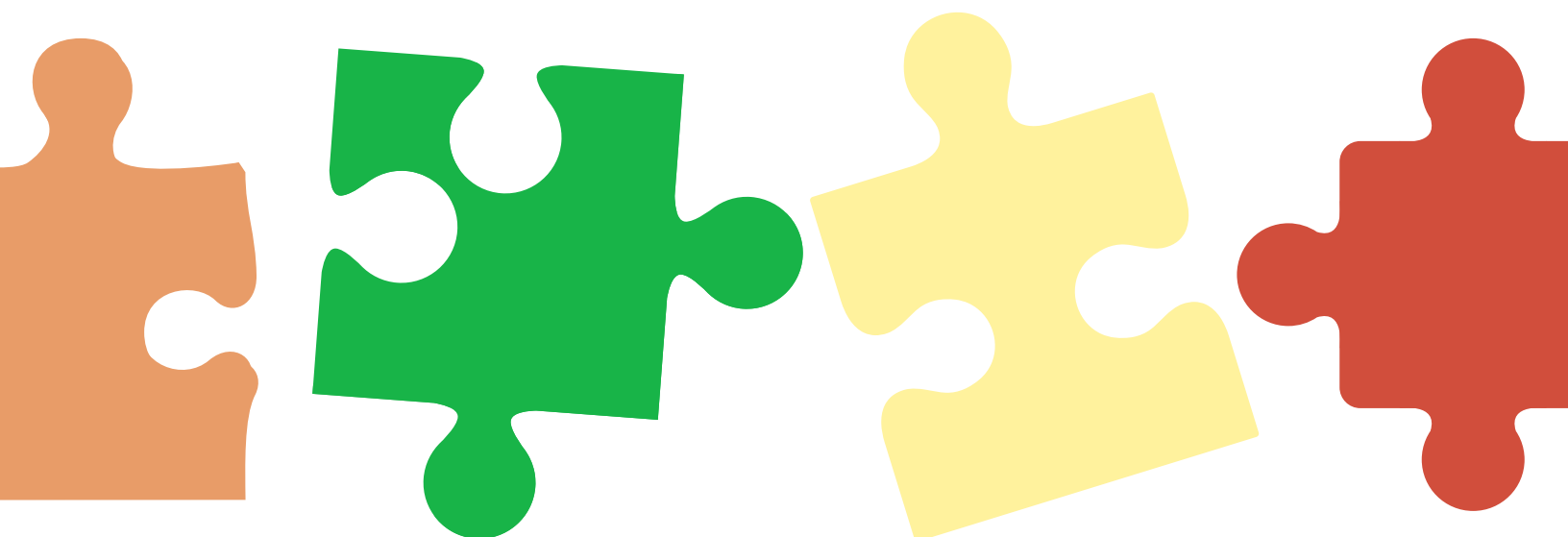


CCA NEWS

Summer 2020



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Susie's Corner

What's Happening at CCA

It is hard to believe that spring and summer have come and gone and we are still facing the challenges of working during a pandemic. Though we have been both fully and semi- closed during the time of the Coronavirus, the work never stopped. Staff, students, and families have been wonderful with providing and participating in services. We have had to create unique ways to provide services and I am so grateful for everyone's out-of-the-box thinking, creativity, and most of all, patience! Summer was relatively quiet at the center but still had quite a bit of movement as we prepped for the new academic year. We put new health and safety procedures and protocols in place, created two new classrooms, and welcomed new and diverse staff. In the midst of Covid there are still many changes occurring. We would like to thank the PTO for the new picnic tables which have provided opportunities for more outdoor activities. Most of the classrooms now have microwaves in their classrooms thanks to the generous donations from the families. We are in the process of finalizing our online Spirit Shop which will allow families to purchase spirit wear from the CCA website and have them shipped directly to you. I think we have finally arrived in the twenty-first century with technology! Continued onto next page...

Susie's Corner Continued...

I would like to provide a short update on students and staff. We now have 58 students enrolled and 56 staff. There have been many staff changes due to staff moving, going to graduate school and changing careers. We have highlighted our new OT and SLP. Since CCA provides training opportunities for BCBA candidates, staff will also move on once their internships are completed. This has been a wonderful opportunity for CCA to interact with graduate students and universities. Once again thank you to all of our parents, staff and community partners for working with us as we continue to adapt our programming during these challenging times. We will be transitioning to quarterly newsletters, so make sure to check out our Facebook page and emails for more frequent updates!

