

Celebration of Life

Children love to celebrate their birthdays with their friends. At Abner we have a special birthday ceremony, the "Celebration of Life", in which we, or the parent(s)/child, tell the class the story of the child's life. It is especially nice to send in a special snack in honor of your child's birthday. We ask that you please keep it healthy.

General Instructions:

The CELEBRATION OF LIFE is a wonderful way to celebrate a birthday by honoring a child's life and accomplishments. A few days before your child's birthday you will be given a set of picture frames. Please put one birth photo, one at 1-year-old, one at 2 years old, etc., in the appropriate frames. The story of your child's life will be read during the celebration. The following is a basic example of the story. You may change and add to this story as you need too. Please let your child participate in selecting pictures and writing his or her life story.

How It's Performed:

The celebration is performed with all students sitting in a circle in the classroom. A candle is lit to represent the moment of birth. Someone, either a teacher or you, will read the The Story of the Child aloud. After each year is read, the child walks once around the circle to represent each year of his/her life. The children sing the corresponding verse of the song and a candle is lit each time he/she walks around the sun. At the end of the story, your child will blow out the candles while the children give one clap each time one is blown out. This is followed by making a silent wish and the class singing Happy Birthday.

At the end of the celebration the child may serve a special treat. Please bring a treat that is easy to pass and eat because it is served on the circle. Some suggestions for healthy treats are: pretzels, corn chips, goldfish crackers, oatmeal or chocolate chip cookies, fruit, rice crispy treats, crackers and cheese, pudding cups, ice cream cups or Jell-O jigglers. Let your child help decide. Please avoid cakes and cupcakes because they are very messy.

The Celebration of Life is a very special occasion to honor your child's life. You are welcome to join the celebration by reading your child's story. If you aren't able to attend, the teacher will read it. In either case, thank you for your help in making your child's celebration a meaningful and memorable event.

THE STORY OF _____

When _____ was born on _____ in _____ (city and state) he/she had to be held and taken care of all the time, couldn't talk to tell mom or dad what was needed, had to wear diapers, drank lots of milk and slept most of the time. By 6 months _____ could sit up all by his/herself and was trying to talk and ate baby food instead of milk.

(pause for the song)

When _____ was 1 year old, he/she learned to walk with help, play with toys, he/she loved _____ and _____ and could use two or three words to ask for what he/she needed or wanted.

(pause for the song)

At 2 years old, _____ learned to use the potty! He/She started to _____. His/her favorite things were _____.

(pause for the song)

When _____ was 3 years old, he/she started here at Abner Montessori School Primary. He/she could talk in whole sentences, run, ride a tricycle, and loved doing _____ work. At home, he/she helped by _____.

(pause for song)

(Add Verses as Necessary pausing for song in between for parts)

And now, _____ is _____ years old! He/she can all by his/herself! His/her favorite color is _____, favorite food is _____, favorite thing to do is _____.