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## Growing Highlights

MAY 2025



Hi Families,

April came and went in the blink of an eye! I hope you all enjoyed the photos of your child doing special activities during the Week of the Young Child. If you missed the photo booth, don't worry you'll get a chance to do that again.

May is going to be a busy month, beginning with Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week! Again, this year, we will set up our "Appreciation Station" by the front entryway. Sometime during the week, be sure to stop by with your child to fill out thank you cards for the teachers. Cards, markers, pens, and stickers will all be located on the

table. When you finish with your cards, please write the teacher's name on the front and drop them off in the box so that we can deliver them to the classrooms at the end of the week. Our teachers truly appreciate these warm notes, handwritten messages, and child-drawn pictures!

While not necessary, if you'd like to get your child's teacher(s) a little something extra, check out the bulletin boards by the front door for a list of his/her "Favorites" (candy, stores, restaurants, etc.). I also have this list available in digital format, so email me if you'd like a copy.

In addition to our Annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, we will be providing room service breakfast, tasty, sweet treats, and a hydration station for our staff throughout the week to show our thanks.

Please save the date for our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Into Summer, Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. More details to follow.

Thanks,  
*Claire Cramton*, Director  
[claire@grandmashouse.org](mailto:claire@grandmashouse.org)



# STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

Monday  
5/5

Morning  
Room  
Service

Tuesday  
5/6

Tasty  
Treats

Wednesday  
5/7

Wellness  
Hydration  
Station

Thursday  
5/8

Thank  
You  
Luncheon

Friday  
5/9

**FLOWER**  
for my  
teachers

Visit the *Appreciation Station*  
in the front entryway during the  
week to create a Special Note for  
Teachers & Staff.  
*Notes will be delivered  
to staff on Friday.*



# Spring INTO Summer

*FAMILY NIGHT*

**5:30 - 7:00 pm**



2	Bodhi K.
3	Mr. Terry
5	Kensington O.
6	Milo C.
8	Michael K.
10	Wallace Z.
10	Jayden O.
10	Abram P.
18	Edie C.
18	Madison H.
19	Rory K.
20	Sam C.
21	A'Kaiyah T.
24	Ms. Mai
25	Ms. Mia
28	Hazel B.
29	Elliot K.
30	Simon S.

## CONGRATULATIONS

*on celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House*

*Ms. Jennifer 12 Years*

*Ms. Erica 4 Years*

*Ms. Alyssa 4 Years*



### *Young Infants*

Hello, families! This past month of April has been a super fun month for our babies! We are working so hard on our developmental milestones including sitting, rolling, tummy time, and even crawling. We are starting to enjoy the warmer weather as summer is approaching. We also enjoyed the Week of the Young Child, where our babies were able to work on their very own canvas art project (with our help), planting our very own rainbow blooms seeds, and even having some fun in our Family Photo Booth! Our babies have learned about the super fun animals you may find at a farm, and about the super ancient and roaring dinosaurs. In May, we are looking forward to learning about sting-tacular bees and all they do for us and then blasting off into outer space as we learn more our galaxy. Soon we will start to send all the cold weather attire home as we will no longer need them for warmer weather. We're looking forward to

### *Older Toddlers*

Can you believe it's May already? April was full of sensory exploration. We enjoyed cracking eggs with our fingers and tossing the confetti we found inside. This month we are eager to learn about our bodies and the five senses. There are many fun activities including a pop rocks science experiment and painting with lollipops! We love exploring new art materials! Outside of our lesson plan activities, we've been working on our colors and animal noises. Feel free to practice at home! We have been experiencing your typical Wisconsin Spring weather so please make sure your child has appropriate weather attire and extra clothes in their cubbies for spills or accidents. Have a great month!

*Ms. Kam and Ms. Aliyah*

### *Almost 2's*

continuing this journey with you. Don't forget that we are always here to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Please reach out through the app or in person at pickup/drop off time.