A Different Summer

Our summer services looked a little different this year! In order to continue protecting the health and safety of our staff and students, we made changes to our typical summer operations. We continued with remote learning for many students receiving Extended School Year (ESY) Services, and introduced in-home instruction for some of those students. We also slowly began appointment based services back at the center, while implementing numerous protocols and procedures to keep everyone safe. The CCA team continuously worked hard in making sure all areas were clean and disinfected while we encouraged student to practice social distancing, and even helped some students adjust to wearing a mask!

As a result, our second summer session programming was a continuation of our first session, relying heavily on in-home and remote services. These decisions were not made lightly and we understand the disappointment of not being able to reunite with friends, instructors, and teachers for the summer. However, we feel comfortable knowing that these decisions were made with an abundance of caution. We will continue with all implemented center-based and home-based health and safety protocols to ensure the continued health of all CCA employees and students throughout the academic year.

We are optimistically looking forward to resuming our summer programming for 2021. The CCA team truly appreciates the support, patience, and collaboration that we have received during this time!

June 2020

Our Summer Camp Program Coordinator always thinks outside of the box when creating activities for our students. This year, she took it one step further and took our students out of this world - implementing all types of fun space-themed activities during our 3 weeks in June. Students participated in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) activities including science experiments to see what it may be like in space. They made their own variations of astronaut food following space-themed recipes. Even the art projects received a fun, galaxy twist! Students created their very own galaxies using chalk pastels, made out-of-this-world jewelry, created galaxy coasters, and made some awesome space sun catchers. Check out our next page for more articles about activities the students did and some pictures of the crafts they created during our June summer session!



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Galaxy Globe

One of the fun ways our students were able to head through the Milky Way - without ever leaving the comfort of the earth - was through making galaxy sensory globes. They chose the color of their galaxy, and added the perfect amount of stars and glitter to make their own special sensory globe. Sensory bottles are a popular item at CCA! Sensory bottles can be used as a tool to help individuals self-regulate. Individuals who have trouble calming down can use sensory bottles as a peaceful object to focus on. It's great for students to have the opportunity to design their own sensory bottles just the way they like them. Check out some of the other crafts our students created throughout our June summer session.



Out-of-this-World Treats

Our students put a CCA spin on "astronaut food" this summer. Instead of tasting freeze-dried foods, they made their snacks out-of-this-world cool! Students added colorful sprinkles to their blue jello for an intergalactic snack! They created shooting stars using rice krispie treats, strawberries, and blueberries. A real crowd pleasing treat was the edible rocket made from fresh, healthy, and yummy fruits! Who knew eating like an astronaut could be so fun?

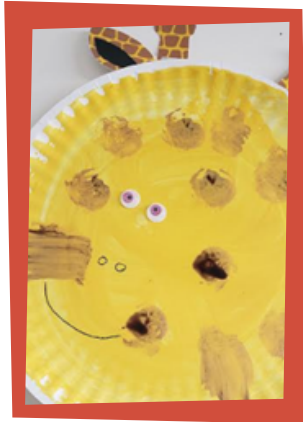


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July 2020

In July, our summer camp theme was Safari in the Jungle. Each morning, our behavior technicians grabbed their student an adventure bucket filled with a sensory activity, fine motor craft, science experiment, nature scavenger hunt, and cooking recipe. Check out a few of the safari crafts created by our student explorers!



August 2020

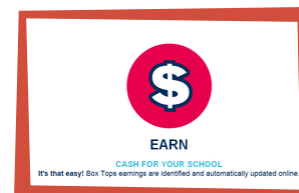
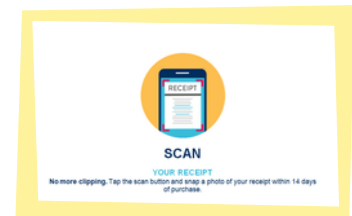
Welcome back! On August 10th, we welcomed back all staff and on August 19th was our first day back at the center with students for the 2020-2021 academic year. Our teachers and staff worked hard preparing their classrooms leading up to our first day of the new academic year to ensure this year is the best one yet. Parents were invited to attend a remote parent meeting on August 17th via Zoom. Although we missed seeing all of our parents in person, it was great to have such a large turnout! Check out a few of our awesome learning spaces! We hope all of our students and staff had a great first day back at CCA!



