

## **Vacation Care**

**7AM TO 6PM**  
Feb 21-24(4 days)  
April 9-13 (5 days)  
June 25-29 (5 days)  
July 2,3,5,6 (4 days)  
August 20-24 (5 days)

**10% DISCOUNT FOR ALL FIVE WEEKS**  
**10% DISCOUNT FOR SECOND CHILD**

**REGISTRATION FORMS AND RATES**  
**AVAILABLE - DECEMBER 12**



## **Emergency Closings Delayed Start or Early Release**

In the event of closings,  
events for the day will be cancelled.  
Delayed Opening is 10am and there is  
No Before School Care.

Information is available on News 12 and  
WALK Radio 97.5

You can also now check our website for  
closing information on the  
"Parents Place" page.



## **Save the Dates!**

### **Registration for the 2012-2013 School Year**

**For Families Currently Enrolled**  
**Registration Begins on January 23 at 8am**  
Look for Instructions in the January Newsletter.  
A new application packet must be submitted for children currently enrolled.  
Forms will be available in the office and on our website on January 17

**Summer Camp Registration Begins on March 7 at 9am**  
**School Age Before and After Care Registration - April**

**Registration is Open to the Public**  
**January 27 for the 2012-13 School Year**

Visit us at [newdiscoverykids.com](http://newdiscoverykids.com) - "Parent's Place"  
Down-loadable forms, news, calendars



**Or call us at 544-0830**



# How Do Children Feel About Holidays



Each day brings something new at this time of year. Adults enjoy the novelty of the holiday season. Young children, however, aren't always so sure. They do better with predictability and routine.

Quite suddenly their every day world changes: Instead of heading home after a day at New Discovery, there may be shopping trips or visits to friends. Naps may be skipped. Unfamiliar lights and decorations appear in homes, streets, and stores. Even favorite television shows are replaced by specials. And whether or not you celebrate Christmas, there is Santa Claus. He seems to be everywhere - looking very big and sometimes frightening.

However, when changes are approached gradually, children usually enjoy holiday events. Here are some suggestions that have worked for other parents:

1. Tell your son or daughter what to expect. Children do better when they know in advance what will happen. Remember, that for a four year old, last December was a quarter of a lifetime away. She may have only dim memories of what it was like. If you have family pictures from last year's celebration, show them to your child. Older children may enjoy putting the pictures in a book and dictating a story about them. By talking about special events and changes ahead of time you will make it easier for your child to know what to look for this year.
2. For the same reason, when you need to rearrange furniture for a party or put up decorations, let your child help. It will take longer, but it is worth the effort. Making the changes together helps your child understand them. It lets him know no matter what his age, that he is an important family member.
3. Children cannot help making mistakes when they are young and learning about right and wrong. Often, they worry privately about their behavior. If they are told that receiving a Hanukkah gift or present from Santa depends on whether they've been "bad or good", their worry only grows. Go easy on the idea that gifts are given only to good children.
4. If Santa is part of your celebration, remember that it's usually older children who are eager to see him in person. Many two and three year olds burst into horrified tears when told to sit on Santa's lap. Don't insist. To them he may look pretty scary up close - big and red and noisy. Often they'd rather see Santa from the safety of your arms. Respect your son or daughter's feelings. There's always next year.
5. Children enjoy life more - to say nothing of being more enjoyable themselves - if they get enough sleep. Try to avoid too many visits or special events that keep them up late. One family realized that their children were becoming overtired during the eight nights of Hanukkah. They decided to schedule some extra quiet time with their children right before bedtime. It worked. The children were able to relax and get to sleep more easily.
6. If holiday excitement does seem to overwhelm your child, make time for some calming play activities. For example, while you are busy in the kitchen, let him take his time washing some plastic cups in warm, soapy water. Playing in water is soothing and you might even end up with a few clean dishes. If you are baking cookies, give your child a lump of dough to work with. Cookie dough can be as relaxing to push and poke as play dough is.

Slowing the pace, maintaining predictability and ensuring that your children get adequate sleep and playtime can help make the holidays a bright spot in the year for the whole family.

## Reminders

For the health of the children, we ask that you do not send in sweet treats.  
Check our Healthy Snacks list in the classroom Message Center.

Closed - Dec 26 to Jan 2  
Re-Open on January 3



**Happy Holidays from the  
Staff of New Discovery**

