



ECRC Newsletter

Spring 2018 • May

Dear Families and Friends of the ECRC,

We can't believe it either; the end of the school year is approaching so fast! Your toddler that began with us in September is now nearing three years old...your four or five year old preschoolers is now ready for kindergarten. We are honored that you have trusted us, the ECRC staff, with your child's first years of schooling. Each and every one of your children have grown immensely since we met, and we are excited to end this school year celebrating the love we have for learning and the long-lasting relationships we've made at the Early Childhood Research Center.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer, and for many, we can't wait to continue playing and learning in June! 😊



Our
visit
from the
Dentist

ECRC Curriculum

The last week of the semester is focused around our favorites- our favorite books and our favorite activities. We are taking the time to celebrate the relationships and memories that we have made this year.

We will begin our summer program exploring famous folktales, fairytales and fables. Our curriculum will guide children to read various versions of our favorites, such as The 3 Little Pigs and Goldilocks and the 3 Bears! Here are some books that we love for the summer:

- The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka
- Kate and the Beanstalk by Mary Pope Osborne
- The Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett

-Keely O'Connell

Updates from our Associate Director

We are looking forward to our Summer Program! The dates for each session are as follows:

Summer Session I

Tuesday, May 29 through Friday, June 22

Summer Session II

Monday, June 25 through Friday, August 3

Thanks!

- Corinne Eggleston

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Thursday, May 10 at 3:00 - Pre-K Graduation!**
We're excited to share that the ECRC will be hosting a Pre-K Graduation. If your child is attending Kindergarten next year, you should have received a formal invitation.
- **Saturday, June 30 – ECRC Kids Fun Run & Obstacle Course**
If you haven't registered yet, you're missing out! The Run is a fun-filled family day! Come watch your little one practice healthy habits as they run with friends in a child friendly race. This event is our largest and most successful fundraising event. **Register at ecrcfunrun.org**



University at Buffalo

Graduate School of Education



ECRC Preschool I

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Our Favorite Activity

Process-focused art is important for young children as they begin to explore what they can do with artistic materials and mediums. This means that there are no set rules for what to create and no sample for the child to follow; the child's unique interests and abilities are developed as they create. We had so much fun painting around the legs of the table – we flipped the table over and wrapped paper around the outside. We were able to create a large easel in our classroom! 😊 Check out Paxton painting with purple!

- Miss Alice & Miss Wei

We loved learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar. Below, we pretended to be butterflies and drank the “nectar” from the straws.



Happy Birthday to...

Peyton – May 1
Miss Wei – May 14
Christina – May 25



Nathan and Colette loved our chromatography experiment! They watched the colors separate on the coffee filter as it hit the water.

Lucas, Daniel and Janice enjoyed planting the grass and helping it to grow!

Try this at Home

Read books at home everyday!

Your child is immersed in a world full of literacy. We are continually practicing our print concepts at school, but you can do this at home too. Ask your child where these parts of the books are while reading: the front, the back, and the pictures.



Miss Alice worked with a small group to use the hammers to get spring materials out of the ice.



The “bugs,” Nathan and Paxton, were munching through the leaves just like the Hungry Caterpillar.





ECRC

Early Childhood Research Center

Preschool II

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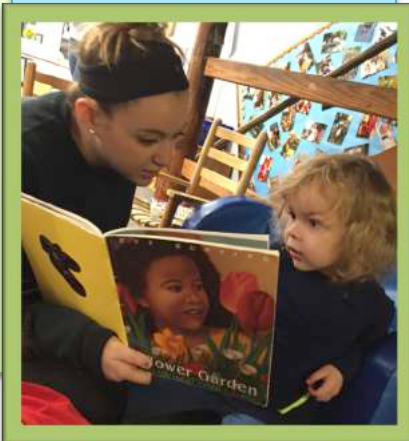
Our Favorite Activity

Book knowledge and print concepts are huge parts of early childhood literacy. In preschool, it is important to begin to understand the various purposes of print, such as the enjoyment of a story, learning new information, and communicating with others. After reading a story at circle time/morning meeting, we always encourage students to find the story in our book nook during centers. When re-reading, we focus on print concepts such as the title, author, direction of the words on a page, etc. and encourage the students to retell the story, identifying the major characters, sequence, main events, and plot. Take a look at Katie working with a student intern to retell one of our circle time stories.

- Miss Norline & Miss Diana

Happy Birthday to...

