

# BASA: North

Oak Park Elementary

3395 Dairy Road, Titusville, Fl. 32796

<http://sacc.brevardschools.org/21CCLC/ZooSouth/default.aspx>

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Dear Parents,

The holidays are just around the corner. We want to welcome all our new families to the program. Our students and 4-H have filled the flower beds and will be ready for planting this month. Just a reminder that on December 16, 2015, you will need to dress your children accordingly because they may get a little messy planting vegetables in the garden.

We have such exciting things happening this month including excellent partners that have joined our program to give all our students the best learning experience while they are here. We have the 4-H, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts just to name a few.

Thank you so much for allowing us to enjoy your children this month. Have a happy and safe holiday season!!

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## Inquiring Minds

Inquiring Minds will be the theme for all of our activities when we return from the winter break. Students will work through challenges in hopes of earning badges as they complete tasks and projects. The challenges have been designed with the help of the Brevard Zoo and Brevard Cultural Alliance, and are all related to Inquiring Minds theme.

## Brevard After School Website

Don't forget to go to the Brevard After School 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC website to get the latest information including newsletters, pictures of students completing challenges, workshop schedules and information, and updates from the Semi-Annual Advisory Board Meetings.

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**We are all like a snowflake in our own different way.**  
-Unknown

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## Upcoming Events

### December 8

Adult Workshop-5:15pm-5:45pm

### December 16

4-H – Planting Flower Beds

### December 21

Winter Break-Student Holiday

### January 5

Student's Return to School

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## What you can do to promote early learning

1. Play with your child and provide opportunities for them to play. Play is essential for healthy brain development.
2. Turn off the TV. A young child's brain is largely shaped by his/her development. Children need activities that stimulate the frontal lobe by involving all the senses, not just passive viewing.
3. Read and talk to your child. Phonemic awareness of sound comes from listening to the human voice.
4. Model the joy of learning and discovery. Go to parks, the beach, zoos and take children on walks. These types of activities stimulate early learning.
5. Connect with your child. Connections boost children's brain potential, encourages cooperation, promotes learning and literacy, increases attention, decreases power struggles and builds loving bonds.

Becky Bailey

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