

## Bottles, Breast Milk and Formula

Milk is precious nourishment for infants and toddlers. It needs to be handled with care. To eliminate giving children milk that is not their own specific milk, the following procedures MUST be followed:

### Bottles

- Parents and teachers are ultimately accountable to make sure that all bottles and formula are labeled correctly. Teachers will double check that the bottles brought in each morning are labeled with your child's name.
- Please hand your labeled bottles to the infant teacher or the Director- NO EXCEPTIONS! Teachers need to check the bottles for the labels, also, this ensures the bottles were not forgotten at home.
- Bottles will be heated in a container of hot water. Microwaves create hot spots in food and drinks and could burn a child; therefore, microwaves are not used.
- Used bottles must go home each day and clean bottles brought in each day.
- One bottle shall be provided and must remain at the center, in case bottles are forgotten. This will allow time for the parent to return home to get clean bottles for the day.

### Breast Milk

- All bottles must be labeled with your child's name. Parents need to be responsible for putting the labels on bottles containing breast milk, each day (or labeling all bottles with their child's name using a permanent marker). Teachers are ultimately accountable to make sure that breast milk is labeled correctly.
- All breast milk bottles will be placed in a refrigerator until time to serve. This ensures the safety of the breast milk for your child. Extra packages of frozen breast milk can be provided, and will be thawed as needed for your child. Please label any packages of frozen breast milk with your child's name.
- All teachers will check the bottle labels each and every time before feeding any child. Bottles can get moved around, so teachers double check
- Discard leftover breast milk immediately after feeding because bacteria from the infant's mouth contaminate the milk and can make the infant sick. For the health of the child -do not re-use the leftovers.
- All bottles must go home at the end of the day and fresh bottles brought in each day.

## Formula

- If your child is using formula, we will mix your child's bottles at the center. Please do not bring in any pre-mixed bottles. Beautiful Beginnings provides Parent's Choice Iron Fortified formula at no charge. We mix all bottles with nursery water. Parent's can choose to provide a different brand of formula for their child, if preferred.
- Teachers will discard leftover formula immediately after feeding because bacteria from the baby's mouth could contaminate the formula. After a bottle has touched a child's mouth, bacteria can grow and multiply; therefore, for the health of the your child, we do not re-use the leftovers.
- All used bottles must go home everyday and clean bottles brought in each day.

## Special Circumstances

- Beautiful Beginnings understands that children can have special circumstances. If you child needs a specific type of formula or a special "mixture" of breast milk and formula- we can accommodate. Please let the teacher know your child's needs. Medications will need to have written documentation from your child's physician. Please feel free to discuss any concerns with your child's teacher or the Director.

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I have read the policy explained above and feel comfortable with the expectations for both parents and staff in my child's room, related to bottles and feeding.

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_