

Director of Child Care Center Board Report April 12th, 2021

<u>Infant</u>

Our infants have been exploring all different sensory materials in our sensory bin. This type of sensory play creates a calm environment and allows the child to focus and engage in social interactions. We also got creative and used green peppers and bath loofahs to make shamrock art. Our gross motor skills have been taking off and we have many children in different areas of physical development. We have some children working on rolling and crawling while our oldest children are starting to stand and walk. As the weather warms up, we have been enjoying getting outside for daily walks and outdoor play.



<u>Toddler</u>

The toddler classroom celebrated Dr. Seuss week and enjoyed activities themed after the books we read - Alphabet Sensory Bin, Cat in the Hat Toss, and Fish Tank Coloring. Our color of the month, green, was highlighted on our fine motor and practical life skills shelf. Our favorite (and, of course, messiest!) activity was the seed scoop, dump, and



pour tray. We played "Shamrock Roll" to work on some of our gross motor skills like jumping, rolling, and balancing on one leg. We also found shamrocks hidden in our classroom and worked on counting and number recognition while singing Five Little Shamrocks. Our classroom Leprechaun kept an eye on us and sang "I'm a Little Leprechaun" with us everyday and the Leprechaun Hat Shape Matching activity helped us with our shape recognition. We loved our sensory activity "Popping a Rainbow" that used our sense of feeling with our feet and hands and our sense of hearing. We also sang the Rainbow Song to help us learn the colors of the rainbow! Now, if you ask us the colors of the rainbow we'll sing them back to you!



Preschool

This month in the preschool room, we learned all about different dinosaurs and how we could include them into our curriculum. We worked on name recognition by making Stegosaurus and spelling out our names with the spikes. We worked on our language and literacy skills by reading the book, "Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs" and then retold the story by cutting out pictures from the book and placing them in sequential order. For St. Patrick's Day, the Leprechaun visited our classroom and hid numbered shamrocks for us to find and count. We did a science mixing experiment by making Leprechaun punch by mixing yellow lemonade with blue food coloring and watching the lemonade turn green. We used our math skills by sorting shamrocks into small, medium, and large groups.





School Age

This month, our school age children have been exploring different STEM and science experiments. We learned how to create our own umbrellas using materials within our classroom and then we tested them out to see how well they held up when water was applied. We worked in small groups and created our own Lego container and did a sink/float experiment. We compared our creations to a standard plastic pot. We also used chalk to create shamrock masterpieces and paint to create "egg" pattern art.





Looking Ahead

Our meeting with our Youngstar technical consultant was rescheduled and will be taking place April 30th. She will be visiting our program and working with all of our classroom teachers while she is here. She will help us prepare for our official program rating that will happen in the fall. We are starting to prepare for summer and getting ready to move two of our classrooms due to the roof construction that will be taking place as soon as school is out.