



# ECRC Newsletter

Spring 2018 • March

Dear Families and Friends of the ECRC,

A whole-child approach to early childhood education allows us to stay committed to what makes each child special. Our curriculum provides our teachers the opportunity to develop upon each of the four domains integral to child development: physical development, social-emotional development, cognitive development, and communication/language.

By celebrating Valentine's Day with our students, we are able to focus in on students' social-emotional skills and celebrate the true meaning of the holiday by teaching children kindness, love, and empathy integrated with academic knowledge. Many of the activities during the month of February encouraged students to collaborate with their peers. Below, check out some of our favorite activities from this month of love and togetherness.



## ECRC Curriculum

We begin the month of March with a special birthday celebration for Dr. Seuss! This holiday allows us to investigate this beloved author for young children and the impact that he has made on the literacy in our lives. We will be detectives as we find the rhyming words present in his books and create our own rhymes. We will also take on the role of many of the characters that we love from these stories, such as Mr. Brown, Thing One and Thing Two!

As spring approaches, we will take advantage of the science right outside our doors by exploring the changes occurring outside. We will use magnifying glasses to make observations and predictions as the plants begin to blossom again. Take a look at some of the books below to extend our fun learning at home:

- [One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish](#) by Dr. Seuss
- [The Lorax](#) by Dr. Seuss
- [Our Community Garden](#) by Barbara Pollak
- [The Tiny Seed](#) by Eric Carle

-Keely O'Connell

## Updates from our Associate Director

### **Our next tuition due date is:**

March 26

**Tuition should be paid in full by this date.**

### **Spring Recess: No School**

We are closed for Spring recess from Monday, March 19 through Friday, March 23. Enjoy!

Thanks!

- Corinne Eggleston

## Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences – March 7-9**  
Please sign up on the Google document for a conference if you would like to speak with your child's teacher about her/his progress, accomplishments and/or your concerns.
- **Wacky Wednesday – March 14**  
We love to celebrate Dr. Seuss's kooky and creative ideas by dressing crazy! Your child can wear un-matching clothes or even do something silly with their hair! Be creative ☺



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## Our Favorite Activity

We love playing pretend! The dramatic play center in our classroom is always changing, becoming real life places in which we can take on roles as adults. This month our dramatic play center was a florist shop, a family kitchen, and a dentist office.

Colette and Tyler enjoyed playing in the florist shop. Enacting roles allows children to develop social-emotional and language skills by conversing with each other, as they ask and answer questions.

- Miss Alice & Miss Wei

**Happy Birthday to...**  
Miss Corinne – March 2



Aubrey and Daniel trace and cut out their hands. Then, we discussed what 'I love you' looks like in sign language.

Tyler and Lucas love our new classroom slide!



Christopher and a student intern paint with watercolors.



Nathan practices writing on his lucky red envelope.



Leo practices writing Chinese numerals.



## Try this at Home

Painting provides such a fun experience for young children. Our students love to paint with paintbrushes, sponges, cotton balls, or even their hands! Do you want a mess free paint idea that incorporates all the same benefits as painting at school does? We love paint bags! Paint bags encourage students to experiment with color mixing and promote fine motor development as students use their fingers to write and draw in them.



# ECRC

## Early Childhood Research Center

# Preschool II

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### Our Favorite Activity

We use our fingers daily for very important tasks, such as zipping our coats and writing down a quick note; for this reason, fine motor skills are essential to build at a young age. Our favorite fine motor activities this month are pictured below. Ryan loved to make cookies and cupcakes for Valentine's Day with play dough as he pushed and rolled out the dough. Elli enjoyed making dumplings with Ms. Christine for the Lunar New Year, pinching the wrappers together. Lastly, Nour practiced her pincher grasp as she investigated chopsticks.

- Miss Norline & Miss Diana

### Happy Birthday to...

Verona – March 2  
Isha – March 18



Exercise is good for our hearts. Yubin, Nour, Julianna, and Katie practice exercising with Miss Keely and then compare their heart beat before and after.



Logan makes observation about the differences between oranges and tangerines.



### Try this at Home

#### Shaving Cream & Glue!

Two household items that almost everyone has at home make an incredible painting material! Mix both of these materials together and add a little bit of paint. Then, encourage your child to paint with it! This puffy paint is a great sensory activity that allows children to be creative!

Natalie creates a drum to celebrate the New Year!



We really love music and working together!





# ECRC PM Preschool

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## Our Favorite Activity

Early writing and mark making, sometimes known as emergent writing, really progresses in early childhood. During this critical period, children are learning how to physically produce marks on paper, what these marks mean, and they are beginning to understand how written language works. Early writing is part of the foundation of literacy, encompassing reading and writing at later ages. Our children have taken a great interest in writing, and whether they are just beginning to make letter-like forms or writing actual letters, all of this writing is meaningful. Check out Louisa and Janice enjoying creating meaning from their writing.

- Miss Paige & Miss Brianna



Eden uses glue and tissue paper to collage a heart.



## Try this at Home

**We can count almost anything!**

Encouraging your child to count in their daily lives promotes mathematical thinking! There are many things to count around us: the stairs as we walk up and down, the cars parked in a row, or even the people sitting down for dinner. As you count with your child, guide him/her to count one item at a time to develop one-to-one correspondence.

Leo and Muhan love sharing family traditions and making dumplings with Miss Wei.



Akhillies and Griffin work together to cut ribbon and tissue paper.



Lucas and a student intern enjoy imitating each others' beat on the drum.



### Our Favorite Activity

Children are naturally interested in music and movement as they begin to navigate the world. Early music development is essential for children to begin to understand rhythm, beat, pitch, and tone. Music Play with Miss Sarah and yoga with Miss Jeanna are such a joy! ☺ In Music Play, our students are immersed in an environment that promotes the exploration of our voices and our bodies! Yoga helps us self regulate, as we breathe and develop body awareness. Below, Elijah, Madeline, Anthony and Mason move like airplanes in Music Play, and Audrey creates a partner pose with Miss Jeanna in yoga.

- Mr. Stanley & Miss Devon



Audrey creates a cube using toothpicks and gummies.

Happy Birthday to...  
Isha – March 2



### Try this at Home

#### Rhyming Words

We now begin an author study of Dr. Seuss. What makes Dr. Seuss special and legendary is his creative rhymes throughout his books. Encourage your child to find those rhymes as you read these books, discussing why each pair is a rhyming pair!



Mason enjoys playing and exploring in the snow!

We love to write in many different ways. Here, Owen writes on a paint bag, Anthony writes using a dry-erase marker, and Isha writes using a pencil.



Isha, Nolan, Mason, and Anthony exercise with Mr. Stanley to investigate their resting and active heartbeats.