

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2015

The
**Family
Room**



The Family Room is a play/learning environment for children ages birth-five, with their parents or caregivers. We provide a clean, safe, and fun educational play area where children are encouraged to explore, experience, and engage.

To make it fun for all, please remember the following tools for the program...

- **It is your responsibility to "parent" your child**

Please supervise and encourage your child to play safely and appropriately with toys and other children.

- **We are an "ALLERGY AWARE" program**

Please keep all food and beverages in designated eating areas.

Hand sanitizers are readily available.

Please use them upon entering or after eating/drinking.

- **Sick children and caregivers... please stay home!**

Keep germs away and let's play on a healthy day!

- **Please put all toys that have been drooled on or in a child's mouth in the disinfecting baskets!**

- **All coats and strollers must be placed on the hooks or in the coat room**

Please keep all personal belongings on you. We are not responsible for lost or missing items.

- **Changing tables are provided**

Please do not change your child anywhere else in the facility

- **Let's keep it fun for EVERYONE!**

Clean up after yourself and put toys back in their proper centers.

It's a part of the learning process!

- **The Family Room no longer accepts CASH for program fees**

We will gladly accept check, money order, or credit/debit cards for payment.

- **Please remember to sign up for ALL field trips and special events in order to participate!**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION
IN FOLLOWING AND HELPING TO
MAINTAIN THESE VALUABLE TOOLS!**

It's time for some "hot" fun during the SUMMER open door hours! We have lots of play time to offer including plenty of learning time too with our SUMMER FUN PLAYGROUP for pre-registered participants.

Pass this info along to your friends and family, and, don't forget, The Family Room is open to ALL families in WNY with children birth to 5 years of age.

ALWAYS check your calendar for field trips, special events, and room closings. Calendars are also available online at www.amherst.ny.us keyword FAMILY ROOM.

OPEN DOOR HOURS:

Monday & Friday

9:30-11:30 am

Harlem Road

12:30-2:30 pm

Northtown

Wednesday

9:30-11:30 am

Northtown

12:30-2:30 pm

Harlem Road

PLAYGROUPS*:

"Summer Fun Playgroup"

Tuesday @ Harlem Road

10:00-11:30 am

18 mos.- 5 yrs

Playgroups are for registered participants. Please note the PLAYGROUP registration dates on your calendar.

CLEAN SUMMER SWEEP!

We are hosting "Clean Summer Sweep" hours at the Harlem Road & Northtown Center Family Room locations. It will involve cleaning & disinfecting toys as well as repairing and eliminating excess items which will be donated to various charities. Storage areas will also be addressed so if you are an organizer WE NEED YOU!!

Harlem Road Clean Sweep will be held on Thursday, July 16th at 10 am.

Northtown Clean Sweep will be on Thursday, August 20th at 10 am.

Please let us know if you are interested/available to volunteer your time that day. **Children are welcome to attend!**

EMAIL Miss Kristen at

knorton@amherst.ny.us if you are available!



CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Kristen M. Norton
Mary Beth Hopkins**

CALL US:

Harlem Road 631-7218

Northtown Ctr 631-7298

EMAIL US:

knorton@amherst.ny.us

mhopkins@amherst.ny.us



Field Trip Tips!

We have many, exciting special events, fun-filled field trips and activities that highlight our summer months!

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION!

Please note that The Family Rooms are **CLOSED** on field trip days and special events. Check your attached calendars for all the upcoming fun, but for more specific information on our field trips, [please read all about it!](#)



"Fun in the Sun Days!"

Check your calendar for these summer fun activities during Family Room Open Door Hours. No need to register, but we could get wet, sticky or sandy, so dress appropriately for all the fun!



Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum - Friday, July 10th; Thompson St. Tonawanda

Once around is never enough! Join us for a fun-filled morning as we ride around, up and down on the carousels and in Kiddieland! Good old fashioned fun!



Blueberry Picking @ Greg's U-Pick - Wednesday, July 22nd 10:30 am; Lapp Road Clarence

Kids love to pick fruit and we will get a jump start on the blueberries before they're gone! Join us for some berry pickin', lunch, petting farm and maybe some blueberries for dessert? YUMMY!



Garrison Park Wading Pool with Mr. Cool - Friday, August 7th - 11:00 am ; Garrison Rd. Williamsville

All ages can cool off, swim & splash and play with pool toys too! Pack a lunch for a picnic in the park but save room (and money too!) for an ice cream treat from Mr. Cool's Ice Cream Truck. The best ways to keep cool this summer!



Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens - Wednesday, August 26th - 10:30 am; South Park Ave., Buffalo

Kids can dig, plant, pump and dump in the outdoor and indoor gardens. Hands on learning and fun in a beautiful summer garden setting.



Tift Farms Tiny Tikes Hike & Bus Ride - Friday, September 19th; 10:30 meet at Harlem Rd.

We'll meet at Harlem Road and hop on the yellow school bus to Tift Farms where we will explore great wildlife and appreciate the outdoors! Bring a lunch for a picnic in the preserve.

"BIG WISHES"

Could you please help us restock our shelves with the following items?

DISINFECTING WIPES
KLEENEX
SPONGES
BATTERIES (C & AAA)
NAPKINS
PLAIN PAPER PLATES (LARGE & SMALL)
DISINFECTING SOLUTION
MAGIC ERASERS
ZIPLOC BAGS (SANDWICH, GALLON & QUART)

THANK YOU SO MUCH!



