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Growing Highlights

March 2023

Dear Families,

It is only March but we have started planning for our Summer Program! You should have received a survey asking about your summer plans. The survey is due back **Friday, March 10th**. It will be very important for you to get that back to us on time, as we have never been this full. If we do not receive it back in time, then I will assume you no longer need care.

Every April we celebrate **WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD!** This year the dates are **April 3rd - April 7th**. The teachers came up with some fun activities to celebrate your children! We do need your help with one of our activities. We are asking each family to donate a white t-shirt that will fit your child. We need to have all the shirts to the classroom teachers by Monday, March 27th.

Here is what is coming your way the week of April 3rd:

Multicolor Monday: *We will be tie-dying all the t-shirts that are brought in for the children!*

Tasty Tuesday: *Join your child for breakfast from 7am-9am. Grandma's House will provide the breakfast.*

Wacky Wednesday: *Wear your wackiest outfit to school!*

Jammies and Jams Thursday: *Mrs. Ryan will be here to do music with us so wear your favorite pjs!*

Unity Friday: *We will all wear our tie-dye shirts to school and take a center wide walk together (if the weather permits).*

All week long each classroom will have a sign-up sheet on their parent board. We would love to have family members come in and read their child's favorite story to the class. If this is something you are not able to do, please bring your child's favorite book and your classroom teacher will read it to the class during their group time.

Please see me with any questions.

Thanks,
Jess Strick, Director

jess@grandmashouse.org



- | | |
|----|--------------|
| 3 | Violet L. |
| 4 | Noah F. |
| 4 | Emma F. |
| 4 | Reyna C. |
| 4 | Casey H. |
| 7 | Quinn A. |
| 7 | Elowen V. |
| 8 | Ms. Claudia |
| 11 | Jayce T. |
| 11 | Norah H. |
| 12 | Parker H. |
| 12 | Noah S. |
| 13 | Hazel K. |
| 17 | Shepard N. |
| 17 | Camila Z. |
| 17 | Ms. Jade |
| 18 | Riley M. |
| 19 | Solomon S. |
| 20 | Lucy L. |
| 22 | Paisley B. |
| 24 | Jack I. |
| 24 | Ms. Drea |
| 25 | Ellis K. |
| 27 | Anabelle B. |
| 29 | Alexander S. |

CONGRATULATIONS

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Jennie 8 Years

Ms. Abby 1 Year

Scholastic Book Orders ~ Now Online!

PLEASE HELP US EARN NEW BOOKS FOR THE BEDTIME BOOK CORNER

It's book order time. You are welcome to order as much or as little as you would like.

Orders can be placed online. Go to scholastic.com/bookclubs. You will set up an account in which they will ask for our Center Code: **JC8WF**. Books can be ordered and paid for online and will arrive at the center 1-2 weeks after the due date.

*Book orders are due by **Monday, March 20.***

Reminder, our center earns books each time you order.



Babyland

Spring is almost here! This is a time we look forward to as we get to go outside for more buggy rides. On these adventures, we are exposing the infants to new sights, sounds, and smells. As always, we are constantly bringing in new toys and sensory objects for exploration. Something you may not know...we love to sing songs and clap

Creative Colors

With winter still sticking around for a while, we have been focusing on more and more indoor activities to keep us busy. Our first focus was working on holding child safety scissors properly with teachers help. We then started to cut scrap pieces of paper with help from a teacher. We all did a very nice job for our first try. We will be practicing lots more

for/with the babies to introduce literacy and rhythm. We also sing songs using your child's name to encourage looking/responding to their name. It is exciting when they begin to recognize their names. Speaking of names, we would like to welcome our new friends to the Grandma's House family! We look forward to helping everyone grow!

Infants, Ms. Holly & Ms. Nikki

DJ's

May the luck of the green and gold be with us this month for warmer weather with plenty of sunshine so we can go outside more. This past month we worked on *using spoons with our meals* by giving the children a spoon to hold while eating and sometimes they try to use the spoon with our help. When we are playing with the children we ask them to hand us items they are playing with and tell them thank you when they give us the item is another focus we are on; *gives item to adult upon request*. We have lots of fun and laughter in our classroom! Hip, Hip Hooray, warmer weather is on it's way!

Older Infants, Ms. Denise & Mr. Jared

Busy Bees

Our classroom has been buzzing around during our Shape and Letter unit. We have been focusing on using our words through sign language, such as "more", "please", and "thank you". We brought

later in the month. Our next focus (which quickly became a class favorite) was stringing beads onto a string or pipe cleaner to create bracelets. Another focus that we worked on this month was matching shapes. We did this by having the children find the match to each shape like the game memory. Lastly, our final focus that we are always working on is taking off and putting on our own shoes with very little assistance from a teacher.

