

# First News First—

September-December 2013

## Welcome Back!



### DVFR Contact Info:

#### Center Coordinator

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#### Outreach Specialist

Lynne Dulin  
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#### Outreach Specialist

Tanya Hedges  
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### Locations and Hours:

#### Desert Winds Elementary

19825 N. 15th Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85027

#### New River Elementary

48827 N. Black Canyon Fwy.  
New River, AZ 85087

#### Monday-Friday

8:00a.m.- 4:30p.m.

623.445.3941 Work  
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<http://www.dvusd.org/dvfr>

Hello Deer Valley Family Resource Center Families!

We had an exciting summer full of wonderful Early Childhood Education classes for our parents and children. Thank you to everyone who attended our summer programs at Norterra Canyon School!

Please welcome our new Outreach Specialist joining the team here at the DVFRC. Her name is Tanya Hedges, and we are happy to have her with us to support our families in the North Phoenix area.

The DVFRC is pleased to share with you our first quarterly newsletter and calendar of events. In a recent survey done by First Things First, it was identified that parents preferred quarterly information rather than a monthly format. We appreciate any feedback you might have with this change, and hope you enjoy the new look of our newsletter.

Here are a few reminders to start off a new year together. The DVFRC provides **FREE** programs and services to all families with children from birth to five years old, with no income qualifications required. First Things First of Arizona strives to reach and support all of Arizona's children to ensure that they are ready for school and set for life. Children are always welcome at the DVFRC and we encourage and promote both Parent Education and Early Childhood Education in our classes. ***Please be sure to register by phone or email, as our classes fill up quickly, and we want to give every family a chance to participate.*** We also have many community partners that can provide support and resources for our families, so be sure to ask our staff if you have any needs for yourself or your young child. AHCCCS services will be provided by a bilingual assistant from the Women's Health Coalition on Mondays at our Desert Winds location and by appointment at our New River center.

Thank you for supporting the DVFRC. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

The DVFRC Staff

### Family Resource Center



FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

[www.dvusd.org/dvfr](http://www.dvusd.org/dvfr)

### Upcoming Events in our Next Quarterly Newsletter:

- Challenging Behavior classes
- Dental, hearing and vision screenings
- Bicycle Rodeo

## September 2013

### Multicultural Connections



Come explore the joy of learning about diversity with your child. This class includes stories, dress-up fun, and jewelry making. Enter to win a set of multicultural dolls to take home.

**Thursday, Sept. 5th 10:00-11:00am DW**  
**2:00-3:00pm NR**

### Raising a Reader

Prepare your child to start school ready to read and learn! This **8-week** course includes book bags to take home and ideas for fun activities for the whole family.



This class will be held at Constitution Elementary  
18440 N. 15th Avenue, Phoenix 85023

**Begins Monday, Sept. 9th 9:00-11:00am**

### Coffee Talk and Story Time

Meet your neighbors at Crossroads Apartments! Join us for great conversation, refreshments, and a story time activity for your child, including a **FREE** book!



Crossroads Apartments is located at:  
2222 W. Beardsley Road, Phoenix 85027

**Wednesday, Sept. 11th 4:00-6:00pm**

### Mud Pie Studios

Join us this month to design and create your own piggy bank! This is a great way to spend time together creating memories and masterpieces!



**Wednesday, Sept. 18th 10:00-11:00am DW**  
**1:00-2:00pm NR**

### Baby Signs

This class, designed for parents with children birth to 18 months, will teach basic sign language that you can practice at home with the whole family!



Children are welcome to attend this class; childcare will be provided.

**Thursday, Sept. 26th 10:00-11:00am DW**

### Whirly, Twirly, Flying Things!

We will design and test whirly birds, create soaring paper helicopters, and experiment with parachutes in this gravity-defying class! Children will take home their engineered creations!