IMPORTANT Summer Fun Playgroup **WEATHER POLICY**

The Family Room Summer Fun Playgroup
will be **LOTS OF FUN!!**

**ALL 6 WEEKS WILL BE HELD OUTSIDE
ON THE PLAYGROUND!**

When rainy weather happens (and we all know it does in Buffalo), we will have to cancel Playgroup for that day and try to reschedule at the end of the session. You will be contacted if other arrangements for play will be made.

We cannot guarantee all 6 weeks of playgroup. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

COMMUNITY CORNER

FRIDAY NIGHT FAMILY FLICKS

Friday nights - 7/10 - 8/24 DUSK; locations vary FREE

Amherst South Rotary presents Summer Outdoor Movies on a GIANT inflatable screen! For movie details and locations go to www.amherstyouthandrec.org

Reinstein Woods Summer Programs

Thursday, July 23 at 10:30 AM STORIES IN THE WOODS

Enjoy hearing a nature story, followed by a guided walk in the woods. For children ages 3 to 7. - See more at: <http://fun4kidsinbuffalo.com/2015/05/23/reinstein-woods-summer-programs/#sthash.XX0uCA8t.dpuf>

Wednesday, August 5 at 10:00 AM STROLLER STRUT

Bring a stroller or wagon and share a sensory exploration of nature with your young child. For children ages 3 and under. - See more at: <http://fun4kidsinbuffalo.com>

Spirit of Buffalo Pirate Cruises

Canalside Saturdays; call for trip times, reservations and availability 796.7210

All cruises include a crew of professional pirates. You will be entertained with pirate stories, face painting, a treasure hunt, music and loads of swashbuckling family fun! An adventure your children will not forget.

**Oh the places you will go this summer...
if you use these links to family fun!**

Fun4kidsinbuffalo.com

<http://www.visitbuffaloniagara.com>

http://www.amherstbee.com/news/2014-06-11/Entertainment/Family_Activities.html

ONLINE HELPERS!

teaching2and3yearolds.com

www.topmommyblogs.com

thedisheveledparent.com

Town of **Amherst Youth & Recreation Department**

Summer Blast!

August 9th 12 -3

Clearfield Community Center

**Family Fun in the water and sun!
Boat races, tennis skills & games,
family pool games, synchronized
swimming demo and MORE!**

- **INFLATABLE FUN ACTIVITIES**
- **CRAFT ACTIVITY**
- **FACE PAINTING**
- **SNOW CONES**
- **POPCORN**

MISSING MYRTLE

As many of you are aware, our beloved Myrtle the Turtle unexpectedly returned herself to the wild on a recent field trip to Walton Woods. While we miss her terribly, it is awesome for her to retire as our classroom pet and be among her friends in nature. A new pet will be arriving in the near future so be sure to visit this summer to see what will be in the tank!



FALL PLAYGROUPS!

"Toddler 101"

The Family Room offers "Toddler 101" for children 18 months - 3 years at Harlem Road on Tuesdays from 10 - 11:30 am. Children 3-5 years of age meet from 12:30 - 2:30 pm. Your child will learn from many themes introduced each six week session through songs, music and movement, stories and arts & crafts. All that learning with YOU by their side! The fall session's theme will be "Colorful Fall Fun" beginning on Tuesday, September 15th.

You MUST PRE-REGISTER to participate.

**REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH.**

**JUST CALL 631-7218
BETWEEN 9 & 11 AM.**

"Fit Kids"

"Fit Kids" is essential for the child with lots of ENERGY! While promoting a healthy lifestyle & choices. "Big Room" fun and structured gross-motor activities round out this musical, physical and recreational playgroup for children 18 months to 5 years, offered on Thursdays at the Northtown Center from 10 - 11:30 am. This session will be 8 weeks beginning on Thursday, October 1st through November 19th.

You MUST PRE-REGISTER to participate.

**REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND.**

**JUST CALL 631-7218
BETWEEN 9 & 11 AM.**

FAMILY ADVISORY BOARD!

We are in need of some active MOMS, DADS, GRANDPARENTS, NANNIES ETC... who have creative ideas in fundraising, programming and purchasing. Over the years we have had dedicated members organize and participate in The Family Room Advisory Board.

"It takes a village" is not just a cliché. We in The Family Room believe that all of our participants, "young and old" are instrumental to the growth and change of this program.

The Family Advisory Board is really a voice for all of our participants. If you have ideas to share or would just like to become more involved, please contact us via phone, email or just grab us for a chat in The Family Room! We'd love to work with you!



The Family Room will be your favorite party place! Children can ride, romp, & play in our large, safe and age appropriate center. The "BIG ROOM" is available for children celebrating birthdays up to age 5, complete with ride-on toys, foam climbing equipment and toddler sized bounce house! Table and chairs are provided for seating and eating (up to 40) and you can bring in or have delivered your own food!

Why try to fit your family and friends into your house when you can invite them to the Family Room and let someone else do the clean-up for you! Party packages are available for 2-3 hours and as a Family Room member, you will receive a special discount!

Be sure to book early as dates fill up fast! Call today @ 631-7218 and we'll make sure you have the best party ever!