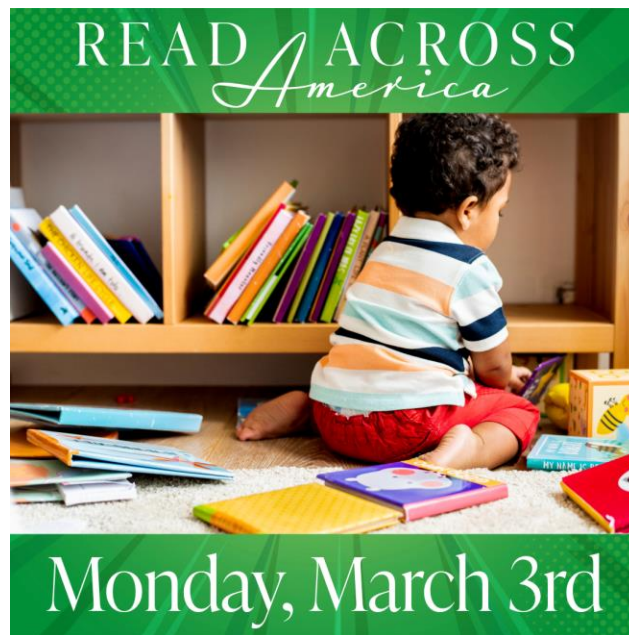


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Growing Highlights

MARCH 2025



Hi Families,

February was frigid, so thank you to all the families that felt the warmth and participated in our classroom Valentine's Day/Friendship parties! These smaller events are a great way for you to engage in your child's classroom and to meet other families who have children the same age.

On **Monday, March 3rd**, we had another opportunity for you to participate in your child's classroom during **Read Across America**. This program was launched by the National

Education Association in 1998 to encourage young children to read and develop a lifelong love of books. We also paired that day with a center wide PJ Day (because who doesn't love to cozy up with a good book...especially on a Monday?!).

Looking ahead to April, our *Week of the Young Child* events will bring a center wide family night for you to connect with all of the teachers and families throughout the center. So, please save the date for our *Annual Art Gallery on Thursday April 10th*.

Thanks,
Claire Cramton, Director
claire@grandmashouse.org



- 2 Bobby F.
- 5 Callan D.
- 6 Lucy B.
- 12 Joseph M.
- 12 Mariah H.
- 16 Callum K.
- 18 Eleanor B.
- 20 Ms. Netzy
- 21 Madilyn T.
- 21 Nora K.
- 23 Ms. Brittannie
- 23 Ms. Annette
- 25 Bennett B.
- 25 Elise B.
- 25 Josephine M.
- 29 Isabella R.

CONGRATULATIONS

on celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Christie 19 Years
Ms. Claire 10 Years
Ms. Emma 5 Years
Ms. Liz 2 Years

Ms. Julia *2 Years*

Ms. Kirsten *2 Years*

Look What We Did!

Young Infants

This past February our babies were diving into the cold side of the world by learning about some polar animals and learning about all different kinds of food, even the not so healthy ones! In March, we will dive deep into the unknown and learn about the ocean. We will read books like "Life in the Ocean" by Carol K. Lindeen and listen to different sounds that can be heard in the ocean, while also helping our babies to reach new developmental skills. After that, we will learn about the amazing Eric Carle as we read some of his books like "The Mixed-up Chameleon", or listening to a reading of "The Very Quiet Cricket". Lastly, please don't forget that we are here to help with anything you may need. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask either at pick up/drop off, or through the MyKidzDay app. Wishing you a pot of gold and all the joy your heart can hold!

Ms. Liz and Ms. Netzy

Infants

Older Toddlers

Hello families! This winter we spent a lot of time indoors trying to keep busy! Our favorite indoor activities have been making tasty snacks and dancing to our favorite songs. This month, our lesson plans are Instruments/Music and Spring! Some of our favorite parts of the Music lesson plan have been exploring different instruments, whether it's banging on the drum or shaking our maracas. For our Spring lesson plan, we had lots of fun measuring friend's heights with raindrops, and using nets to go on a bug hunt. Imaginative play is our favorite! Also this month, we are going to be focusing on our friends assisting with cleaning up and other tasks the teachers may need a helper for. Please reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns. Have a great March.

Ms. Kam and Ms. Aliyah

Almost 2's

Hello...We hope our families are enjoying the winter months. Please remember it is also a time for illnesses, especially the flu. So, we are asking for all our families to help keep everyone healthy and remember to wash their child's hands upon arrival at the center. Our two themes for this month are Food and Winter/Snow. We read books about food and winter and made a watermelon finger painting and painted white paint on black paper to make a blizzard. We learned the signs for "eat" and "cold". Two of our portfolio focuses are waving "Hi" and "Bye" and putting items into containers. Did you know that when infants learn to wave "Hi" and "Bye", it signifies their growing understanding of social cues, their ability to communicate intentionally through gestures, and demonstrates development of fine motor skills. It helps them to connect with others around them through non-verbal communication. As always be safe, happy, and healthy!

Ms. Judeen and Ms. Sam

Young Toddlers

If you have ever wanted anyone to tell you how to get to Sesame Street, then just ask your child because they just got back from there! While we were there, our Sesame Street friends showed us how they are all different colors, like green, blue, purple, and red and they showed us how much fun it is to celebrate each other's differences. We also practiced our gross motor skills by bringing in a wading pool

We had a wonderful month filled with learning and laughter! Ms. Drea has settled in nicely and she is excited to be a part of your child's development. It is amazing to see how independent our toddlers have become, as well as kind and compassionate to one another. They love to give hugs and bring toys to friends that are sad. This month we will be exploring different textures with different materials and art in our activities, such as painting with bubble wrap. We also hope to enjoy more time outside practicing our gross motor skills as long as the weather permits. We look forward to sharing more fun, learning, and laughter with you in the weeks to come.

