



ECRC Newsletter

Spring 2017 • April

Dear Families and Friends of the ECRC,

The blustery and cold weather that March brought us did not stop us from preparing our classrooms for spring! This past month, the ECRC was bustling with joy as we began planting seeds for our gardens and exploring what makes plants grow. Ask your child what kind of seeds they are planting at school!

In addition, we all have newfound love for Dr. Seuss and his characters. We brought to life some of his most beloved characters, such as the Cat in the Hat and Thing 1 & Thing 2. We even had to get creative and make more Things so that everyone could join in the fun!



Thing 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5!

ECRC Curriculum

April is National Poetry Month, and we will continue celebrating our love for books and literary elements as we explore children's poets and write our own poems. This exploration will include Nursery Rhymes, Acrostic Poems, Alphabet Poems, and Color Poems. We look forward to listening to the joy that Shel Silverstein and Ronald Dahl convey with their various poems. As we write our own poems, we will bring in the themes of spring and our Earth.

April 22nd is Earth Day, a holiday we all know and love. We will learn how to protect our earth by recycling, reusing, and composting materials. We will use different recycled materials to create art and new toys!

Check out these books and poems to build upon our learning at school:

- *Hug O'War* by Shel Silverstein in *Where the Sidewalk Ends*
- *Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf* by Ronald Dahl
- *Waiting for Wings* by Lois Ehlert
- *The Earth Book* by Todd Parr
- *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss

-Keely O'Connell

Updates from our Associate Director

Upcoming Parent Event:

"Parent Management Training" offered by School Psychology Graduate Students, Ms. Rovig & Ms. Darrow (Supervised by Dr. Hier)- **April 26th from 6:15-7:15pm**

Training topics to be covered:

Behavioral Management Techniques
Family Problem Solving Skills
Effective Communication Techniques for the Family

Dinner will be provided!

Please RSVP to Ashley Darrow at ashleyda@buffalo.edu

Thanks! - Corinne Eggleston

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Thursday, April 13th – Aquarium of Niagara Field Trip!**

Please return the bottom portion of the permission slip to us by **Friday, April 7th**. We are looking forward to a day filled with touch tank sessions and animal shows!

- **Friday, May 12th - Pre-K Graduation!**

We are excited to announce that we will be holding a graduation ceremony for our students attending kindergarten next year. More information will be sent to these families in the upcoming weeks.





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Our Favorite Activity

Dr. Seuss warned us on the front of the book Fox in Socks: "This is a book you read aloud to find out just how smart your tongue is. The first time you read it, don't go fast! This fox is a tricky fox. He'll try to get your tongue in trouble!" This book made us smile and giggle, as we listened to all of the complex rhyming words. Then, we decided to make our own socks.

Below, you can see Katie working hard on her unique socks. Not only was this a fun activity, but also our students worked hard on pre-writing skills, as they practiced writing and drawing.

- Miss Cai, Miss Paige, and Mr. Dan

Happy Birthday to...

Nina – April 23rd



Muhan and Nina enjoy dancing together!



Griffin and Miss Paige practice using the scissors, creating Thing 1 & 2 hair!

Many thanks to Evan's Mom and Grandma for joining us to celebrate his birthday!



Juju shows us downward dog with Miss Jody in yoga.



Logan and Beau paint animals, creating new animals like Dr. Seuss.

Try this at Home

The Wind in Springtime

Your toddler is very observant and notices the wind as it blows through his/her hair. Encourage your child to use a straw and try to blow some household items: cotton balls, pasta, or even paper. Experiment with strong and weaker wind gusts!



Our Favorite Activity

We love working together! Part of social and emotional development is learning to collaborate, as we build on each other's strengths and help each other. Not only is this an important skill in preschool, but a lifelong skill. With just a hula-hoop, we practiced working together by passing it from one student to the next without letting go of hands. Our bodies were put to the test, but we managed to get it all the way around our circle of friends. Check out Julie and Elijah playing this fun game!

- Mr. Stanley & Miss Norline

Happy Birthday to...

Danny M – April 17th
Isabella – April 29th



Nolan and Isha love to build. Our students challenge themselves each time, constructing new and exciting creations!



Maddigan uses a hammer to open up "apples" that we made!



Isabella is ready for Spring! Here, she sorts seeds.



Try this at Home

Painting with Veggies!

There are many vegetables that begin growing in the Spring: lettuce, radishes, and peas! These veggies are not only yummy to eat but also fun to paint with. Encourage your child to explore and discuss these vegetables as they paint with them at home!



Yoga provides a relaxing and fun environment for us to develop strength in our bodies. Julie and Danny embody these qualities.





PM Preschool

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Our Favorite Activity

There are patterns everywhere; this past month, we explored patterns in books, with the help of Dr. Seuss, and mathematical patterns. We began with simple AB patterns but continue to challenge our students to recognize and extend more difficult patterns such as ABB and ABC patterns.

Below, you can see the various stages we are at in patterning. Tyler recognizes the colored patterns in our inch cubes. Rose creates a pattern on the Cat in the Hat's hat, and Hazel extends a more difficult pattern.

- Miss Ashley & Miss Wei

Happy Birthday to...

Rosaria – April 3rd
Hazel – April 18th
Isabella – April 29th
Tyler – April 30th



Tyler & JuJu make red and blue fish!



Eden uses tongs to move and count the petals of spring flowers.



Isabella and Gerry add ingredients to make Oobleck!



Isabella practices letter knowledge and writing as she writes the word 'up.'



Peyton and Julianna create their own socks, just like the Fox!



Try this at Home

Mr. Sun!

Our favorite song at school lately is Mr. Sun. Try singing it at home with your child.
"Oh Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun,
Please shine down on me.
Oh Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun,
Hiding behind the trees.
These little children are asking you,
To please come out so we can play with you.
Oh Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun,
Please shine down on me."



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ECRC

Early Childhood Research Center

Pre-K

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Our Favorite Activity

Visual Arts has transformed our students from children to artists! While we are not ready to show our masterpieces, we will give you a glimpse into our exploration of Claude Monet. We have just finished up a 6-week examination of the techniques and style that Monet uses to create various perspectives of water lilies. Our students began with the background and horizon and finished up by titling each of their pieces.

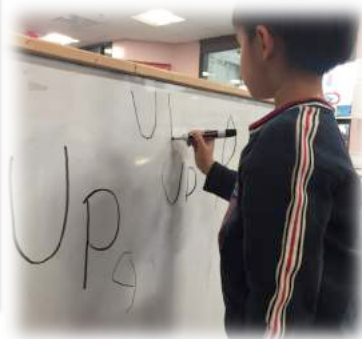
Next, we will take a look at the different mediums that some of our favorite artists used to create spring flowers, including the work of Diego Rivera, Andy Warhol, and Vincent van Gogh.

Below, check out Sophia, Nola, and Hazuki working on their masterpieces.

- Miss Keely, Miss Corinne & Miss SeungJung

Happy Birthday to...

Miss SeungJung – April 1st



As we finish up our letters, the Pre-K students are beginning to put together words. Trenton writes the word 'up.'



Try this at Home

What is your full name?

As we get closer to kindergarten, we are beginning to recognize and write our last names. Encourage your "almost kindergartener", when writing their name at home, to write both their first AND last names!



Steele and Xavier create graphs to organize and communicate how many of each color fish they have.



Sandy uses the scissors independently as he makes Thing 1 & 2 hair!

Oscar and Nola work together to measure and compare.



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