



Alternatives For Children



www.alternativesforchildren.org

SPRING 2018

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN AQUEBOGUE SEE HOW WE'VE GROWN!



In early 2017 it had become apparent that we were bursting at the seams at our Aquebogue location! In January, staff were busy and very excited to be moving into newly created spaces that will enable us to meet the growing needs of the surrounding school districts that refer families to us. These expanded areas give us the means to be able meet all the needs of the children that our families entrust to us.

Alternatives For Children Aquebogue serves the children and families from the North Fork of Long Island, and the surrounding Riverhead area. We have a longstanding relationship with the Riverhead School District to provide Universal PreK programming for four year old children from the district through our child day care program. This expansion also offers us the opportunity to grow our licensed child

day care programs, which offers full and part time classes.



We offer a full continuum of options for children with special needs as well as their typically developing peers. Special or integrated classes are available based on the individual needs of each child and the approval of their respective school district. Classes are taught by certified teachers and teacher assistants. Students are supported by experienced clinicians (physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy.) In addition, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) is available for behavior



Opened in January our NEW & EXPANDED

Reception/Office Space • Psychology/Social Work/BCBA Office • Classrooms • Evaluation Room
Physical Therapy & Occupational Sensory Therapy Gym • Expanded Work Space for Speech Department
Children leave Alternatives For Children Aquebogue ready to learn in their Kindergarten placements!

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A BALL?



Aside from our artistic endeavors represented here using Balls, we learned that you can; Catch, Kick, Bounce, Roll, Throw, Hit with a Bat, Use on an Incline Plane, Make them Change Speed and Direction, Test Gravity!

Alternatives for Children

Mission Statement

To provide the highest quality special and regular education programs and services to children with disabilities and typically developing peers.

Education, medical, pediatric rehabilitation, and support services are integrated to ensure the comprehensive needs of the child and family are met.

14 Research Way
East Setauket, NY 11733
631-331-6400
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services
Universal Pre-K
Administrative Office

1116 Main Road
Aquebogue, NY 11931
631-722-2170
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services
Universal Pre-K

600 South Service Road
Dix Hills, NY 11746
631-271-0777
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services

168 Hill Street
Southampton, NY 11968
631-283-3272
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services

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ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Family and Friends of Alternatives For Children,

I am pleased to announce that Alternatives For Children is in the midst of celebrating its 30th Anniversary. We have been a beacon of hope for over 20,000 children and their families during our longstanding history. Our mission has always been clear - to provide quality programs and services for children at a critical time in their development. Our goal is to have each child reach their potential and leave us ready to be a lifelong learner.

Our organization has withstood the test of time despite funding challenges and increased regulation and mandates. We continue to do more with less because we believe we make a difference.

We look forward to gathering all of our supporters, *Marie E. Ficano, Ed.D.*

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN

THANKS EVERO CORPORATION

Thank You to eVero Corporation for "adopting" two of our families and making it a brighter holiday for some very special children! eVero Corporation has had a tremendous impact on many families at Alternatives For Children. For the past several years they have partnered with Alternatives For Children as a major sponsor of our Holiday Wish Program - providing joy and happiness in the form of holiday gifts, toys, clothing, and other necessities for hundreds of our families. Alone we could not provide for all, but with eVero's help,



ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN

FAMILY EDUCATION RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

Each year, Alternatives For Children is required to notify parents of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act regulations (FERPA) to:

- Inspect and review the student's education records.
- Seek amendment to the student's education records that the parent believes to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.
- Consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records.

Alternatives For Children will comply with a request for access to records within 45 days of a received request and respond to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of records. If a parent believes the education records relating to the student contain information that is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's rights of privacy, he or she may ask Alternatives for Children to amend the

For More Information on FERPA and your rights as parents visit our website

www.alternatives4children.org/confidentiality-parents-rights.html

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/>



Alternatives for Children will work together with families to answer any questions, and help access information needed.

Nissequogue Country Club
Monday, June 4, 2018

21 Golf Club Road • Saint James • NY • 11780

Sponsorship Opportunities

Platinum Sponsor - \$5,000

Awards Dinner Sponsor

- ◇ Golf foursome
- ◇ Prominent corporate signage at venue
- ◇ Sponsor Board
- ◇ Hole Sign
- ◇ Four additional guests for dinner
- ◇ Affinity Membership
Donor Wall, Newsletter Mention

Gold Sponsor - \$2,850

Barbeque Lunch Sponsor

- ◇ Golf foursome
- ◇ Prominent corporate signage at venue
- ◇ Sponsor Board
- ◇ Hole Sign

Silver Sponsor - \$1,500

Registration Sponsor

- ◇ Play for one golfer
- ◇ Prominent corporate signage at venue
- ◇ Sponsor Board

Hole in One Sponsor - \$500

- ◇ Company name on Hole in One Sign

Hole Sponsor - \$325

- ◇ Company name on Hole Sign

Day's Events

10:30 am Registration & Brunch

_____ I will bring a foursome to this year's outing
\$1,600 foursome entry fee enclosed
(\$620 tax deductible) Includes brunch, dinner,
greens fee, cart.

