

THE MAKING
OF A HIP-HOP
REPUBLICAN

BALLET TO BASEBALL:
FUN STUFF FOR ALL
KINDS OF KIDS

CHRISTIE TAYLOR
WANTS YOU TO BE
MORE CURIOUS

GAME. SET. MATCH.
THE EVERYTHING
GUIDE TO TENNIS

Charlotte[®]

CHEAP EATS!

58
Places Where You
Can Eat Well and
Spend Less



PLUS
4 GREAT TAQUERIAS
CHEAP WINE EVERY NIGHT


AND
NOW SERVING GREAT FOOD:
JAKE'S GOOD EATS
& BASIL THAI p. 80

June 2009

www.charlottemagazine.com

\$3.95

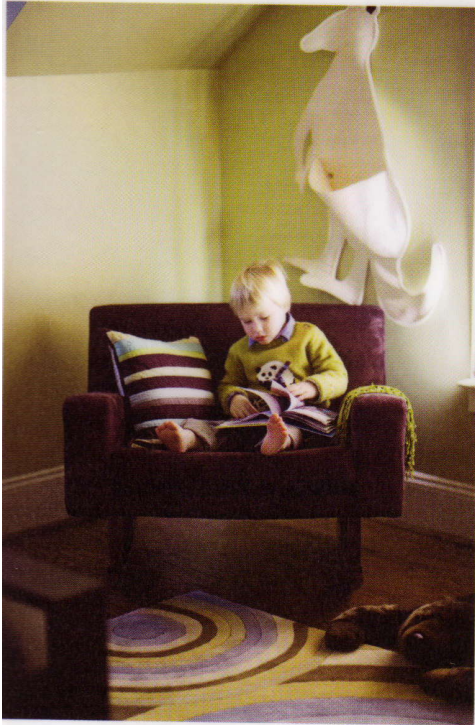




Get the look (for less!)

Keim's husband and painter, Keith, cut out and painted the trees behind the beds. Artwallprojects, at Etsy.com, offers several vinyl art decals for a mere \$25. The best part? They're removable and won't damage the wall or leave behind a sticky residue.

For the ultrahip mom and tot: ohdeedoh.com • For great furniture and accessory finds: yokiddo.com >>>



This page: Another starting point for three-year-old Jack's bedroom was the stuffed animal heads, says Keim. From there, Keim worked with the homeowners to establish a simple, graphic, and organic look, which meant a color scheme of greens, blues, and browns and pulling from Lucy and company's showroom. The beds, chair, and side table are from Nurseryworks and the dresser is from Duc Duc; both lines are available at the Dilworth store.

Opposite: Beth Keim, co-owner of Lucy and Company, looked to HGTV for inspiration—she'd seen something similar on the show and then had her husband, Keith, cut out the trees on medium density fiberboard, painted them, and affixed them to the wall to add another layer to the room.



Animal Instincts

When Joni Shoemake first approached Beth Keim of design firm Lucy and Company about transitioning her then two-year-old son Jack's bedroom from a traditional nursery to a clean, modern outdoor/animal theme, Keim was ecstatic. "Lucy and Company does so many girls rooms," says Keim, "because, let's face it, girls are more into decorating their rooms than boys." To start, Keim and Shoemake decided on a color scheme—greens, blues, and browns, which led Keim to pick the bold, graphic rug by Chandra as the starting point for the room's look. Keim then pulled from the plethora of products and furniture she has in stock in her Dilworth showroom to create the room's graphic and organic look—the beds, chair, and side tables from Nurseryworks and the dresser from Duc Duc. "If you can't do it all at once," says Keim, "start with the key pieces—bed, rug, dresser, then paint. With those pieces in place you can add to it—a good lamp, a side chair, window treatments." Simple bed linens and pillows from Linensource and Paper Cloud round out the look.

KID STUFF

Find inspiration for bedding, furniture, décor, and more at these favorite sites devoted to everything kid.

»» KEEP 'EM BUSY

Rock It Out

Charlotte's **Paul Green School of Rock**

offers two two-week summer camp sessions where kids will learn ten classic rock songs in ten days and then perform them as a band for parents and friends at a real-life music show.

From 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day, Monday through Friday, they'll get instruction in guitar, bass, drums, vocals, and keyboards from professional musicians. For the camp, which costs \$900 a session, attendees need to be at least advanced

beginners in their chosen instrument.

5533 Westpark Dr.,
704-525-5857,
schoolofrock.com



»» PINT-SIZED DÉCOR

Hip Habitat

Your hipster will dig the aesthetic at **lucy and company**, where designer Beth Keim can help you put together the coolest room in the neighborhood. She eschews cutesy themes and pastel colors for a bold, graphic look. Keim's husband, artist Keith Keim, creates the hand-painted wall treatments, which often mimic the pattern on a window treatment or bedspread. A lucy and company room isn't cheap, though, often running between \$4,000 and \$10,000, but it will include furniture and accessories your children can take with them into their teen years and beyond.

Keep Your Eyes Peeled For: One-of-a-kind works of art that Keim creates by enlarging a black-and-white photo of your child onto a three-by-four-foot stretched canvas and then painting the background with watercolor. Consider it the first piece in your kid's art collection. 1009 East Blvd., 704-342-6655, lucyandcompany.com

»» PARTY TIME!

Artistic Bent

The cool kids are always looking for the latest trends, and **Dish It Out** is now offering a new take on the artistic birthday party theme. It still has the old standard paint-your-own-pottery party, but at a glass-fusing fest kids can take a blank glass form—say, a square plate or a nightlight cover—and add small pieces of colorful glass that are later fused on to create a fun and funky design. Have your party at one of two locations for the cost of the glass form (\$16 and up, each) plus a flat fee of \$25 for ten or fewer guests, and \$50 for eleven or more. *Stonecrest*, 7828-C Rea Rd., 704-544-4848; 117 Middleton Dr., 704-333-1199, dishitout.net

Fruiti Sushi

- 1 3/4 cups Rice Chex® cereal (gluten free)
- 1 cup white vanilla baking chips
- 4 rolls Betty Crocker® Fruit Roll-Ups® chewy fruit snack (any favorite flavor; from 5-ounce box), unwrapped
- 12 candy worms

- 1 Place cereal in resealable food-storage plastic bag; seal bag and crush with fingers to make 3/4 cup.
- 2 In medium microwavable bowl, microwave baking chips as directed on package until melted and stirred smooth. Add crushed cereal; stir until well coated.
- 3 Unroll fruit snack rolls. For each sushi roll, spread 1/4 of cereal mixture on snack roll to within 1/2 inch of one short side. Arrange three candy worms, side by side, on cereal-covered short side.
- 4 Starting with short side topped with candy worms, roll up each snack roll tightly, pressing unfilled short side of roll to seal. Let sushi rolls stand 5 to 10 minutes or until firm. Cut each roll into four slices. Store loosely covered.



