

The Growing Times



May 2023



Dates & Reminders

May 17 - Board meeting 5:30 @ICDC

May 22 - Victoria Day, ICDC Closed

News from the Rooms

Atelier

The children continued their exploration of natural clay that I had introduced in March. Some of the younger children lost interest but the older ones began to create pottery and then allowed it to dry and paint the following week. The last week of April I provided them with beautiful glass tiles and jewels to decorate their masterpieces.

I changed around the environment of the atelier. I set up different areas for the children to partake in multiple experiences including easels, water table, puzzle area, loose parts tinker area, and quiet nook with library books. The children seem to love it.

I began adding vinegar and baking soda for the children to explore. This began a whole interest in making concoctions and potions as well as different types of doughs.

For May I plan on doing Atelier outdoors! I have plans on creating centres that allow children to follow their learning schemas of transporting, transforming, trajectory, rotation & circularity, enclosing & enveloping. To help me achieve this goal I have created a list of items. I am hoping families will have items at home and can donate them to the centre. This list will be sent out on HiMama.



Room 2

We are excited for the month of May and to celebrate Mother's Day. The children will make cards and some kind of gift for moms. The children will also explore nature by collecting leaves, flowers and twigs. We will also go for walks. The children will learn by experimenting with sowing seeds, watering and seeing them germinate and grow. Last month they enjoyed the Easter activities and bunny songs. We will be looking at books based on the children's interests, as well as those related to bugs, birds, and plants. We will be celebrating June's birthday this month, we wish her all the very best!



Spring Outdoor Wear

Please make sure your child has:

- Sun hat
- Sunscreen (give to room educators)
- Outdoor footwear (shoes & rainboots)
- Spring coat, maybe with a sweater for the mornings

STRONGLY recommended splash pants and rain coat or a "Muddy Buddy" (full suit that goes over a sweater and clothes)



Room 1

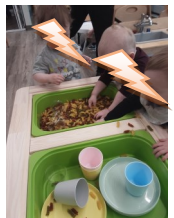
This month we welcome a new baby to Room 1!

With spring being here we have been going outside on a lot of stroller walks. The children have been able to see more and more geese that are returning from their migration. During these daily walks the children have started to honk with the geese.

The babies current interests are putting shoes on and singing songs. Putting shoes on by themselves involves the use of fine motor skills. We have provided activities that can further develop this skill like drawing with markers, making art using stamping markers, and gluing small items.

Another interest is singing. Some of the children are singing songs themselves and requesting for the teachers to sing. Our current songs of interest are 'The Wheels On The Bus', 'Itsy Bitsy Spider' and 'Baba Black Sheep'.

We look forward to more warmer days!



News from the Rooms

Room 4

Every child is unique and so is their culture. In order to celebrate the cultural diversity in Room 4 we are introducing a Cultural Corner. Parents and staff are requested to share any elements of their cultural heritage with the class. We invite families to bring in toys, children's clothes, books, musical instruments, or anything else specific to your culture. We are starting show and tell on Fridays, children are invited to bring in an item they would like to share with the class. We ask that you put your child's name on it, so it does not get lost or mixed up.

A friendly reminder that apart from show and tell we request that toys not be brought into the centre. If your child brings one, please take it with you after dropping them off. We want to assure that nothing is lost or broken. We cannot keep track and be responsible for all the home toys. Stuffed/ comfort items for naptime are permitted. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



Room 3

We welcomed Spring with great excitement. As the weather got warmer children were delighted to enjoy the puddles and muddy playground. They jumped, splashed and got their hands all in mud to explore and connect with nature. Besides outdoor experiences we provided some indoor activities that could bring exploration and learning. We added Spring materials to their water and sand play. These items can help them relate to Spring such as flowers, shovels, buckets, and worms. We provided art materials to create their own caterpillar, after reading "The Hungry Caterpillar". We also did a science experiment using coloured water and celery stalks. We watched the celery leaves absorb the colours from the water and change their colour. We have been playing memory games with the little ones for their brain development. As the weather takes its turn please make sure our children are well equipped for outdoor play experiences throughout the day. Thanks!



Room 5

In the past month we explored pirates! We created an ocean/desert Island dramatic play area with boats to support the children's imagination. They created treasure maps in the art centre and embarked on a hunt around the classroom to find coins! We provided books based on ships and encouraged the children to use the large building blocks to create their own ships. Lastly, many sensory bins were put out, including a water/ship bin where the children learnt what floats. We did many dance parties! We reintroduced a quiet time to encourage children to have a brain break. During this time we started listening to audio books, their favourites are Captain Dream Beard and The History of the Transformers. Show and tell has been quite a hit! As we jump into dinosaurs for our next inquiry we encourage parents to come into the classroom to see our learning and discoveries. We are starting Zumbini on Fridays that we think the children will really enjoy! This month Stella has a birthday on May 14 that we will celebrate!

