

Teddy Bear News

Our philosophy is that children learn most effectively through play. We support and encourage each child's unique social, emotional and intellectual development in a nurturing, hands-on and safe classroom environment.



Important Dates

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| April 20, 21 | Parent/Teacher Conferences (NO SCHOOL) |
| April 26, 2017 | WUNS Play Date
Playground, 3:15 – 5:00 pm

Representatives from Children's Hospital will provide bike helmet checks |



Classroom Happenings

Let's leave the classroom, and go outside. It is too pretty a day to stay in. We'll go back in soon.

Finally! After the cold and colds of winter, Spring is here! This brings much celebration in the Teddy Bear Room. As the children change hats, mittens, big, big coats and scarves for jackets and rain boots, their running gets faster, their shouting gets louder and their laughter gets longer. The play has been greatly enhanced with the addition of many more buckets and shovels and three "lawnmowers" provided by Miss Nikki. Often, we have two classes, and hopefully three, on the playground at the same time. This makes for even more fun and the children have the chance to interact with siblings and other Bear friends. Our Teddies are growing in their confidence to climb the "rock" wall, to zoom on the scooters, and to climb, chase, and zip down the slide. And, the three "lawnmowers" give many opportunities to negotiate and to wait for a turn.

Now, we'll go inside. We did a great Unit on shapes. Children painted with cookie cutter rectangles and circles. and sponge triangle and diamond shapes. They outlined wooden shapes at the Writing Table, and worked with shape stickers. At the Playdoh table...you guessed it...shape cutters!

And then, suddenly, Spring came inside the Teddy Bear Room! Wow! Large sheets of child finger-painted paper replaced the "snow" on the bulletin board. Nests were made for our tree, birds for the nests, and flowers popping up in the grass and on the branches of our tree. We are reading Springtime books, talking about springtime animals, playing with pastel color slime, and singing Springtime songs. "Up in the Sky, The Little Birdies Fly" is our current favorite.



A Closer Look: The Playdoh Table

We change the tools and materials at the Playdoh Table frequently during the week. Scissors, rollers, pizza cutters, cookie cutter shapes, trucks, animals, bowls, and plates find their way to the Table. As the children manipulate the playdoh with their hands and tools, they discuss what they are making and watch what the other children are doing with their playdoh. We as teachers are fascinated by the developmental skills that occur at the Playdoh Table. Playdoh helps our Teddies with: coordination, muscle development, expressing emotions, cooperative play, imagination, building community and developing self-esteem and confidence. We, as teachers, are so very lucky to be able to stop and observe and see these children grow in so many ways!



More
sensory
fun!



*Until next time,
Miss Marbie and Miss Chona*