2 1/2's, Ms. Jennie & Ms. Janell

Clever Cacti

We have been pushing through this cold weather in hopes that warmer weather will soon be here! This past month we did a Friendship theme and a Health/Doctor theme. During our Friendship theme, we worked on our scissor skills by cutting hearts in half. We also worked on gross motor skills as we practiced catching a big ball with our classmates. You can work on scissor skills at home with your child by having them cut out their favorite things in an old catalog or magazine. During our Health/Doctor theme, we graphed our favorite fruits and vegetables, experimented with vinegar and baking soda and we worked on learning our first and last name. We also learned about different professions in the Health and Medical field. With the warmer weather approaching comes lots of puddles and rain. Please be sure to have extra clothes available in your child's cubby.

3's, Ms. Cassidy & Ms. Ashley

new items and textures into our sensory bucket to explore, such as soft letters, noodles, and scoopers. This past month we focused on Red, Pink, and Hearts. We participated in a cooking project where we dumped, poured, and stirred ingredients to make chocolate pudding. Yum! We enjoyed an art activity, one you can do at home, a heart collage. We cut a giant heart out of contact paper and allowed the children to place tissue paper onto the sticky side of contact paper. This activity focuses on strengthening fine motor skills. We are looking forward to the warmer weather.

Toddlers, Ms Lori & Ms. Tasha

Forest Friends

March is here already! We are ready for Spring to be here! We have been busy with tunnels, dancing, and playing in the gym. We have been working on following simple directions by staying at the table and putting our cups and spoons away after snacks and lunch. We are also working on solving simple problems by putting shapes into the correct spot in the shape sorter. This past month the children enjoyed playing with snow and scooping it into containers. We also enjoyed exploring Playdoh. In March, we will focus on using our words more during our Spring theme. We are looking forward to the warmer weather so we can get outside more.

Older Toddlers, Ms. Ezzy & Ms. Bree

Flamingos

We have had so much fun in the month of February we do not want it to end. We had a great time at the Valentine's party where family members were able to come and join in on the fun! We went to play at Kids in Motion, and we got to talk to a dentist about how to keep our teeth clean. We dressed up all fancy to go to the Art Museum and look at fancy art, we even got to make a creation of our own. The class always gets super excited when we do the Today We Board because they get to help pick out what their homework assignments are going to be and they love coming back to school the next day to tell their teachers all about how they completed their homework. We are going strong at working on self-help skills making sure we are using our words if we need a teacher's help. Another skill we are working on is lacing really working on those fine motor skills. It is simple and easy to do at home, just using string and hole punching and having your child weave the string through the holes. Another activity we are working on is writing words, names, and letters. At school we have words laminated for the children to write on or for them to take and practice at the table with a pencil and paper. Super simple at home and they enjoy when they are able to get a letter. We cannot wait to see what March brings for us. And what homework assignments we will have next.

4's, Ms. Brittnee & Ms. Diane

Puddle Ducks

We are almost into Spring – we can't wait! We still get out fairly often-twice a day when it's warm enough-but we are looking forward to packing away boots, snowpants, and mittens. We had 2 inquiries these last few weeks – chairs and cardboard. Interestingly, they overlapped occasionally – for example, when we painted and collaged on cardboard chairs. The Puddle Ducks sat in chairs and painted with their feet, moved the chairs into different arrangements, and we looked around the center for chairs (we found a lot!). We read books with chairs; *Mama Zooms* and *Peter's Chair*. Boxes have many uses – they can be used to make rolling golf ball paintings, small boxes can hold small things, and big boxes can hold big things like Puddle Ducks! You can even have snack in a box. Our next inquiries will be water and rocks. I wonder how they will overlap?? Hmm...

Have a marvelous March!

Almost Two's, Ms. Cat

Honey Hive

Our Honey Hive has been buzzing with excitement during these new lessons! Our friends really enjoyed learning about Forest Friends and Friendship & Love. We have been focusing on jumping and stacking blocks. As a family you can practice both of these at home by making a game of jumping around the house or

4K

In February, we started a Very Important Person week for each student. This is a great way for the students to feel extra special and become a leader within the classroom. During this week, the family is in charge of planning some fun activities. Activities can include favorite book, baby and family pictures, playlist of their favorite songs, even a guest speaker. In our class, the student gets to be the "teacher" and call classmates for transitions. They also get to choose stories to be read, and they are in charge of sharing their poster with the class. The possibilities are endless.

Starting in February and continuing into March, our class is having a music unit. I get so excited about teaching this unit! To be honest with you, I don't even know how to play an instrument. I really enjoy watching the class explore with, test out, and listen to the sounds of all different instruments. I also get excited to teach the students about the different genres of music. This unit opens the classroom up to guest speakers. In the past, I have had parents, grandparents, siblings, and other teachers share their special musical talents. Lastly, I think our music field trip is the most rewarding of all. We collaborate with a high school band class. This year we are going to Pewaukee High School. The big kids perform a few songs and then we check out their instruments close up.

4K, Ms. Holly L.

outside and by seeing how tall of a tower you can build stacking blocks. We have been very interested in baking and animals/pets. These will be our next units. Be on the lookout for a message about sending in pictures of your animals. We look forward to telling you about our new adventures.

2's, Ms. Amanda & Ms. Rina