Presented by The Arizona Science Center

**Friday, Sept. 27th 2:00-3:00pm DW**



## October 2013

### Flexible, Fearful or Feisty?

Participants will compare their own personality traits with their children, and gain insightful information to improve their parenting skills.

**Thursday, Oct. 3rd 10:00-11:00am DW**  
**2:00-3:00pm NR**

### Healthy Snacks



Parents and children will enjoy hands-on practice preparing and sampling healthy snacks and recipes to take home.

**Wednesday, Oct. 9th 2:00-3:00pm DW**

### Mud Pie Studios

This month we will be creating pumpkins for Fall!

**Wednesday, Oct. 16th 10:00-11:00am NR**  
**1:00-2:00pm DW**



### Natural Explorers

In this class, we will interact with and find a new appreciation for Arizona's desert landscape, and create a natural material masterpiece to take home! Presented by The Arizona Science Center



**Monday, Oct. 21st 2:00-3:00pm NR**

## November 2013

### ***Germes and Bookworms***

Show your child the importance of hand washing, good hygiene, and ways to stay healthy! Get an up close look at germs and share a fun story about a bookworm on an adventure. Each participant will receive a free book from the Arizona Science Center.

Presented by The Arizona Science Center

**Monday, Nov. 4th 2:00-3:00pm DW**



### ***Mud Pie Studios***

This November we will be creating a family plate to recognize and honor the importance of families.

**Wednesday, Nov. 6th 10:00-11:00am DW**

**1:00-2:00pm NR**



### ***Messy Fun!***

Come enjoy a fun, hands on art class and learn how to make messy, slimy Gak! Children and parents will create their own scientific goop to take home and receive other recipes for messy activities to do at home. All materials will be provided for this class.

Presented by Joy Gallagher

**Thursday, Nov. 14th 10:00-11:00am DW**

**2:00-3:00pm NR**



## December 2013

### ***Reindeer Games***

In this class we will enjoy fun activities and learn about reindeer! Make pretend reindeer food and create adorable antlers to wear home. We will also share stories about animals that live in the Arctic.

Presented by Joy Gallagher

**Thursday, Dec. 5th 10:00-11:00am DW**

**2:00-3:00pm NR**



### ***PLAY: The Science of Light and Shadow***

Explore the fascinating characteristics of light and shadow. We will discover properties using overhead light projectors; compare and contrast the translucent, transparent, and opaque materials; and write in the air with light!

Presented by The Arizona Science Center

**Monday, Dec. 9th 2:00-3:00pm DW**



### ***Mud Pie Studios***



This month we will be making mugs to take home. Children can give them as gifts or use them for hot cocoa to stay warm during the chilly winter.

**Thursday, Dec. 12th 1:00-3:00pm NR**

### ***Winter Celebration at the DVFRC***

Join us for our 2nd annual family potluck and story time to celebrate the season together. Families are welcome to bring a dish or treats to share, and our staff will provide refreshments. This event will be held at our Desert Winds location. We hope to see you there!

**Wednesday, Dec. 18th 3:30-5:00pm DW**



**Just a reminder....DVUSD Winter Break is December 23rd—January 3rd**  
**The Resource Center will be CLOSED during that time**

## Did You Know?

The classes we provide here at the DVFRC, funded by First Things First, have become increasingly popular because they are fun and provide a great interactive experience. It is important to remind families that our classes are enriching their child's early learning in the most critical developmental stages, birth to five years old.

### Why focus on Early Childhood?

**Science:** 90% of a child's brain is formed by the time they turn five. The brain connections made during early childhood lay the foundation for success in school and in life.

**School Success:** Children exposed to high quality early education are less likely to need special education or be held back a grade. They have better language, math and social skills. They score higher on school readiness tests and are more likely to go on to college and successful careers.

**Economics:** Research shows that for every \$1 invested in early childhood services, states could have between \$4 and \$16 in reduced special education, welfare and juvenile justice costs.

For more information, please visit [www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)



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