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Growing Highlights

FEBRUARY 2025



National Wear Red Day is
Friday, February 7,
a day to raise awareness for
women's heart health.

Hi Families,

Who else was ready for January to be over?? We had some crazy weather, a little snow here and there, some much needed sun and warm weather right before a cold snap that forced us to stay inside for days. We welcome the calm and quiet of February. We did a big center move up and the children are settling in nicely in their new rooms with their new teachers and routines.

Thank you to everyone who submitted a family survey. We got a lot of great feedback and we will continue to work on communicating through the app with daily messages and photos of daily activities.

February will bring lots of class parties for Valentine's Day-be on the lookout for classroom sign ups!

Finally, it is our number one priority is to keep everyone in our care safe. When children are being dropped off, all children should remain with their parents until they are marked into their classrooms. Once you come to pick up your child at the end of the day, your child (or children) should remain with you until you leave the building. This means that children should not be running in and out of rooms or left unattended-even if they are in infant car seats. To make sure everyone is accounted for at all times, please make sure your children are with you at all times.

Thanks,
Claire Cramton, Director
claire@grandmashouse.org

Year End Expense Statement Request



| | |
|----|--------------|
| 2 | Billy M. |
| 8 | Ana Lucia O. |
| 8 | Samantha N. |
| 10 | Ms. Emma |
| 11 | Charlotte L. |
| 11 | Charles M. |
| 11 | Ms. Sam |
| 12 | Ivy K. |
| 12 | Cecelia T. |
| 13 | Henry G. |
| 21 | Cameron P. |
| 24 | Jackson K. |
| 26 | Desmond P. |

CONGRATULATIONS
on celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Abbie 4 Years

Ms. Annette 1 Year

Look What We Did!

Young Infants

The babies in our room have been working hard on their developmental skills this past month and they are now rolling, sitting by themselves, and some are even eating food! We will continue to promote these growing skills in the coming months. In January, our lesson plans focused on different types of Food and Polar Animals. During our Food lesson plan, we read a lot of books in both English and Spanish! We read "Growing Vegetable Soup/A Sembrar Sopa de Verduras" by Lois Ehlert and "Green is a Chile Pepper/El Chile es Verde" by Roseanne Greenfield Thong. We also worked on our fine motor skills by playing with Velcro snap fruits and veggies and worked on pulling them apart/putting them back together! During our Polar Animals lesson plan, we listened to arctic wind sounds and read a lot about polar bears. One of our lesson plans for the month of February will focus on all different Colors and we plan to do some colorful art projects. Finally, if you ever have any questions or concerns, we are always available via the app or at pick up/drop off. Have a wonderful February

Middle Toddlers

We had a lot of fun last month learning about winter and animals. This month we will be learning about bath time and friendship. We are excited to give baby dolls baths with sponges and to make chocolate covered strawberries. We encourage social and emotional development by demonstrating acts of kindness such as hugs and using words like "soft touches". On Valentine's Day, we will be having our friendship party. Families are welcome to join and feel free to check our bulletin board to sign up to bring a snack or treat. Please reach out with any questions. Have a safe and healthy month.

Ms. Kam and Ms. Aliyah

Older Toddlers

We hope everyone had a wonderful start to the New Year and a great January. We are excited to announce that Ms. Pakou is out on maternity leave as she welcomes her baby girl! Ms. Drea will be joining us

and stay warm!

Ms. Liz and Ms. Netzy

Infants

We hope everyone is having a great start to 2025 and keeping warm through these brisk months. A friendly reminder to please wash your child's hands upon arrival. This past month our lesson plan themes were "balls" and "first words and letters." We explored many different things that were round, different sports that require balls (round and not round), and held different kinds of sports balls and compared textures. We are also exploring our ABC's and learning about different "firsts" like learning our first sign or our first animal sound. Some of our portfolio focuses this month include learning how to give things upon request like a pacifier or an empty bottle and interacting in games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake. If you're ever curious about what our friends are learning throughout the day, be sure to check out our daily messages, whiteboard, or ask us at pick up or drop off! We continue to value our favorite method of learning through play and make learning fun. Keep warm everybody and stay happy and healthy!

Ms. Judeen and Ms. Sam

Older Infants

Last month we all gathered in our "yellow submarine" to pay some "R-E-S-P-E-C-T"

during this time. She has helped in this room before and is very familiar with the children. She is thrilled to be spending more time with us these next few months. Our toddlers have been making great strides building their independence. They are becoming more confident with handwashing, drinking from open cups, and using utensils. Feel free to practice these skills at home and let us know how they're doing. It is wonderful to see them learning so quickly and we are excited to continue supporting their growth and fostering a sense of independence in everyday activities. Looking ahead, we will be diving into fun and engaging activities with an "ABC's & 123's" lesson plan. We can't wait to see how much they learn and grow in the coming weeks.

