

# Parent Newsletter April 2009

## April Fool's Day

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\* As a parent, there are a lot of  
\* important concepts to teach your  
\* child including the 5 senses. You  
\* can teach your child the 5 senses  
\* using things found around the  
\* house.  
\* Touch:  
\* Place familiar items in an empty  
\* bag. Have the child feel the items  
\* and describe what they feel.  
\* Sight:  
\* Place 3-4 familiar items on the  
\* table. Have the child observe the  
\* items for a few minutes. Have the  
\* child describe how each item looks  
\* (colors, shape, etc.). Cover the  
\* items to add an extra challenge.  
\* Taste:  
\* Have the child taste a few foods  
\* such as bananas, oranges, etc. with  
\* their eyes covered and see if they  
\* can name what they tasted. Help  
\* them with the words to describe  
\* how the food tastes.  
\* Hearing:  
\* Take the child to different rooms  
\* in the house with their eyes  
\* covered. Have them describe the  
\* different sounds such as running  
\* water, popcorn popping, etc.  
\* Smell:  
\* Gather items such as oranges,  
\* coffee, baby powder, etc. Have the  
\* child cover their eyes and smell the  
\* object. Have the child guess the  
\* item they smelled.  
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One theory behind April Fool's Day dates back to the 16th Century in France when the new year was celebrated April 1st. The Gregorian calendar was introduced changing the celebration of the new year to January 1st. News of this change traveled slowly, so many people still celebrated the new year on April 1st. These people were deemed "April Fools" and had tricks played on them. This harassment evolved over time into a tradition of prank-playing on the first day in April.

### Parent/child connection:

#### Easter Egg Hunt

Place different items and foods in plastic Easter eggs. Hide the eggs around the house or outside. Have the children go on an Easter egg hunt. After the Easter egg hunt, have the children open the Easter eggs and describe the items found in each of their eggs using any or all of the 5 senses.

## April Fun

- Explore the colors gold & silver
- Meet Orlando the Octagon
- Opposites: Fast & Slow
- Letters: U, V, and W
- Numbers: 14
- Conservation: Land
- Saying "Thank you"
- 5 Senses
- And more!