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Growing Highlights

MARCH 2025

Hello Families!

It is that time of year again that we are planning for our Summer Program! Every child received a survey asking about your summer plans. Surveys are due back by *Friday March 7th*. If we do not receive it back in time, then I will assume you no longer need care for the summer.

Every April we celebrate **WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD!** The teachers came up with some fun activities to celebrate your children! Here is what is coming your way the week of **April 7th-11th**. This year each day will be inspired by an Author.

Teamwork Monday by Alice Schurle - Color Wars Day

Tuney Tuesday by Sing Along books - Superhero Day

Tasty Wednesday by Laura Numeroff - Crazy Day

Artsy Thursday by Lois Ehlert - Tie-Dye Shirt Day

Feelings Friday by Mo Willems - PJ day

We are asking all families to bring in a white T-shirt/onesie for their child. The older classrooms will be tie-dying the shirts and we plan to have everyone wear them on April 10th. If you could have the shirts here by *Monday, March 17th*, that would give us enough time to get ready for Week of the Young Child. At the end of March, check your child's cubby for a Family Project to decorate with photos of your family and return to the office. We will be creatively displaying all our wonderful families here at Grandma's House.

Shout Out Corner!

It's been cold outside, but our four-year-olds have been battling the cold with fun activities in their classroom! This month our shoutout goes to our four-year-old teachers, Ms. Brittnee and Ms. Nikki! These two teachers do a great job at getting the children ready for

4K! Whether it's learning their numbers and letters, spelling and writing their name, these four-year-olds will be ready for school! They make learning numbers and letters fun with different ways/activities to learn them. Ms. Brittnee and Ms. Nikki also do a great job of taking the children out and about within the community on fun field trips! Within these last couple of months, the children have been to Betty Brinn, The Big Backyard, The Play Gallery, Discovery World, and they have seen a few different plays. The children really enjoy all the field trips! Within their classroom, you will always see new toys and new arrangements of the furniture. Ms. Brittnee and Ms. Nikki do an awesome job bringing in new and favorite toys for the children along with rearranging the room to help accommodate the children. It is always great to see the silly side of these teachers when engaging with the children. They are always having fun with them! Great job!

Thanks,
Jess Strick, Director

jess@grandmashouse.org

Scholastic Book Orders

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, 3/17*

Reminder, our center earns books each time you order.



3	Charlotte S.
3	Violet L.
4	Reyna C.
7	Quinn A.
7	Ms. Lauren
8	Ms. Claudia
11	Norah H.

- 11 Peyton G.
- 11 Jayce T.
- 12 Noah S.
- 12 Dylan A.
- 12 Parker H.
- 12 Henry H.
- 13 Hazel K.
- 17 Camila Z.
- 18 Levi B.
- 18 Riley M.
- 19 Joseph A.
- 24 Ms. Drea
- 25 Ms. Madison
- 26 Ellie G.
- 29 Margaret M.
- 29 Alexander S.
- 31 JJ H.

CONGRATULATIONS

on celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Tonia 30 Years
Ms. Jennie 10 Years

Save the Date
Walks for Cancer
Saturday, May 3rd



SAVE
the
DATE
Spring
FLING
FRIDAY, MAY 30TH

Look What We Did!

Brown Bear

Spring is almost here! This is a time we look forward to in Babyland because we get to go outside more on the playground and stroller rides. On these adventures, we expose the infants to new sights, sounds, and smells. As always, we are constantly bringing in different and exciting toys and sensory objects for exploration. Last month, we did finger paintings with red paint to encourage the children to create their own. This month, we will be focusing on friendship and love through songs and stories. We love to sing songs and clap for/with the children to introduce literacy and rhythm. We also sing songs using their names to encourage looking and responding to their name. It is exciting when they begin to recognize their names! Speaking of names, we

Little Superpigs

With the cold weather sticking around longer, we have gotten creative with all the activities we have been doing inside to keep us engaged. Our portfolio focuses were fine motor skills and social emotional skills. One social emotional skill we worked on was asking friends for a turn with a toy they wanted to use. This is done by helping the child say, "Can I use that when you are done, please?" or "Can I have some, please?". One more phrase was, "Can I play with you?". When it comes to our fine motor skills, we worked on cutting with scissors and tracing lines. Our final focus was using our pincer grasp to squeeze and release watercolors for our artwork using eye droppers. As always, please help us keep track of your child's belongings by making sure

would like to welcome our new friends to our Grandma's House family! We look forward to helping you grow!

Infants, Mr. Jared and Ms. Diane

Very Hungry Caterpillars

Lucky, lucky, lucky! The Very Hungry Caterpillars are excited to see longer days and shorter nights. We are patiently waiting for more nature walks in the fresh air, playground exploration, and trying to keep our hats on our heads. Last month we handled lots of nesting cups, blocks, and bowls. We used our sensory table for homemade sand and used our pointer finger with our large pop-it toys. We even crawled over a floor full of pillows for gross motor movement. Thanks for wearing the colors red and pink on Fridays! We will continue to keep our friends moving whether it's crawling or walking.

Older Infants, Ms. Denise and Ms. Savannah

Wild Things

February still brought cold weather, but we were able to get outside and enjoy the fresh air. During the month of February, we read stories by the author Laura Numeroff who wrote the books, "If You Give A Mouse A Cookie" and "If You Give A Dog A Donut". We brought out the paint dabbers to create with on poster board and made our very own chocolate

everything is labeled.

