



ECRC Newsletter

Spring 2017 • January

Dear Families and Friends of the ECRC,

We are happy to welcome everyone to the spring session at the ECRC! Our classrooms are bursting with joy as we see old friends and warmly greet new friends. Please join us in welcoming some new children to each classroom:

Preschool I: Colette, Kennedy & Muhan

Preschool II: Linneae & Anthony

PM Preschool: Tyler, Peyton, Griffin, and Eden

Pre-K: Julie

We are thrilled to be adding to our ECRC community. We look forward to a great spring ahead! ☺

ECRC Curriculum

As of December 21st, we have officially entered the winter season! With snow on the ground and colder temperatures, we immerse ourselves in the changes that occur during this chilly season, including learning about animals that hibernate. To extend your child's learning at home, take a look at some of our favorite winter books:

- There Was a Cold Lady That Swallowed Some Snow! By Lucille Colandro
- The Jacket I Wear In the Snow by Shirley Neitzel
- The Biggest, Best Snowman by Margery Cuyler
- Time to Sleep by Denise Fleming

-Keely O'Connell

Updates from our Associate Director

Our next tuition due date is:

January 23, 2017

Closing

Monday, January 16th we are closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Winter Clothing

There is so much for our students to explore and learn from outdoors, even in the Winter! We will go outside as often as possible. Please make sure your child has mittens, a hat, boots, and snow pants daily for outdoor play!

Thanks!

- Corinne Eggleston

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Bring a Bear/Pajama Day! – January 26th and 27th**
On both of these days, students are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear and wear their pajamas to celebrate the end of our hibernation theme. We will write stories about our bears hibernating in the cold winter, pretend to sleep in our caves, and discuss how animals prepare for the wintery weather.



University at Buffalo

Graduate School of Education



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Our Favorite Activity

With snow and ice on the ground, we were excited to bring them right into our classroom. Our favorite activity this week was painting with watercolors on ice and then with the ice! This activity allows our students to be creative as they experiment with color mixing, and also provides an opportunity for the students to gain strength in their fine motor muscles. Below, check out Kennedy and Nina painting with the ice.

- Miss Cai & Miss Paige

Happy Birthday to...

Beau – January 3rd

Natalie – January 14th

Konner Shea – January 23rd



Katie and Nour get cozy, as they pretend to be inside an igloo!



Konner and Connor serve hot coca with marshmallows!



Try this at Home

Your 2-3 year old is becoming more and more independent, as they continue to develop their self-help skills. Allow your child to put on their own mittens and hat and practice zipping their own coat.



Beau practices counting 'snowballs.'



Our Favorite Activity

We have been busy bringing the outside environment right into our classroom. While discussing our favorite things to do in the snow, the students decided that we should work together to make our own snowman. Our snowman is made out of large garbage bags, newspaper, and construction paper. This activity fostered students' fine motor development, as they scrunched the paper up and cut out the features of the snowman, and social-emotional development, as they collaborated in their creation. Check out our snowman! 😊

- Miss Norline & Mr. Stanley



Dramatic play allows us to take on roles as adults around us. Our Hot Cocoa Stand provides many roles, as students make, serve, and sell the hot cocoa. Here, Sandy and Daniel work together to make the hot cocoa, Arya serves the cocoa, and Isha helps Mr. Stanley sell it.



Duke works on cutting out icicles.



Rachel uses tongs to move and count snowballs.

Try this at Home

Inside Hopscotch

When you can't play hopscotch outside, you can play it inside! It is easy to make a hopscotch board on the floor with masking tape. This activity encourages your child to develop their gross motor skills and practice recognizing numerals.



ECRC PM Preschool

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Our Favorite Activity

This winter weather isn't keeping us cold – we decided to make 'hot chocolate cloud dough' to keep us nice and warm! We loved playing in this sensory activity, as we fill up cups with hot cocoa and marshmallows. This activity allowed for discussion of volume differences, comparing more and less. Here's how we made this:

- Mix together the following ingredients in a large bowl:
 - 5 cups of flour
 - 1 cup of vegetable oil
 - 1/2 cup of cocoa powder
 - a hand full of mini marshmallows
- Add some fun toys, such as cups and spoons.

Check out Tyler serving us up some hot cocoa, while Rosaria and Gerry help to make it. We hope you try this out at home!

- Miss Ashley & Miss Wei



Try this at Home

Freeze Dance

Young children create movement spontaneously. Freeze dance is a fun gross motor activity and encourages your child to follow the directions. Play some fun music and dance around, then pause it and tell your child to freeze!



Eden and Julianna paint their winter trees!





ECRC

Early Childhood Research Center

Pre-K

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Our Favorite Activity

Our classroom has become a winter wonderland. This week, we have begun exploring how we adapt to the winter conditions around the world. We worked together to build an igloo in the classroom with 'ice' blocks, and then cut icicles out to add on the side. Here, you can see Oscar adding the icicles, while Sophia and Nola work to cut them out.

- Miss Keely, Miss Corinne, Miss SeungJung, & Mr. Dan

Happy Birthday to...
Miss Christine – January 31st



Try this at Home

Fake Snow vs. Real Snow

It is easy to make fake snow – just mix some hair conditioner with baking soda. This consistency feels and looks like real snow.

Your child will love to compare this mixture to real snow!



We are so happy to be back together again! We love reading stories as a group.



Here is our hot cocoa stand! Trenton, Steele and Xavier work together to serve as Trenton also fills the cups.