*Ms. Liz and Ms. Netzy*

### ***Infants***

It looks like Spring is finally trying to make its way into Wisconsin! So, with the warmer weather comes more time outside and going for walks. Now is the time to check your child's cubby to replace cold weather clothing with warmer weather clothing. This month's lesson plan themes were "friends" and "nursery rhymes". For literacy, we read "Hello World", "Best Friends Sleep Over", and "Gossie and Gertie". We enjoyed flannel board stories such as "Row, Row, Row Your Boat", "The Wheels on the Bus", and "Goldilocks and the Three Bears". For art exploration, we did silhouette sponge painting with a "muffin man" sponge and fold art with different colored paints. Some of our goals were: give an object to an adult upon request and walking movement with assistance. Helping infants with walking movements is crucial for developing fundamental motor skills, fostering cognitive and social development, and promoting overall well-being. It helps with strength, balance, and coordination. Just a reminder to take sleep sacks home to be washed at the end of the week! As always, be safe, healthy, and happy!

*Ms. Judeen and Ms. Sam*

It is time to retire those coats and boots and bring out the water bottles as the warmer weather is here! We love our outdoor time, exercising our muscles in the fresh air. The Spring lesson plan was a success with our "Flower Shop", making counting fun with colorful bugs, getting in touch with nature and all its sounds, and singing and reading stories. We dove right into our Under the Sea lesson plan by exploring sea creatures in the form of beautiful art as well as other visuals to work on the concept of big and small. We are continuing on our counting skills with sea creatures, exploring different textures through sensory activities and art, and practicing sign language that we already know as well as learning more like "help" and "wait".

*Ms. Pakou, Ms. Jackie and Ms. Drea*

### ***Young 2's***

We had a great last month playing outside any chance we got. We learned about Spring and the bugs that came with it, even finding some outside. We enjoyed the Week of the Young Child, where we had a "French Toast Fete" along with all its yummy toppings. We also planted tomato seeds and will be able to watch them grow from our windowsill. This month we will continue to practice using our words to explain things and tell what we need. We will also learn about opposites like hot/cold, loud/quiet, and sweet/sour. We will have a taste test with fruit so be on the lookout for some puckered face

### *Young Toddlers*

Spring has officially sprung in our classroom, and we were more than ready to explore the garden. We engaged in visual experiences such as observing garden art and flower pictures, while listening to songs like “Bringing Home a Baby Bumble Bee” and “Itsy, Bitsy Spider”. The children explored their sense of touch by searching for bugs in green paper grass. Fine and gross motor activities included planting toy flowers in pots. We also took a trip to the Hundred Acre Woods, where we saw Winnie the Pooh and all of his friends. Pooh Bear gave us a pot of honey (aka a sensory bottle filled with honey) and we got to watch the honey slide slowly up and down the bottle as we shook it. We also learned about cause and effect as we pushed buttons on Eeyore’s paw and heard music and watched as Eeyore’s ears flapped up and down. Lastly, we helped honeybees find their hive as we placed Velcro honeybees on our hive.

*Ms. Christie and Ms. Dawn*

### *Middle Toddlers*

Time flies when you're having fun! We can't believe it's already May! In April, our themes were Farm, Colors Around Us, and Frogs and Ponds. During the month of April we read a lot of books, like *Old McDonald*, *Color Pop Up Peekaboo*, *White Rabbit's Color Book* by Alan Baker, and on

pictures coming your way!

*Ms. Justine and Ms. Becca*

### *2's*

This month the children had a great time learning and exploring. Our first theme center was around Sesame Street, where the children practiced identifying colors and honed their predicting skills by playing hide and seek with character cards. They also tapped into their creativity by creating their own stories using flannel board pieces. Alongside the Sesame Street unit, the children delved into learning about the farm. We sang about Old MacDonald's farm and sorted animals by colors. Next, we played hide and seek with a cow hiding behind different colored barns.

In addition to all the fun learning, the children enjoyed the Week of the Young Child Activities. On Monday, the children had fun exploring music. We danced, played the drums, and sang songs. Tuesday followed with an awesome French Toast party. The children loved creating their own yummy treat. On Wednesday, we came together as a community and planted. The class created a terrarium out of a large soda bottle. Then we planted bean seeds. We will keep you updated on whether they grow. To enhance the concept of planting, we made and ate dirt cups that afternoon. Thursday, we became artists and painted on a giant canvas with paint, shaving cream, bubble wrap, and a scraper. Friday, families were able to take

the flannel board, *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See* by Eric Carle, *Five Green & Speckled Frogs*, and *What Color Do You See* (crayons colors) and more. We had so much fun playing different learning games like Farmers Market color sorting, shape sorter, and color stacker. We used touch and feel books, so children can learn different textures. Water sensory bins to play, listen to songs about colors, farms, and frogs. We created art projects using different tools and different colors of paint.

