



Early Childhood Research Center

ECRC Newsletter

Spring 2018 • 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. Check out some of our Dr. Seuss characters below!



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 Lorax* by Dr. Seuss

-Keely O'Connell

Updates from our Associate Director

Upcoming Parent Event:

Building a Better Relationships and Dealing with Difficult Behaviors in Young Children

This parent workshop, provided by Sarah Taber-Thomas, Ph.D., will introduce specialized skills to address common parenting challenges.

When: Wednesday, April 25, 2018, 6:00-8:00pm

Where: 12 Baldy Hall

To register, please email or call me

(cmd38@buffalo.edu, 645-2379).

- Corinne Eggleston

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Wednesday, April 11 – A visit from the Dentist**
We can't wait to practice brushing our teeth with Ms. Cheryl
- **Thursday, April 26 – Mama Earth's Kitchen Band visit**
In celebration of Earth Day, Mama Earth will come to sing and dance with the students using instruments made from recycled materials!
- **Thursday, May 10 - 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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ECRC Preschool I

Spring 2018 • April

Our Favorite Activity

Dr. Seuss's stories spurred many science experiments, which allowed us to explore our five senses as we made observations about the changes occurring.

Oobleck, which you can see Nadia and Peyton playing with, is a great experience to discuss states of matter. By mixing cornstarch and water, we were able to observe a solid, as we held the gooey substance together, and a liquid, as we opened up our hands and watched it ooze out.

Our exploration of Dr. Seuss wouldn't have been complete without making green eggs! Our students, Leo, Colette, and Paxton, helped us to mix these together, and then they used their senses to identify properties of the eggs.

Check out all of our fun below! - Miss Alice & Miss Wei

Happy Birthday to...
Tyler – April 30



Tyler and Miss Jeanna practice balancing in yoga.

Christina, Nathan, and Eden explore watercolors together!

Try this at Home

Shape Hunt

When in the car or on a walk, encourage your child to find and identify shapes in the world around us. You can find shapes almost anywhere you go!



Daniel paints with cars, mixing primary colors to create secondary colors.

Jacob and Ms. Cheyenne read The Foot Book together.



Christopher and Janice sort the fruits and vegetables in our Farmers Market!



Silas builds blocks to create 10 Apples Up on Top!



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Preschool II

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Our Favorite Activity

This past week, we began working on our visual arts projects with Miss Keely. This session, we will explore the many famous artists that created sunflowers, such as Vincent van Gogh, Diego Rivera, and Andy Warhol. These artists' techniques and colors will inspire us to create our own flower paintings with acrylic paint.

Below, Beau begins the background of his painting. We will continue to work on these throughout the end of the school year. We can't wait for you to see our work!

- Miss Norline & Miss Diana

Happy Birthday to...

Rosaria – April 3
Yubin – April 5
Nina – April 23



1 Fish, 2 Fish! Everett and Nour go fishing together and Natalie counts the fish in the bowl!



Yubin draws her family!



Nina practices brushing teeth for dental health month!



Verona cuts the dripping slime!



Nora creates her own Truffula Tree from The Lorax.



Rose finds letters in the rice!



Konner loves playing in the snow!

Try this at Home

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!



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PM Preschool

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Our Favorite Activity

Counting, shapes, and patterning are all early math concepts that provide a foundation for our later math development. As we get closer to the end of the school year, our students have made tremendous progress in all three of these areas. Here's what we have been working on at school:

-One-to-one correspondence: Below, Achilles counted one object at a time, labeling each object with a number. We also incorporated a graph into this exploration to begin to organize objects and identify numerals.

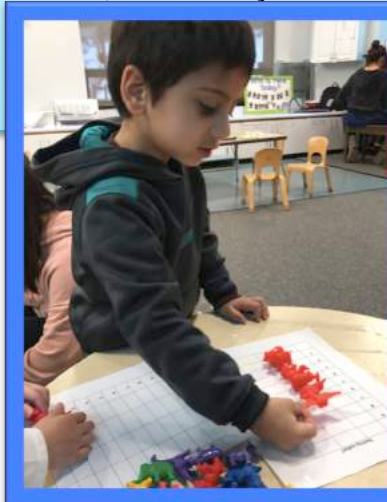
-Identifying properties of shapes: We love using shapes to create pictures! As we create, we discuss the similarities and differences of the properties of each of the shapes. Leo made a bug!

-Patterning: Beginning with AB patterns, we identify "the unit" of each pattern. Below, Griffin created a Dr. Seuss inspired pattern.

- Miss Brianna & Miss Paige



Rodrigo makes his own 'Cat in the Hat' Hat!



Lulu stacks the 'Cat in the Hat' hat's on top of each other.



Peyton and Miss Brianna creates socks for Fox!

Try this at Home

We love to sing, and one of our favorite songs is '**Little Flower**' (sung to the tune of 10 Little Indians).

1 Little, 2 Little, 3 Little Flowers,
4 Little, 5 Little, 6 Little Flowers
7 Little, 8 Little, 9 Little Flowers
10 Little Garden Flowers



Eden loves to move and breathe during yoga!





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Pre-K

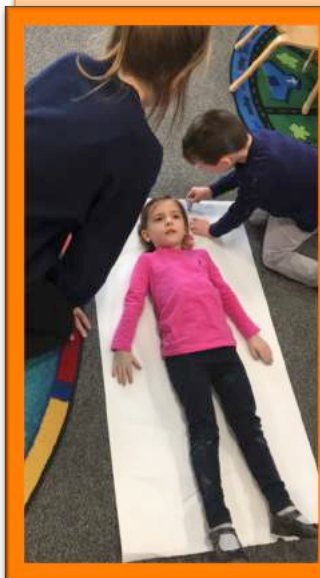
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Our Favorite Activity

Our students are really beginning to look like kindergarteners! Our students have been working together and building long-lasting relationships with their peers. Our favorite activity this month was creating our friends – we traced each other and then added details to show each unique child.

Below, check out Mason tracing Madeline and Nolan tracing Audrey.

- Mr. Stanley & Miss Devon



Isha creates her own 'Cat in the Hat' hat!

We had so much fun trying out the virtual reality equipment! We went underwater and got to stand right near dinosaurs! Anthony and Elijah loved it!

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!



It has been so nice to play with Miss SJ again! Miss SJ has been joining our classroom to help us make our own fun snacks.

Mason loves to paint at the easel!



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