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Growing Highlights

APRIL 2025

APRIL IS FAMILY STRENGTHENING MONTH



Get ready for **#WEARBLUE4KIDS DAY**
Show your support by wearing blue

Friday, April 4!

Hi Families,

This month we celebrate **Week of the Young Child** from **April 7-11**. The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) designates a week each year to recognize high-quality early childhood programs and to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families. Our events include:

***Music Monday**-Music and Dancing on the Playgrounds*

***Tasty Tuesday**- French Toast Fete (party) -please see your child's classroom parent board to*

sign up

Work Together Wednesday-Classroom Planting Projects

Artsy Thursday-Large Canvas Classroom Art Projects

Family Friday-Polaroid Photo Booths at the front and rear doors-stop by for a quick photo with your child and take it with you!

Also, please look for an email from me later this month to sign up for family/teacher conferences, which will be held the week of April 21st.

Thanks,

Claire Cramton, Director

claire@grandmashouse.org



2	Tyson L.
3	Asher C.
4	Mia M.
5	Caroline S.
10	Celeste E.

11	Melanie O.
15	Mabel W.
15	Ms. Kam
24	Lily N.
28	Joseph G.
29	Ms. Pakou
30	Owen M.

CONGRATULATIONS

on celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

<i>Ms. Diana</i>	<i>35 Years</i>
<i>Ms. Sammi</i>	<i>1 Year</i>
<i>Ms. Becca</i>	<i>1 Year</i>
<i>Ms. Netzy</i>	<i>1 Year</i>
<i>Ms. Jackie</i>	<i>1 Year</i>



Young Infants

This past month of March has given us a taste of Spring and we're so excited for warmer weather! We've learned about Ocean Life and the author/illustrator Eric Carle in our lesson plans. The great vast ocean was explored through reading books, playing with undersea animal figures, and listening to whale calls. Then Eric Carle showed us the beauty of his words and art in our classroom. We read *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, The Mixed-*

Older Toddlers

This past month really flew by! We have been getting to know some new classmates and taking lots of stroller walks. This month we will be learning about Sesame Street and Kindness. During our Sesame Street lesson plan, we will be focusing on learning our colors. One activity we are excited about is the gross motor rainbow tunnel. During our Kindness lesson plan, we will be making and delivering cookies

Up Chameleon and looked at many of his artistic creations. We've also been working hard to help your child meet their developmental milestones and they've been mastering tummy time, sitting by themselves, and exploring new foods! April brings even more opportunities for exploration. We will learn about animals from the past and present day in our lesson plans about Farms and Dinosaurs. As always, we are available and willing to answer any questions you may have through the app or in person! Stay healthy and have a wonderful Spring!

Ms. Liz and Ms. Netzy

Infants

Happy Spring Everyone! Winter is behind us and warmer weather is upon us. Weather change also means sickness and sinuses, so we would like to remind all families to please wash your child's hands upon arrival. This past month our lesson plan themes were, Things That Are Round and Spring Rainbow Things. In our Things That Are Round lesson plan, we explored various objects that are round such as balls, circle shaped objects, pattern boards and bubbles. In our Spring-Rainbow Things themed lesson plan, we explored Spring concepts like rain and flowers but also all the colors of the rainbow. Some of our portfolio focuses include responding to our name when called, and responding to non-gestured commands like "can I have?". These let us work on our cognitive

to the teachers around the center as an act of kindness. We will also be reminding our friends to use gentle hands and learning the signs for "kind" and "help". As always, please be on the lookout for app communications and make sure cubbies are stocked with weather appropriate clothing. Have a great month!

Ms. Kam and Ms. Aliyah

Almost 2's

We hope you are all enjoying your Spring so far! It has been so nice playing outside in the sun and warmer temps. We had a lot of fun with our lesson plan activities. Our ABC's and 123's lesson plan had us doing fun activities like bowling, playing with alphabet magnets in playdough, singing and dancing to phonics songs, counting to ten, and painting with unconventional items like loofahs, forks, and spoons. Our current lesson plan is all about Spring. We will be listening to nature sounds, making art with flowers, counting bugs, gardening pretend play, reading books about Spring, and viewing pictures of floral paintings by Vincent Van Gogh.

Ms. Pakou, Ms. Jackie and Ms. Drea

Young 2's

This last month we worked on eating family style and serving our own food. We played with the magnetiles every day building towers, roads, and garages to hold our cars and soft blocks. We have been

as well as literacy skills. Please feel free to ask what we are working on or sit in on a lesson! As always, stay happy and healthy!
Ms. Judeen and Ms. Sam

Young Toddlers

We got a taste of Spring fever this month, so we decided to learn about the ocean. We got to go sailing in our boats with our friends, which was an excellent social activity. We painted using salt, which kind of made it look like coral, and we also did a large motor activity as we played with beach balls. After we were all done swimming in the ocean, we came back to the classroom, and we snuggled with some pets. We did a sensory activity as we got to feel different faux animal fur and skin. We felt which ones were furry, bumpy, and rough. We also learned how to take care of pets by practicing petting, brushing, and feeding stuffed animals. One final note, now that we have said "good-bye" to winter, it is a good time to clean out and replenish your child's cubby. Hopefully we won't need snow suits anymore and we can start bringing lighter jackets and clothes.

Ms. Christie and Ms. Dawn

Middle Toddlers

March has been an exciting month full of hands-on learning and exploration! Our little learners engaged in activities that helped them discover the world of farm

letting the kiddos pick the flannels for story time as we encourage them to use their words instead of their hands. This month, we will learn about Spring and flowers and the bugs that come with them. We will continue to practice using 3+ word sentences, sharing toys, and waiting our turn. Since it is the time of year when the mornings are cold and the afternoons are hot, please have a heavier and lighter coat here for our outside adventures.