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

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

Hello families! Last month we got to enjoy playing in the snow. Our friends loved making snow angels and snow men. We had so much fun at our Valentine's Party, passing out treats to our friends and playing games together. In our Bluey unit, we learned about comforting others when they are sad and how to help others in need. During our Zoo Animal unit, we worked on pretending to be an animal and retelling a story you've heard. A good way to practice this at home is after reading a story with your child, you can talk about what happened in the story. This month we are looking forward to playing and learning about Spring and St. Patrick's Day.

3's, Ms. Rina and Ms. Madison

The Crayons

March was here in a flash! We are loving that we got some snow to play around in. We worked our muscles by shoveling the playground and pulling friends around on the sleds. We enjoyed going to the Play Gallery. Our favorite part was the big ship we got to go inside and slide down from the top. Discovery World was fun to see all the different creations and inventions. We cannot wait to see what adventure we will go on next. For our Friendship lesson, we worked on a couple different skills. The

chip cookies to eat. We also brought out flashlights for the children to explore. To end the month, we brought in hearts and the colors red, pink, and purple. We used our fine motor skills to stick heart shaped stickers onto paper and scribbled with red, pink, and purple crayons. This month we are looking forward to reading books by Dr. Seuss and bringing rainbows and shamrocks into the classroom.

Toddlers, Ms Lori and Ms. Jenny

Puddle Ducks

It's still winter, but Spring is almost here! We've had so many days that were too cold for us to go out, but we have been so busy that we didn't mind (too much!). There is so much to discover and so many connections to make! Drawers have been a fascination – now everyone knows where the smocks are...and the snacks! The children even have their own small sets of drawers to open/close and put things in. Enveloping and enclosing have been big interests. The children find all kinds of nooks and crannies to settle into, and they love playing peek a boo with the scarves! What fits here, there, and everywhere as well as where do I fit seem to be the big questions they are asking. The children have noticed the babies next door and love to go look at them, looking concerned if any are crying. They are connecting not just by looking at the babies, but sometimes they reach for each other under the gate. It's lovely to watch. Life is all about

children really loved playing in the sensory table that was filled with paper and heart cut outs. Another activity the children enjoyed doing was fizzing hearts. This activity can be done at home by using heart cookie cutters, any color watercolor hidden underneath baking soda. Using an eye dropper, dropping vinegar on top of the baking soda and watch it fizz over the heart. As always please make sure your child's cubby is stocked with extra clothes! 4's, Ms. Brittnee and Ms. Nikki

Pigeons - 4K

4K will be learning about all things music April 14th-21st and would love some experience seeing, touching or maybe even playing a variety of instruments. We are asking if anyone has a special musical talent and would be willing to share it with our class. If so, please contact Ms. Holly in the 4K classroom.

First off, the 4K class took a trip to the Waukesha Food pantry to deliver all your donations, THANK YOU to everyone who participated. It really helps the students understand empathy for people around them.

The month of February gave us the opportunity to talk about an author/illustrator, Mo Willems. We looked at what makes his books stand out from others as well as how books are made and how writing and reading are a very important part of life. Starting in March, we do another author study on Dr. Seuss and will look at similarities and differences

connections, isn't it? To each other and to the earth. Something to think about as we head into Spring and start spending more time outdoors. Also, remember that we, too, are nature! Looking forward to a Super Spring!

Toddlers, Ms. Cat and Ms. Olivia

Panda Bears

Wow, time flies and it's already March! We had lots of fun in February. We enjoyed working on matching two similar objects using file folders, scooping and dumping pretend snow and beans in our sensory bin, and working on completing simple puzzles with our friends during free play. Our favorite thing was passing out Valentines to our friends on Valentine's Day. In March, we are going to continue working on completing simple puzzles and matching two similar objects. You can work on this at home by having your child find two similar shoes.

Toddlers, Ms. Makenzie and Ms. Ashley S.

Jungle Book

February flew by quickly! We enjoyed our Dinosaur and Construction themes this past month. We had fun pretending to be dinosaurs in our dress-up costumes and stomping around to dinosaur songs. We also enjoyed making fossils in playdoh and trying a new art process - negative space sponge painting. During our Construction

between the two authors.

We also looked at 3 holidays:

Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day and Presidents Day. When we talked about Groundhog Day and Presidents Day, we had a lot of discussions, read books, and used videos/virtual tours to help see what these holidays are all about. Whether it is a fun tradition or to become more informed, the 4K class now has a better understanding of these special days. When getting ready for our Valentine's Day, the class voted on almost every aspect of their party. They voted for a Fancy Day party with their parents to join. Then they voted on the kind of food they wanted to be served. It was a great collaboration on their part and it was so much fun for the families to get together.

4K, Ms. Holly

unit, we liked exploring different toy tools and learning what they are used for. We especially enjoyed hammering kinetic sand, pretend nails, and pieces of chalk. During that time, our class also had a Valentine's Day Party! It was fun to celebrate love and friendship as a group. We are looking forward to the first signs of Spring and *hopefully* some warmer temps!

2's, Ms. Amanda and Ms. Bree