Ms. Pakou, Ms. Jackie and Ms. Drea

Almost 2's

We have had a busy 2025 so far with some friends moving up and new friends joining us. With it being so cold outside, we have spent a lot of time inside doing cooking projects and following simple directions like making fruit salad...yum! We have been reading new stories and adding some to our classroom favorites like, "Thomas and the School Trip". The room is getting a little makeover with the addition of our "building zone". This month we will be going around the world learning about art, animals and buildings from other

to some classic rock artists and to have a little bit of music fun. We started with a math and small motor activity picking up colored versions of album covers. Later in the month, we learned all about shapes. We read many books about shapes and we listened to a song called "The Shape Song". We tried our hand at a math activity by counting the number of sides on different shapes but we got stuck when it came to how many sides were on a circle. For our science and sensory activity, we put colored transparent shapes on a light board, and we even tried stacking different colored shapes on top of each other to create new colors.

Ms. Christie and Ms. Dawn

1's

We want to welcome all new kiddos and their parents to our program this month. I would like to say see you later to my little friends who graduated from room 004. We had so much fun together. In January, we've worked on our motor skills learning how to step down and step up and bubble popping encouraging our little ones to use hands and arms to reach high and low. Lots of fun songs that help us move our muscles and mimic words like "cold" and "animal" because we learned a lot about Wintertime and Artic Animals. We looked at different artic animals and their homes and different pictures of wintertime all over the world. We did lots and lots of reading books like Snowball by Lois Ehlert, OH by

countries. We will be working on using words to count, identify colors, friends' names, and say how we are feeling. With it being cold season, please remember to have your child wash their hands when arriving to school so we can do our part to stay healthy!

Ms. Justine and Ms. Becca

2's

We started the month by exploring nursery rhymes. We sang about The Three Little Kittens, The Cow Jumping over the Moon, Twinkle Twinkle Little Star and many more. The children learned about rhythm and rhyme by singing the song - Rain, Rain go Away and shaking rain sticks and making thunder and lightning sounds with their hands. Next, we practiced our jumping skills by jumping over a candle stick just like Jack be Nimble. We then counted to five as the monkeys climbed on and fell off the bed. In addition to exploring nursery rhymes the children learned about their five senses. We explored touch by making a giant collage that we finger painted. We talked about sounds by playing the game - Who makes this sound with farm animals. The class loved predicting and guessing what animal made each sound. We then taste tested several types of fish crackers to see which ones we liked. We used our sense of smell to smell different fragrances. We smelled cinnamon, peppermint, oranges, and chocolate. The final sense we used was

Laura Dronzek, who grows up in the snow, and many more. We did some fun dot painting, making snowballs/snowmen and sensory winter bins with snow from outside. The best part about January is we had some great outdoor winter adventures on the days that weren't so cold. In February, we will be practicing more with textures and continue learning everything about snow play and wintertime. We will do sensory activities by playing with pudding and creating Jello heart shapes. We will practice soft touches and learn how to be nice to each other and learning the words LOVE and TOUCH. We hope everyone is having a healthy and wonderful start to their year. We are always happy to answer any questions.

Ms. Alex and Ms. Myeesha

Young Toddlers

As the new year settled in with its chilly weather, we have embraced the cozy indoors by exploring our imagination and self-expression through a variety of art projects. Lovingly returning our focus to fine motor skills, we have also incorporated fun-filled activities like stacking blocks and the satisfying process of dumping and filling, which never fails to bring a smile to the children's faces. The magic of pretend play flourished as children eagerly took on caregiver roles by cradling dolls, answering phones, and washing dishes in our kitchen set all while engaging in imaginative scenarios. It is heartwarming to witness each child's

sight. We talked about what we saw with our eyes and played Eye Spy around the classroom.

Ms. Diana and Ms. Kourtney

2 1/2's

Last month we worked on fine motor skills by squeezing glue out of bottles onto paper and adding cotton balls to make a collage. For the month of February, we will be having a Friendship Party. There will be a signup sheet on the parent board to bring in a treat. We will send a note home with more details. With our lesson plans, we will be working on taking turns, language development, and exploring different types of art materials. We used textured paints such as water paints, glitter paint, and thick paint. We will also work on our self-help skills; such as practice putting on our shoes after taking them off.

Ms. Brittannie and Ms. Mia

3's

Hello everyone! Please be mindful of the weather each day. Your child should have a winter coat every day, along with hats, mittens/gloves, snowpants, and boots that stay at school. We want everyone to be dressed appropriately so we can have fun playing in snow! Last month, we worked on our fine motor skills by using scissors to cut playdoh, picked up pom poms with large tweezers, and colored with

unique personality and development through play. We are grateful to be a part of their journey of creativity and discovery. Thank you for letting us share in their exciting adventures!

Ms. Theresa and Ms. Inna

stencils. This month we will be working on letter, shape and number recognition with activities such as tracing in sand and name games. The kiddos have really been enjoying sensory activities and we're looking for some fresh ideas. If you have any, please share them! Finally, please remember to have your child wash their hands upon arrival so we can stay healthy!

Ms. Alyssa and Ms. Jenn

3's/4's

Well, that was fun! January was full of Arctic themed play, art, books, and weather! We enjoyed rescuing animals from ice, painting with frozen watercolors, reading about penguins, and hibernating like polar bears. We also went on adventures with our five senses by coloring with scented markers, trying new foods, and even science experiments with touch. We are excited about February as we begin our alphabet unit. The children will be listening to "letter of the day" songs, sharing their favorite books from home, and really enhancing fine motor skills for writing. If you don't already, we challenge you to read a book a day with your child to reinforce that love for literacy. And they all lived happily ever after!

Ms. Samantha and Ms. Abbie