Your child life specialist is:

_____

and can be reached this way:

_____

_____

Hasbro Children's Hospital
The Pediatric Division of Rhode Island Hospital
A Lifespan Partner

Child Life Department
Hasbro Children's Hospital
593 Eddy Street, Providence, RI 02903
401-444-8278
www.HasbroChildrensHospital.org/services/childlife

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Child Life Department

Play with a Purpose

Hasbro Children's Hospital
The Pediatric Division of Rhode Island Hospital
A Lifespan Partner

Advancing Medicine. Touching Lives.

A child's hospital experience can be overwhelming for both the child and the entire family. The child life specialists at Hasbro Children's Hospital are here to support children and families through this experience by using their knowledge of child development to reduce stress and enhance coping skills.

Our Staff

Child life specialists are certified professionals who are educated at the bachelor's or master's level in child life, child development or related fields.

The Goals of the Child Life Department:

- To encourage children and adolescents to maintain a sense of independence, self-esteem and control, as well as to provide an outlet for expression of their feelings
- To reduce the potential stress associated with the medical experience through education at a developmentally appropriate level
- To reestablish familiar routines, which can be developmentally important and may be disrupted within the confines of the medical environment
- To listen and advocate for family centered care

The Role of the Child Life Specialist:

As an integral member of the health care team, the child life specialist's role includes:

- **Preparation** – to help children understand what will happen in the hospital at a developmentally appropriate level.
- **Procedural Support** – to practice distraction and relaxation techniques to ease pain and enhance coping skills.
- **Medical Play** – to encourage children to express fears, discuss misconceptions about the hospital and to gain a sense of control.
- **Play** – to offer a positive, yet familiar experience that provides continued growth and development, as well as the opportunity for self expression.
- **Programming** – to facilitate and support therapeutic activities such as creative arts, animal visiting, computers and many other programs.
- **Special Events** – to coordinate birthday and holiday celebrations, in addition to visits from special guests.
- **Supervision** – to train and mentor child life students, as well as play area volunteers.

Child Life Services

The child life department is part of child life services at Hasbro Children's Hospital. Child life services also includes hospital school. Child life services assists pediatric patients and their families during hospitalization and is located throughout the hospital. Members of child life services collaborate with multiple health care professionals to best serve patient needs.

For more information regarding the child life department, please call (401) 444-8278 or visit our website at www.HasbroChildrensHospital.org/services/childlife.