Ways to Donate

Want to help donate to Cincinnati Center for Autism? Box Tops has made it even easier to help. Download the Box Tops app on your smartphone and sign up. Follow the guided instructions and select Cincinnati Center for Autism as your school. Next, simply look for the Box Tops logo while shopping at your local grocery store. Use the scan button on the app to snap a picture of your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Based on eligible purchases, Box Tops will then update your earnings. CCA will receive bi-annual checks and use the donation to help buy materials for students! Visit the link below for more information:

<https://www.boxtops4education.com/refer>



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PTO Information

We have an official registration link for the CCA PTO! Please register your name and email address to become a PTO member (no dues required) and receive email updates from us! Due to privacy, the PTO does not have access to the master CCA parent email list, so signing up at this link will ensure that we can get in touch with you directly for any last minute updates outside of PTO meetings. If you believe that we already have your information, please continue to fill out this quick form so we have accurate, up to date information all in the same place! The link for registration will be sent out by the Building Administrator to all parents. We would like to thank our PTO for providing new picnic tables around CCA for our students and staff to have somewhere to sit or eat outside, while social distancing, and enjoy the beautiful weather!

Spirit Wear

We are excited to announce we have created a new way of purchasing spirit wear at CCA. We have launched an online spirit shop, which allows you to order your favorite spirit wear items, as well as a few new pieces! This year we are offering masks with the CCA logo, aprons, tote bags and more! With the ease of ordering online, you can have all of your items shipped directly to you.

We are also excited to announce our featured fall item: a Halloween themed shirt with a special CCA jack-o-lantern! The link will be available to shop from the end of September, to mid-October. Keep an eye out for the link which will be sent in an email, posted on the facebook, and shared on the website!



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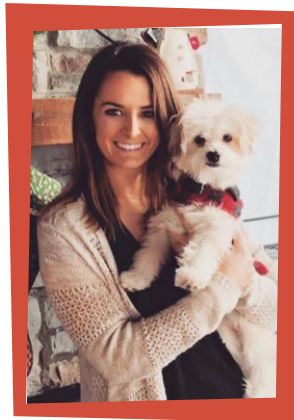
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Meet the Staff

This year, we added two new therapists to our CCA staff. We would like to welcome Brooke Moran as our Occupational Therapist and Stephanie Bare as our Speech Pathologist! We are excited to have them join us and they are both looking forward to a great school year! Here's a little bit about them:

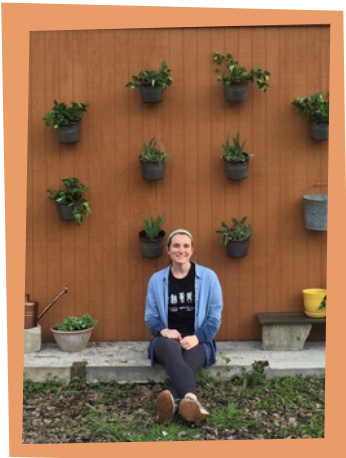
Meet Stephanie!

Hi my name is Stephanie Bare and I am the new Speech-Language Pathologist at CCA! I graduated from the University of Cincinnati with my bachelor's degree and with my master's degree from East Tennessee State University. Before transitioning to Cincinnati Center for Autism, I worked in an outpatient clinic with a variety of age groups and communication levels. My specific passion within speech pathology is working with students to use augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). I love to be outside, playing sand volleyball and reading. I enjoy spending time with my family, dog and friends!



Meet Brooke!

My name is Brooke Moran, and I am the new occupational therapist at Cincinnati Center for Autism. I am delighted to be joining this amazing and supportive team. I graduated from the University of Cincinnati with my bachelor's degree in 2017 and completed my doctoral degree at Kettering College this past spring. I am so excited to transition into my professional career here at CCA! In my free time, I love to be outside biking, hiking, or gardening. In the colder months of the year I enjoy crafting. My dog, Mowgli, is always by my side when I am not at work and I wouldn't want it any other way.



Amazon Smiles

Cincinnati Center for Autism's Wish List is a registry of items to help enhance our school and classrooms throughout the academic year. Amazon offers the ease of shipping items directly to CCA! These supplies are essential to fostering success in the classrooms and for our students at CCA. To continue supporting each child's potential to learn and grow, please consider shopping our wish list. A link will be provided in an email sent by our Building Administrator.



*thank
you* ❤️

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