Ryan – May 1
Logan – May 21



Elli and Yubin worked together selling flowers and food at the ECRC Farmer's Market.



We work on our large motor skills daily. Ryan loved throwing bean bags to the target and Rose enjoyed yoga with Miss Jeanna.



We are almost done with our visual arts projects! Achilles and Beau worked hard adding shades of green to their artwork.



Verona, Natalie, and Brigetta enjoyed the stretchy band in Music Play!



Try this at Home

Phone Number

We have been busy with numerals, both identifying and writing them ourselves. Before Kindergarten, it is important that your child knows his/her own phone number. Allow your child to practice their phone number, in conversations and by using the phone themselves.

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Our Favorite Activity

We continue to build our vocabulary each and every week, with new topics and themes to explore. This month, one of our favorite topics was the metamorphosis of the caterpillar. We discussed each of the four stages: egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, and butterfly. These vocabulary words then set the stage for our center activities. Below, Janice worked on her letter recognition as she spelled the word 'butterfly' by matching the corresponding letter and popsicle stick.

- Miss Paige & Miss Brianna

Happy Birthday to... Peyton – May 1



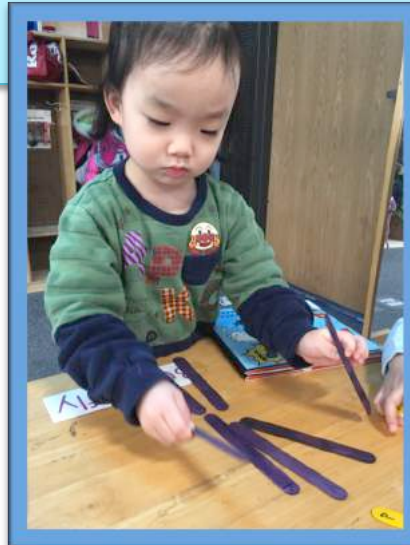
Rodrigo loved painting on our 'homemade easel' around the outside of the table.



Lucas loved making his own unique butterfly with watercolor paints.



Leo enjoyed a book about spring bugs, counting the animals on each page.



Peyton painted with cups to create her own caterpillar.



Julianna worked on her visual arts project with Mr. Dan.

Try this at Home

Self Help Skills

Children learn to take responsibility of themselves at a young age. Encourage your child to do things on their own, such as zipping their coat, putting their shoes on, and wiping their own nose. This will help your child build confidence in their ability to try new things.



Julianna and Griffin visited the classroom Farmer's Market together, then shared some delicious spring fruit.



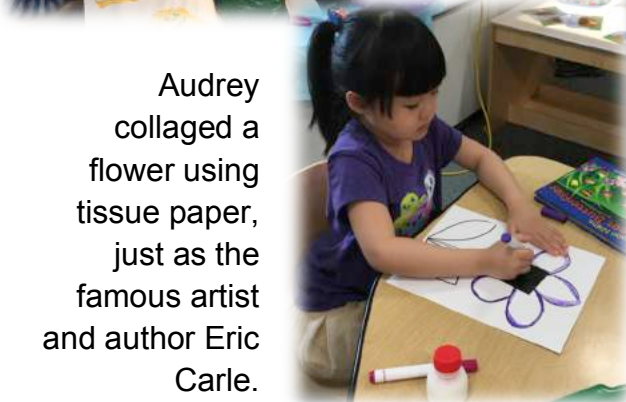
Our Favorite Activity

We welcomed new “classroom pets” this month! Our worms provided so many new learning experiences, as we created a habitat for them to live in and took care of them each day. We made sure to keep them moist in the dirt by watering them daily and looked closely using a magnifying glass to see the parts of their bodies. Below, you can see Audrey and Mason making observations about the worms, and Madeline using the ruler to measure the worm. These wiggly creatures did not scare us!

- Mr. Stanley & Miss Devon



Isha and Audrey enjoyed painting a spring scene together.



Audrey collaged a flower using tissue paper, just as the famous artist and author Eric Carle.



Owen identified the properties of shapes as he tried to decipher what each shape is inside of the Feely box.



Nolan worked at the cash register, assisting a student intern as she buys fruit and vegetables in the ECRC Farmers Market.

Try this at Home

Addition & Subtraction

We embrace critical thinking in our classroom, and our students are beginning to solve simple addition and subtraction problems. Encourage your child at home to solve these problems with objects, by asking them, “How many do I have all together?”