Also, we learned sign language for “cow”, “pig”, “color”, “water”, “hop”, and more. May will be a busy month. Our themes of the month are Nature in Spring and Ocean. We will read more new books and flannel stories, like *Let's Go Outside* by Ekaterina Trukhan, *Everything Grows* by Raffi, *Way Down Deep in the Deep Blue Sea*, *Baby Beluga*, and more. We will play animal matching games, sensory bins with soft natural materials, listen to bird sounds and frog sounds, listen to ocean waves, and more. We will look at the different patterns as well as the paintings of the nature painter, April Gornik. We hope to enjoy the Spring days and take many walks outside. Children will continue to develop gross motor and small motor skills during this month. As Mother Day soon approaches, we will work on a special Mother's Day project. If you have any questions, we are always available. Thank you and have a great month!

*Ms. Alex and Ms. Myeesha*

### ***Toddlers***

pictures. It has been a month full of learning and we look forward to more exciting themes and activities in the coming weeks!

*Ms. Diana and Ms. Kourtney*

### ***2 1/2's***

Wow, can you believe it's May already. In April, we had so much fun making negative space dino prints with glitter paint. We also enjoyed getting dirty while planting our seeds for Week of the Young Child. We are so excited to watch the veggies grow in our classroom! This month we will be focusing on our portfolio goals such as, following classroom instructions and putting on our socks and shoes. A lot of our friends are potty training so please make sure cubbies are stocked with extra clothes and an extra pair of shoes. The weather is starting to get nice so we will start back with our walks around the community.

*Ms. Brittannie and Ms. Mia*

### ***3's***

We had so much fun last month with Week of the Young Child, conferences, and all of the Spring activities! We will be continuing to practice letter and number recognition as well as small motor activities since we have really enjoyed being challenged in those areas lately. We have been talking a lot about the changing seasons and what that brings...bugs! Our



Hello Families! It is hard to believe that April has flown by so quickly, and soon summer will be upon us. This past month we fully embraced the spirit of Spring, flourishing like the vibrant flowers in our enchanted fairy garden classroom. Our imaginations have taken flight as we enjoyed pretending to be whimsical garden creatures while wearing adorable flower crowns. Throughout the month, we engaged in a variety of art projects including crafting delightful garden themed sun catchers and painting with flowers. These activities allowed us to explore colors and textures in creative ways. We welcomed the lovely Spring weather with open arms. We spent time outside simply enjoying the fresh air in play and bonding with friends. It has been a wonderful month of growth and connection and we can't wait to see what adventures await as we continue to celebrate this beautiful season together.

*Ms. Theresa and Ms. Inna*

friends have been very interested in the world around them and all of the "why" questions. So this month, we are going to try to incorporate more science activities for our little scientists' why questions. We have been loving the participation and feedback on our question of the day board so if you have any more ideas, please continue to post them! This month is a great transition month for classroom cubbies as well. Please remember to check your child's cubby daily for things to take home. Also, please make sure your growing bean still has the appropriate size clothing. As always, please feel free to send us a message or chat at drop off/pickup if you have any questions or comments.

*Ms. Alyssa and Ms. Jenn*

### *3's/4's*

Happy May! Wow, April kept us busy with conferences, Week of the Young Child activities, "big kids" joining us for Easter break and all the rainy days. In between all of that, we also learned all about Bugs and Pets while strengthening our fine motor skills by writing our letters. We made our own bugs and "ants on a log" as well as learning about responsibilities of being a pet owner and mindfulness of other people's pets. As we move forward into May, we will be discussing Zoo Animals, and Moms, and Mother's Day. We will be going on a field trip to the zoo and doing a zoo scavenger hunt! Lastly, we would like to remind you

all that now that the weather is finally nicer, please double-check your child's cubby for weather appropriate clothing and maybe a sweater or hoodie for those brisk mornings! Thank you so much for your help!

*Ms. Samantha and Ms. Abbie*