_____ I will play in this year's outing
\$400 individual entry fee enclosed
(\$155 tax deductible) Includes brunch
dinner, greens fee, cart.

I will be an event sponsor for this year's Outing

_____ Platinum Sponsor \$5,000
(\$3,720 tax deductible)

_____ Gold Sponsor \$2,850
(\$1,950 tax deductible)

_____ Silver Sponsor \$1,500
(\$1,275 tax deductible)

_____ I will sponsor a hole in this year's event,
\$325 enclosed per hole sponsorship,
(fully tax deductible)

_____ I will sponsor a Hole in One in this year's event
\$500 enclosed per Hole in One sponsorship
(fully tax deductible)

_____ Dinner only @ \$125 per person = _____
I cannot attend, but please accept my donation of
\$ _____

Name _____ Company Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Make Checks payable to Alternatives For Children 14 Research Way East Setauket, NY 11733
Credit Cards accepted - Visa, Master Card, American Express
REGISTER ONLINE on or before May 15th at <http://www.alternatives4children.org/golf.html>

Card Type _____ Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Print Name _____ Signature _____

Golfer #1 _____ Golfer #2 _____

Golfer #3 _____ Golfer #4 _____

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN
 CREATIVE CURRICULUM INVESTIGATIVE STUDY – BOX STRUCTURE COMPETITION

Beginning on December 11th all of the children in our classes were asked two questions. What do we know about boxes? What do we want to find out? So began our Creative Curriculum Investigative Study of boxes! As we studied boxes, we worked on concepts and skills in literacy, math, science, social studies, the arts, and technology. We also used our thinking skills to investigate, ask questions, solve problems, make predictions, and test our ideas.

To wrap up our study on BOXES all of our classes competed in a *What Can We Build with Boxes* competition as a way to bring together everything that we had learned. The children at each of our locations voted on their favorite Box Structure. All building staff were also invited to vote for the Box Structure that they thought represented a child centered - teacher facilitated cooperative project; in other words - it looked like the children made it and were responsible for a large amount of

**Aquebogue CLASSROOM 1
 The Robot with a BIG HEART!**

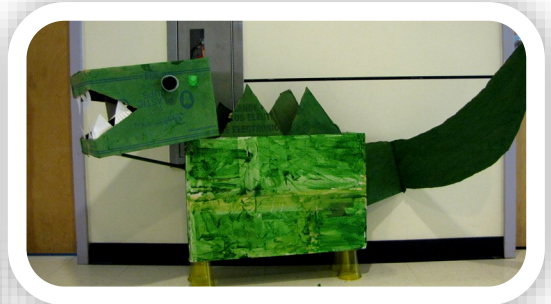
Classroom 1 also received the Honorable Mention Award!

Congratulations!

Thanks to all the parents at our Aquebogue location who came to help our students create our Box Sculptures.



**WINNER
 East Setauket CLASSROOM 15**



**East Setauket CLASSROOM 20
 Honorable Mention**



AND THE WINNER IS!...
**WINNER &
 Honorable Mention
 Southampton CLASSROOM 2**



**Dix Hills CLASSROOM 103
 Honorable Mention**

What Can We Build with Boxes?
 AQ Classroom 1 First you need a plan!

1. We brainstormed about some of our favorite things! Finally, we ALL decided on a Robot!
2. We knew we needed a head, a body, and arms and legs.
3. Our teacher helped us draw a picture of our Robot.
4. Then we decided on colors . . . and MEASURED to figure out what SIZE boxes we would need.

