.

1. Doing the Laundry

Too many teens head to college with no clue how to clean their clothes. You can begin teaching your child when he or she is around 6. Walk them through the process—how to measure and add the detergent, choose the settings, and start the machine.

2. Planting a Seedling

Lots of preschoolers learn to plant seeds in class but not how to transfer sprouts into a garden.

3. Wrapping a Gift

Your child already loves giving presents, and wrapping them makes it even more satisfying. Preschoolers can help cut the paper and stick on the tape, while kindergartners can complete additional steps with your help, like removing the price tag, finding the right size box, and wrapping paper all the way around the gift to make sure it fits before cutting it.

4. Hammering a Nail

- Give your child a 7- or 9-ounce hammer.
- Use a piece of soft wood (such as pine, poplar, or cedar). You can hold it in place with clamps or a vise, or simply place it on the ground.
- Pick nails with a wide head. At first you'll have to "start" each one for him or her.

5. Writing a Letter

Younger children can dictate a letter to a family member (enhanced with drawings), attach the stamp, and drop it into a mailbox. Teach an older child how to address an envelope and the five parts of a letter. You can also have them help with holiday cards, or find a pen pal ([Amazing Kids](#) and [International Pen Friends](#))

6. Preparing a Simple Meal

Invite your child to help make meals, assign him jobs to do, and stay calm when the flour spills and the eggshells fly!

7. Navigating

If you've ever gotten lost following a GPS's turn-by-turn voice directions, you know why being able to read a map is essential (even if it's one on your phone). These activities will build your child's navigational skills.

- **Hunt for treasure.** Maps may seem boring...until you use them to look for something cool! Hide toys in your yard and then draw a simple sketch to mark their location.
- **Have her lead the way.** Zoos, museums, and theme parks have colorful, easy-to-read maps. Challenge your kid to get you from point A to point B.
- **Take up geocaching.** Kids ages 5 and up love this outdoor treasure hunt game, which uses GPS tracking to find containers filled with trinkets. Learn more at [geocaching.com](#).

8. Treating a Wound

Teach your child from a young age not to freak out when he or she sees blood (and don't overreact yourself). Giving them a game plan will distract them from the pain and come in handy when you're not around

9. Cleaning the Bathroom

Keep rags or a sponge handy for wiping toothpaste blobs off the sink. Toilet duties require greater skill. School-age kids can clean the lid, seat, and base with a disinfecting wipe. Make sure they wash their hands thoroughly afterward.

10. Comparison Shopping

Teaching kids to be smart consumers takes practice. Try this three-step approach:

- **Explain as you go.** Mention prices out loud and talk about your choices: "I'm getting gas at the other station because it costs 10 cents less per gallon."
- **Let your kid pay sometimes.** Give him an allowance, and then designate items he is responsible for purchasing, such as small toys or special food treats.
- **Play the grocery game.** At the supermarket, challenge your kid to find the least expensive brand of paper towels or tomato sauce.

Your child may be more capable than you realize! What skills does he/she have? What more can they learn?!

Learn More: <https://www.parents.com/parenting/better-parenting/advice/10-life-skills-to-teach-your-child-by-age-10/>

In February, we will travel the globe, explore the natural world as well as hone our dental hygiene skills!