Ms. Justine and Ms. Becca

2's

We started the month off with Read Across America. Thank you too all the Families that came in and read stories. Just a reminder, you are more than welcome to come into the classroom and read as much as you would like. This month we explored Dr Seuss and read many of his stories. We read -The Foot Book, The Nose Book, and many more. We expanded on his books by talking about body parts, numbers and letters. In addition to Dr. Seuss, we let our creative side shine this month. The children painted with balloons to create abstract pictures. We created designs with glue and glitter to make designs that sparkled. Along with using these mediums, we experimented with watercolors. In addition to exploring our creative side, we explored technology. We explored gears with the use of wind-up toys and gear boards as we learned about magnetism

animals and the beauty of growing and blooming in Spring. Through sensory play, storytelling, music, and creative art, we encouraged curiosity and development in fun and meaningful ways. As Spring approached, we explored the wonders of nature, growth, and change. Our little ones engaged in:

Observing & Discovering: Exploring garden bugs, introducing new toys, and reading *The Tiny Seed*, *Planting a Rainbow*, and *Hello Bugs, What Do You Do?*

Creative Arts: Painting ladybugs, using blue for raindrops, and making Spring-inspired crafts. *Songs & Movement:* Singing "Rain, Rain, Go Away", dancing with puppets, and playing movement games like "Spring Jumping."

Sensory & Hands-On Play: Using a sensory bin with soft petals, water play with small animals, and creating backyard bug sensory boards. We will be entering farm life in the middle of this month :) with a journey to the farm! Children will learn about different farm animals, their sounds, and how they help us. *Seeing & Exploring:* Looking at farm animal pictures, sorting toy animals, and setting up a pretend farm.

Hearing & Singing: Listening to animal sounds, singing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm", and reading *Big Red Barn*.

Touching & Creating: Feeling textures like wool and feathers, playing with farm animal puppets, and making handprint chickens. *Arts & Crafts:* Sponge painting farm animals and using cotton balls for fluffy sheep crafts.

Social & Math Skills: Practice turn-taking with farm toys, learning animal sign

with magnetic wands and paper clips. We even raced cars down ramps.

Ms. Diana and Ms. Kourtney

2 1/2's

Happy Spring! While we make our way towards warmer weather, we still have some chilly mornings. Please continue to bring warm coats and hats. Cold and Flu season is still upon us, please practice proper handwashing and covering your coughs and sneezes. We want to keep everyone as healthy, safe, and happy as possible. With that being said, we will be reading lots of books and singing songs about how to stay healthy. In our classroom, we will continue to work on self-help skills and following classroom rules. Reading books and having dance parties have been a class favorite. Some of our favorite books include *Bear Sees Colors*, *Pete the Cat and the Missing Cupcakes*, and *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Reading books has many benefits such as enhancing language skills, expanding vocabulary, and improving cognitive development. During our dance parties, we are developing gross motor skills, social skills, and self-confidence.

Ms. Brittannie and Ms. Mia

3's

Happy Spring everyone! We are hoping for nicer weather, but please always keep a heavier coat, hat and mittens here just in

language, and sorting animals by size and type. This month, our toddlers not only expanded their knowledge but also developed their fine motor skills, communication, and teamwork—all while having fun!

Looking Ahead: As we step into April, we are excited for new learning themes, outdoor activities, and more opportunities for creativity and discovery. Stay tuned for another wonderful month of hands-on learning!

Ms. Alex and Ms. Myeesha

Toddlers

Hello Family & Friends! We haven't gotten out much because it has been too cold. But we had fun activities inside. It's hard to believe it's already Spring! The children really enjoyed our painting projects. We used paint brushes, sponges, cookie cutters, and even our hands! We read books every day to help increase our vocabulary. One of our favorite authors is Eric Carle. We read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and listened to the *Brown Bear, Brown Bear Flannel* story. We worked on our fine motor skills by putting coins into the piggy bank slots and placing rings onto poles. When playing together, we model behavior and practice saying words like "Mine" and "Please". You can help build on these skills by modeling "taking turns" at home with your child. Looking forward to watching your child grow and bloom in our class!

Ms. Theresa and Ms. Inna

case. We never know what the next day will bring. Everyone should have their own hooks for jackets and snowpants and boots can be left on the black water proof mats under the cubbies. Spring is a good time to refresh your child's cubby with extra clothes, taking home sheets to wash every Friday, and cleaning out artwork daily. This month's Themes are Spring and Pond Life. We have counting, matching, and color recognition activities. We are also working on identifying letters, numbers, and our names. Please don't hesitate to talk to us at drop-off or pick-up if you have any questions or concerns.

Ms. Alyssa and Ms. Jenn

3's/4's

Spring is in full bloom here in Tosa and so too are your preschoolers. We have really enhanced our pre-writing skills, vocabulary, and self-control. As teachers, we have grown so proud of our friends as they work on problem solving and verbal conflict resolution. Playing outside is refreshing and we have only just started taking every opportunity to get outside and be self-expressive goofballs! March allowed us our first trip to the park, our first (of many) spontaneous lunch picnics, and several glorious "wow, it's already noon!" lost track of time, times. April is jam packed with fun as well. This month we celebrate **Week of the Young Child**. Look for messages with details coming soon. As a sneak peak, we plan to plant flowers and veggies, have a French

Toast Fête (party), and so much more. April also brings conferences so be on the lookout for sign-up sheets. We love taking time to acknowledge all of your child's progress and individuality and set goals for their future. Looking forward to meeting with you!

Ms. Samantha and Ms. Abbie