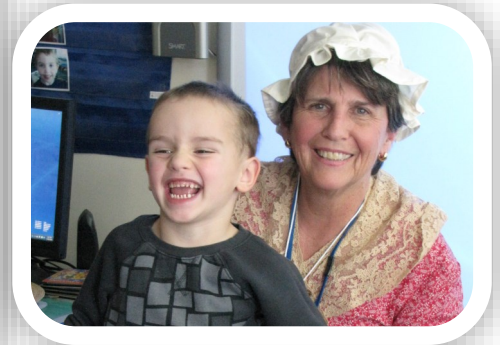
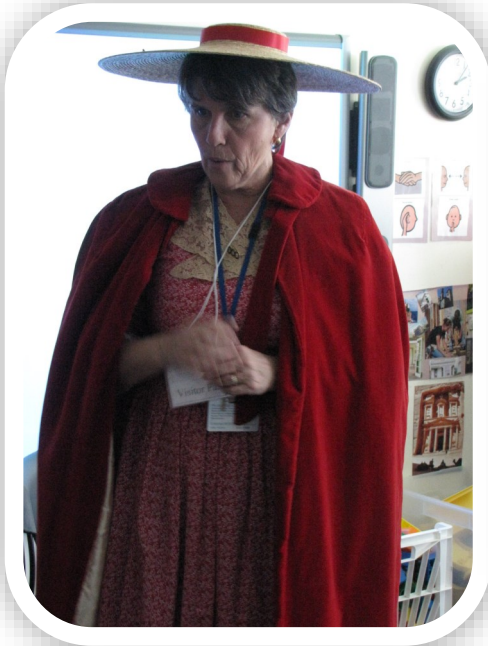
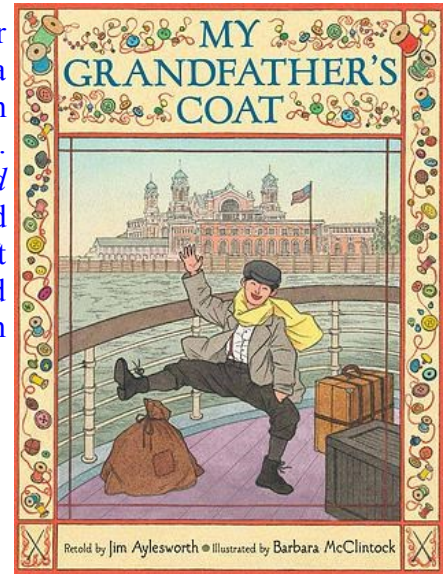


**WINNER
 Dix Hills CLASSROOM 101**



ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN EAST SETAUKET
MYSTERY READER PROGRAM

Our January Mystery Reader, Mrs. Barbara Russell, surprised the children in our integrated classes coming to read to them dressed in authentic Colonial era clothes. She shared the book *My Grandfather's Coat*, a rollicking, rhyming, fun rendition of a favorite folksong about a many-times recycled coat. Then Mrs. Barbara showed the class how . . . *He snipped and he clipped and he stitched and he sewed and out of the still-good cloth of his coat he made himself a jacket.* And on and on through the generations he used the fabric until there was nothing left but a string. Each of the children went home with a piece of blue fabric to remind them of the story they had heard and to show their parents and share with them



Barbara Russell is the Town of Brookhaven Historian. The office of the Historian of Brookhaven Town works to create public-private non-profit relationships with organizations that own historic buildings and are willing to host tours and help to steward these critical historic structures and preserve them for future generations.

Barbara's husband Michael until recently was a long serving member of the Board of Trustees of Alternatives For Children.



ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN MITTEN & GLOVE DRIVE
CREATIVE CURRICULUM INVESTIGATIVE STUDY - CLOTHES

In February all of our classes wrapped up their Investigative Study on Clothes. One of the many things the children learned and explored was *What kinds of special clothes do we need to wear in the winter? Why, mittens and glove, of course!* To conclude our Clothes study we held an organization wide Mitten & Glove Drive, which was a TREMENDOUS SUCCESS! **Through the generosity of our families & staff we collected 210 pairs of Mittens & Gloves, 33 Hats, and 4 Scarves.** These gifts of your hearts will

The drive offered so many learning opportunities!
Counting - Matching - Charting - Making patterns - Graphing



ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN DIX HILLS – A LONG WINTER!
KEEPING OUR BODIES MOVING – THE DEVELOPMENT OF GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

Movement can help children develop, not only motorically but emotionally and socially as well. When our teachers intentionally work on gross or large motor skills and activities, the social, communication, emotional, and cognitive skills of children are "exercised" as well as their motor skills. Playing interactive games develops social interaction and communication skills, while at the same time working on motor development. Problem solving or cognitive skills such as counting, identifying colors, or learning body parts may also be stimulated during games. Gross motor abilities also have an influence on other everyday functions. For example, a child's ability to maintain table top posture (upper body support) will affect their ability to participate in fine motor skills (e.g. writing, drawing and cutting.)

