

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A Letter from the Director

Dear Sprouts Families,

One of the things I love most about working in early childhood education is knowing that what we do each day truly matters—not only for individual children, but for families, communities, and the future of our state.

Last month, I had the opportunity to attend the Early Childhood Iowa State Board Meeting. As an ECI State Board member, I spend time each quarter meeting with state leaders in education and early childhood, legislators, and other experts to learn, collaborate, and help guide the direction of Iowa's early childhood development resources and policies.

At this most recent meeting, we recognized that there is so much important work happening right now that we are planning to meet more often—monthly, or even weekly when possible. This will ensure strong continuity in our discussions and allow us to make the greatest impact for the families we serve.

Those of you who rely on high-quality childcare know just how essential it is to your family's daily life, and I am proud to be part of positive change at the state level while continuing to lead and grow right here at Sprouts.

Thank you for trusting us, supporting our mission, and partnering with us in this meaningful work.

With warmth,

Paige Berg, Director, Sprouts

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Parent Tip of the Month

One tradition I've always done with my own kids is to make the entire month of February about reminding them just how loved they are.

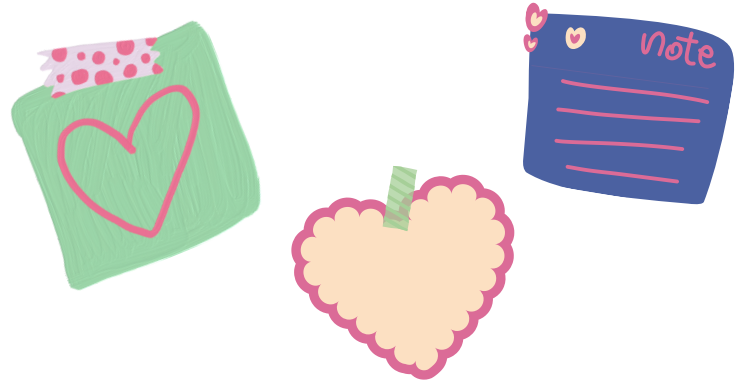
Starting February 1st, each day I place a small heart-shaped cutout on each of my kiddos' bedroom doors. On every heart, I write something I love about them.

Sometimes it's something simple like:

- "I love your smile."

Other days it's something specific like:

- "I love cooking with you."



It's such an easy but deeply personal way to celebrate the little things that make your child special. My girls look forward to it every morning, and honestly... mornings are so much easier when they jump out of bed excited to read their new note for the day.

What's Coming Up

Classroom Valentine's Day Celebrations - February 13th

Spring Break Attendance Planning

Spring Break is coming soon, and in order to staff appropriately, we need to know if your child will be attending during the week of March 16–20.

For families in our before/after school program, please note that Carlisle Schools will be closed that entire week, so pricing will reflect a full week of care (\$270/week). If you request a tuition reduction, it will be taken from the full-time rate, as staffing is based on full-week attendance.

Please fill out the form below to let us know your plans!

Spring Break Attendance Form: <https://forms.gle/Tx7NzD7twFQ4ATjU8>



Featured Resource

Did you know you can access thousands of free books using the Libby app?

Libby connects directly to your local library card and allows you to “check out” books to read or listen to right from your phone or tablet.

This is a wonderful tool for families because:

- It makes long car rides more peaceful
- Kids can enjoy audiobooks without screens
- Listening to stories builds different skills than watching videos or reading picture books



If you're looking for a simple, free way to bring more literacy into your home, Libby is a fantastic resource!

School Highlights

You are a life-changer!

Since February is a month we celebrate the people we love, we want to make a special effort to help our teachers feel extra appreciated.

We will be sending out a Google Form where families can leave a special message for individual staff members, sharing what you appreciate about them. Notes may be signed or anonymous and will be delivered to teachers on February 13th.

You Rock!

Please take a moment to send a quick note to a Sprouts staff member who has made a difference in your child's life. These words mean more than you know!

Staff Appreciation Form: <https://forms.gle/aA1WHBMVs3wB1GJG9>

We appreciate you!

Staff Spotlight

This month we are so excited to spotlight Miss Zaddie, our rockstar infant teacher!

Miss Zaddie has been with Sprouts since the very beginning of our infant program over a year ago, and her love and dedication to our youngest learners is truly what sets her apart. She is beloved by her students and their families alike, and we couldn't imagine our baby room without her.

A few fun facts about Miss Zaddie:

- What she loves most about teaching infants is watching them achieve their milestones
- What makes her laugh is when the babies make goofy faces
- Her favorite books to read are sensory “touch and feel” stories
- Her favorite way to relax is going home to watch a good show or read a book

Miss Zaddie says she feels incredibly grateful to care for the little ones and feels blessed to help them grow and thrive.

We are so thankful she is part of our Sprouts family!



We're Hiring: Summer Sprouts Staff



Sprouts is looking for staff to join our team this summer!

It's no secret that summer is our favorite season at Sprouts—from field trips and water days to park adventures and mystery readers... summer is truly the BEST.

If you know of any qualified applicants who would align with our values and culture, please encourage them to apply at: www.SproutsELA.com