Ms. Pakou, Ms. Jackie and Ms. Drea

Young 2's

We have been so busy with many learning adventures. We are working on our numbers and learning to count to 10. We are excited to say our whole class is able to stack more than 10 blocks high! We have exceeded our child portfolio goals by making 3D towers with Magnetiles. Some of us have also mastered putting 3 or more words together to form sentences. We all know each other's names and greet each other when we arrive at school. We are so proud of all our friends. Our goals for the upcoming month will be practicing eating with utensils, drinking out of open cups, and hand washing skills. We encourage all our families to continue to work on these

and filling it with balls and rubber duckies. We got to crawl in and out of the “bathtub” as we listened to Ernie singing his song about his favorite rubber duck. Next, we learned about the moon and the stars. We looked at star constellation patterns and read the book “Good Night Moon”. We played an interactive game while reciting “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” and using hand motions. We also got to dance our tiny bodies to the song “Catch a Falling Star”, and we even tied our Sesame Street lesson plan in with this one as we listened to Ernie sing “I Don’t Want to Live on the Moon”.

Ms. Christie and Ms. Dawn

Middle Toddlers

Let’s welcome March with some warm thoughts of Springtime. We are going to have lots of fun in our room this month! Through the month of February, we learned all about Winter such as, clothes you wear in winter, and animals who live in cold weather. We also learned about textures and we read the books *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats, *The Snow Thief* by Alice Hemming & Nicola Slater, *Touch and Feel First Words* and *Ten Sparkly Snowflakes* by Tiger Tales and Finger Play: “Five Hearts”. We had lots of floor play with new toys, fun sensory projects, art projects, and fun dancing time. We are continuing to learn sign language and in February we learned “Cold”, “Touch” and “I

goals at home, too.

Ms. Justine and Ms. Becca

2's

Reading books, singing songs, and telling stories are some of our classroom’s favorite activities. Some of their favorite stories are *Peek a Boo Moo*, *The Wheels on the Bus*, *Big Bug Little Bug* and many more. This is a great way to provide a language rich environment, but language development is a two-way process. The amount of verbal interaction with your child is as important as the amount of language you use. As a parent, you can encourage the development of language skills with your child by interacting regularly, singing songs, and reading simple stories. As your child grows, they can talk about their day or explain their likes and dislikes. You can also play games with your child, such as naming objects or practicing concepts of direction; for example: in, out, over, and through. In addition to reading stories, the children also enjoyed exploring dramatic play. They rocked, swaddled, and carried baby dolls all around the room and pretended to be chefs by cooking with play food and utensils. One of the themes this month was construction and transportation. The children were able to pretend to be construction workers. They pounded golf tees into Styrofoam, built buildings with magnet blocks, and read stories about different types of vehicles.

Ms. Diana and Ms. Kourtney

Love You". In March, we will continue to spend more time on the floor engaging in different activities like visual patterns and high contrast visual stimuli. March's theme is Growing and Blooming and Farm. We will read new books such as *Hello Bugs What Do You Do?* By Loes Batman, *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle, *Backyard Bugs Touch and Feel* sensory book, and more, sing new songs, like Rain, Rain, Go Away, Flannel stories: "Five Little Ladybugs" and "Five Littles Bunnies". Also, we will have different sensory projects. We will continue to practice gentle hugs with soft dolls, encouraging children to reach and grasp sensory toys. We will also Play Pat a Cake with hand movements. We hope it will start to get warmer outside, and we will take the children on a walk. As always please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks and have a great month!

Ms. Alex and Ms. Myeesha

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. Nurturing our 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. The magic of pretend play flourished as children eagerly took on caregiver roles by cradling dolls, answering phones, and

2 1/2's

In February, we did activities centered around developing our fine motor skills and improving our hand eye coordination by lacing valentines and drawing lines on paper. During the month of March, our lesson plans will be based on fun things like Dr. Seuss' birthday, St. Patrick's Day, Spring, and the Zoo. Some small motor activities we will be focusing on are stacking, lacing, and pinching stickers. We will also be exploring Sensory and Science activities by finding hidden gold using paint and spoons. We will use baking soda and vinegar to make a balloon expand. For literacy, we will be reading lots of fun books by Dr. Seuss and books about Spring, bugs, and the zoo.

Ms. Brittannie and Ms. Mia

3's

This past month we've continued to do a lot of sensory exploration to work on shapes, colors, numbers, and letters through activities. Moving into March, we will be talking a lot about hygiene with things like brushing teeth and hand washing and how those can be incorporated into the 5 senses. Please remember to update cubbies regularly and to keep weather appropriate clothing here since we do go outside twice a day as long as the temperature is above 0 degrees. Please remember that cot sheets and blankets need to be brought in on

washing dishes in our kitchen set while engaging in imaginative scenarios. It's heartwarming to witness each child's unique personality develop 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

Mondays (or your child's 1st day of the week). We do not have many extra sheets or blankets for nap. As always stay safe and healthy during this cold and flu season and feel free to reach out with any questions.

Ms. Alyssa and Ms. Jenn

3's/4's

Happy almost Spring! Last month we had a blast playing in all that fluffy snow...and shoveling it too! We talked about friendship, Valentine's Day, and the alphabet. We also worked on recognizing not only our own names but also our friends' names, as well as practicing 1:1 correspondence and using our words to express our feelings. As we move forward into March and Spring, we will be learning about Springtime and all things Disney while focusing on letter/name recognition and writing skills as well as comforting friends and expressing our feelings to one another. As always if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask.

Ms. Samantha and Ms. Abbie