Growing evidence links motor skills and physical activity to self-regulation. In general, self-regulation refers to the voluntary control of attentional, emotional, and behavioral impulses in accordance with a long-term goal. Specifically, self-regulation measures a child's ability to sustain



So Much More Going on Here than Bowling and a Game of Musical Chairs!

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN SOUHAMPTON
WE WORK TO LEARN THROUGH DRAMATIC PLAY

Dramatic play is one of the ways children gain a better understanding of their experiences. In dramatic play, children take on different roles, act out real or imaginary situations, use props to make believe, and work together. They also practice verbal skills and develop an understanding of symbolic representation that leads to the development of reading and writing skills. They learn to cooperate with others, solve problems, and control their own behavior - all of which are important skills for school success.

The Dramatic Play area is filled with props and dress-up clothes to encourage imagination. Sometimes this area might be a kitchen/home living area; other times it might be a post office, restaurant, doctor's office, or rocket ship.

When children pretend, they recall experiences and agree on how to re-create them. To play the role of a doctor, for example, they have to remember what a doctor

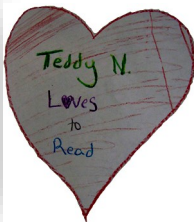


Helping me to
Understand the World
Around Me!

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN 12TH ANNUAL
PICK A READING PARTNER

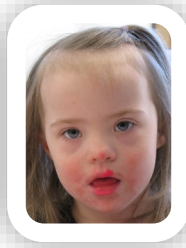


Over a
1,000
books read
by our
families
during
PARP!
Priceless!



ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN CELEBRATES
WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY 3 21

Each year, about 6,000 babies are born with Down syndrome, which is about 1 in every 700 babies born. Quality educational programs, a stimulating home environment, good health care and positive support from family, friends and the community enable people with Down syndrome to lead fulfilling and productive lives.



ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN CELEBRATES
APRIL AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

About 1 percent of the world population has an autism spectrum disorder. Prevalence in the US is estimated at 1 in 68 births. More than 3.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder. Many educational approaches can significantly improve the quality of life of persons on the autism spectrum and their families.

"Having autism doesn't mean we don't have talents, we just need you to help us discover them"

Every day is



ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN
AFFINITY MEMBERS



COMPETITION IS GOOD
competitionautogroup.com

Jim Buzzetta



The premier management service for mobile diagnostic practices

John Knab



Mark Senders



Mike Russell



Dr. & Mrs. Fred Mendelsohn

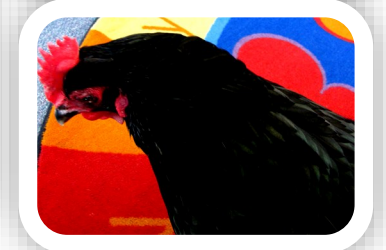
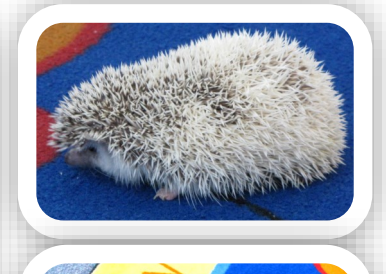
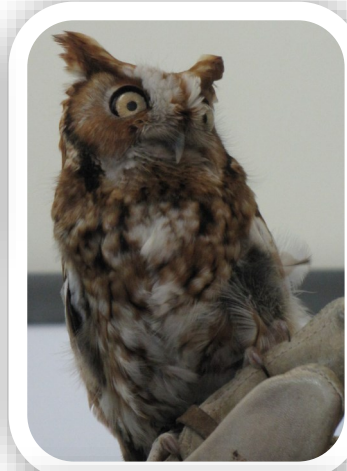


Victor Nelson

Sean, Emma & Molly

The Russell Family

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN EAST SETAUKET
SWEET BRIAR NATURE CENTER



Thanks to our friends
from the Sweet Briar
Nature Center

WHO visited our
East Setauket UPK class?
We shouldn't say WHO
because this is a screech owl
and we all know that
screech owls don't WHO -
they screech! Also pictured
a hedgehog, chicken and a
chinchilla.



Alternatives
For Children

14 Research Way
East Setauket, NY 11733
Phone 631-331-6400
www.alternativesforchildren.org
Return Service Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EAST SETAUKET, NY
PERMIT No. 5



SAVE THE DATE
13th Annual Golf Outing



Monday, June 4, 2018
Nissequogue Country Club

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN – A DAY IN THE LIFE
BUSY HANDS . . . ACTIVE MINDS . . . ACHIEVING GOALS . . . GETTING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN



Children achieving their goals through active learning and hands-on activities.
Constructing their understanding of the world through their experiences and interactions with others.

