

**Week of  
May 19, 2025**

**Comstock Park  
(616)493-0744**

Implement these five tips to support your child as they transition from the school year to the freedom of summer break

- ❖ **Back to the Basics** – Before diving too deep, it's important to ensure your child has all their basic needs met
- ❖ **Keep the Routine** – Young children thrive off of structure and routine. A set routine provides a sense of security and stability for your home
- ❖ **Set the Expectations** – Predictability is another key component. Young children don't know what expect. Surprises may induce fear, anxiety and stress.
- ❖ **Create Positive Reinforcement** – Many children respond well to praise and rewards. Teachers encourage hand-raising and other classroom behaviors through sticker charts and prize boxes. This is an example of positive reinforcement
- ❖ **Plan Learning Opportunities** – Continue to promote education and learning opportunities. Many communities have summer camps, and children's programs at their local library, and a variety of museums.

This promotes as smooth transition back to school. Your child can continue to grow through the summer months.

Ensure your child is getting 10-13 hours of sleep each night and 3 balanced meals throughout the day

May 22 – End of Year Carnival

May 26 – No School

May 29 – Last Day of School  
for Preschoolers

June 4 and 5 – No School for  
Infant Toddlers

Our End of Year Carnival is this Thursday from 4-5:30pm. You do not want to miss all the fun. We will have food, drinks, games and a special guest. We will **not** have any carnival rides.

#### **Kindergarten Registration Checklist**

- ❖ Child's original Birth Certificate – must have the raised seal
- ❖ Child's Immunization Record – can obtain through your child's pediatrician
- ❖ Child's Hearing and Vision Test – if not done by school the Health Department can do it
- ❖ Proof of Residency (varies by district) – lease agreement, mortgage, utility bills
- ❖ Physical and Dental Exam – can obtain through child's pediatrician and dental offices

If your child is going to Kindergarten next year, they should have already received a Kindergarten Kit with the majority of this information included. If you have not received one, please let us know and we can get you one.



<https://www.facebook.com/pg/hs4kc/events>  
[www.hs4kc.org](http://www.hs4kc.org)



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## Tips for Safe Outdoor Play

Summer offers many opportunities for exploration and play in outdoor learning environments. With proper planning, early childhood programs can make sure that children are able to take advantage of these experiences and safely enjoy the summer.

**Water Safety:** Water play is a favorite activity for many young children throughout the year. Families may ask about opportunities for children to have outdoor water play during the summer. CFOC Standard 6.3.5.3 does not recommend portable wading pools because they are hard to keep clean and can promote the spread of diseases. Sprinklers, hoses, or small, individual water basins are safer than wading pools. Always use active supervision when children play in or around water.

Drowning is the leading cause of injury death for young children ages 1 to 4. Always stay within arm's reach whenever a child is in or near water. All backyard swimming pools should be surrounded by a four-sided isolation fence, with self-closing and self-latching gates. Fences should prevent children from getting to the water without supervision.

If children use water tables, make sure that staff clean and sanitize the water table and that children use toys safely. All children should wash their hands before and after play. It is best to have an individual basin for children with cuts, scratches, or open sores on their hands.

[Summer Safety Tips | HeadStart.gov](#)

## First Aid: Insect Bites and Stings

Insect stings and bites can be irritating, and in most cases, don't need medical care. However, children who are allergic to insect bites and stings might get life-threatening symptoms that need emergency medical attention.

What to Do:

- If your child was stung and you can see the insect's stinger, remove it as quickly as possible by scraping it with your fingernail.
- Wash the area with soap and water.
- Apply ice wrapped in a towel or cloth or a cool wet cloth to the area to relieve pain and swelling.

Get medical care if:

- The sting or bite is inside the mouth
- Your child has a known severe allergy to a stinging or biting insect
- Injectable epinephrine (EpiPen) was used
- The site looks infected (redness is getting worse, warmth, swelling, pain or pus several hours or longer after the sting or bite).

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Help Us Show the Impact of Head Start!

Are you a Head  
Start Parent or  
alum?

Share a written  
testimonial about how  
Head Start has made a  
difference for you and  
your child!

Your voice will help  
support funding and  
awareness to our  
program.

**Sharing is easy  
as 1- 2 - 3!**

1. Scan the QR code.
2. Fill out the form and speak from your experiences.
3. Share out to other parents or Head Start alum!



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<https://birthday.nhsa.org/birthday-sign-form/?code=REF689267bc951aaf570>

