## ARENTS AS TEACHERS

#### Partner-Facilitate-Reflect



How to Get Toddlers to Follow Directions



<u>KU Powwow & Indigenous</u> <u>Cultures Festival</u>

April 12th



Baryard Babies Family Festival

April 26th



## **Contact Information: Elizabeth Durkin**

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## **PAT Calendar:**





## Join us for these upcoming PAT programs and

Spring is here, and we're excited to explore gardening this month at CTEC for daytime groups! Join us as we dig into fun, hands-on activities that celebrate the season.

We also have two special events that require registration this month:

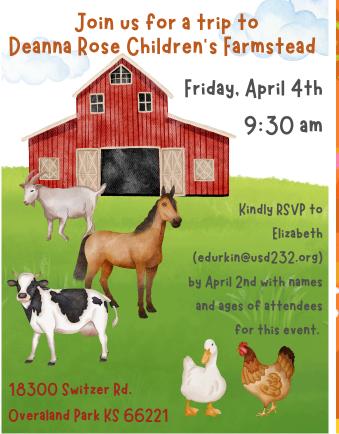
#### Deanna Rose Farmstead – Friday, April 4th at 9:30 AM

Families will meet at Deanna Rose Farmstead, and our group will enter together at 9:30 AM. It's a great opportunity for little ones to experience farm life up close!

### CTEC Art Night - Week of the Young Child

Celebrate creativity with us at CTEC's Family Art Night! Enjoy a night of artistic fun while supporting the USD 232 Early Childhood Program. Dinner and raffle tickets will be available for purchase.

For more details and to register, check out the flyers below. We look forward to seeing you in April!







# **Engaging Babies and Toddlers in Growing Activities**

Spring is the perfect time to introduce your little one to the wonders of gardening! Engaging babies and toddlers in gardening activities not only sparks their curiosity about nature but also helps develop their fine motor skills, sensory awareness, and patience. Here are some simple ways to get started:

**Sensory Play with Soil** – Let your child explore soil with their hands, feeling its texture and discovering tiny roots and worms. Using a small shovel or simply digging with fingers can be a fun and educational experience.

**Planting Seeds Together** – Choose fast-growing plants like sunflowers, beans, or herbs. Show your child how to drop seeds into the soil and water them. Watching seeds sprout can be magical for little ones!

**Watering Fun** – Toddlers love to help! Give them a small watering can or spray bottle so they can help water plants. This activity teaches responsibility while also being a fun way to cool off on warm days.

**Explore Garden Visitors** – Point out butterflies, bees, and worms, explaining their role in helping plants grow. Even a small flower pot on a patio can attract interesting insects to observe.

Gardening with young children is about exploration, not perfection. Whether you're planting a full garden or just a few pots on the porch, the experience of nurturing plants together will create lasting

