

Dad's Nite! Dad's Nite! Dad's Nite! Dad's Nite! Dad's Nite!

When: **6:30 to 8:30 pm, Tues. Feb. 20 or Wed. Feb. 21, 2007**

What:

Dad's, get ready for an evening of fun! We hope you can arrange your schedule now, so that you will be able to participate. Generally, the kids who attend on a Mon/Wed. schedule should bring their dads on Wed. and the Tues/Thurs.kids on Tuesday evening. This is just so that you can have an opportunity to meet some of their good friends, but please feel free to come on the night most convenient for you. Most of our children attend full time so it doesn't really matter which night you choose to attend- there will be lots of familiar faces on both nights! If you have two Montessori kids and you wish to bring each on separate nights, feel free to do that as well.

No dad in the picture? We tell the children that if "dad" can't make it for any reason, that it is fun to bring grandpa, an uncle, older brother, or even a favorite grown-up friend.

Basically, this is an "open house" kind of evening, but with lots of "hands on" learning, with your child as your teacher. You are to arrive and depart with your child; you may arrive at 6:30 and stay for the full 2 hours, or come and go on a schedule that is most convenient for you. Some dads choose to make a night of it and take their child out to dinner before or after their school visit. Wear casual clothes (we spend much of our time on the floor) and be ready to 'follow'. You will be surprised at how well your child will lead. And remember, you are not invited as an 'observer' but as a participant. Prepare for some hard work!

This is a very special evening for all of us at Montessori. The children make plans, and get excited anticipating their night with dad. We hope that our dads will jump through hoops to make it. It is usually **very** well attended. If, however, dad must be out of town or is ill, the sky will not fall. Perhaps dad can come on MOM's nite (sometimes mom and dad switch nights). It is a special night enjoyed by everyone who attends.

A few hints: Let your child lead. Be aware that there are some things in the classroom that your child is not "ready" for yet or has not yet discovered. (The age span in our classroom is 2.5 to 6, representing quite a wide range in developmental readiness and ability.) It is best to let your child make his/her own choices. S/he may be a bit intimidated by the crowd, at first. Some children are slow starters. We will be there to help and to make suggestions. The classroom will be crowded, and sometimes it is hard to get to the shelves. Try to station yourself in such a way that the children can get around you. Be aware of their movements and do your best to facilitate their efforts to get from point A to point B. Above all, relax and enjoy spending this special time with your child.

Have fun! (And, yes Mom, you'll get your turn in April)
Ginny Zuboy