



Growing Highlights

December 2018

Dear Parents,

Fall has just flown by and the holiday season is upon us! As a reminder, gifts for the Children's Hospital giving tree are due by Tuesday, December 4th. Your contributions will help many children in foster care this holiday!

Speaking of presents....a handful of parents have already contacted me requesting teacher gift ideas for the holidays. I have a teacher survey for each staff member that lists their favorite colors, stores, candy, etc. Let me know if you would like a copy and I can email one to you!

On a personal note, as I reflect back on 2018, I can't help but feel lots of appreciation for this past year. Our center is truly thankful to partner with you as we strive to provide the best care possible for your little ones! We don't take this responsibility lightly and we are grateful that you place your trust in us!

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Kristie Potter, Director

kpotter@grandmashouse.org

[Price Listing 2019](#)

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, 12/21

PJ Day

Grandma's House CLOSED:

Monday & Tuesday, 12/24 - 12/25

Monday & Tuesday, 12/31 - 1/1/19

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Little Sprouts

Welcome to Grandma's House to all of our new infant families. I am happy you are here! I look forward to getting to know you well and learning together as a small group. This month we will explore lesson plans on animals and winter. We will also work on strengthening our trunk muscles to enable rolling and social skills like smiling and responding to others. If there is anything I can do to help with you or your child's transition into child care, please know that I am here for you and happy to

Bananas in Pajamas

We have been bundled up outside to enjoy the first snow fall. We are learning about fruits and vegetables. We played games to help the children match colors together. WE have flannel pieces that are big and small so this helps with those concepts. We have been doing art by painting with fruits and vegetables. The children love to dump and fill buckets with the toy veggies and fruits. They enjoy trying new things like fruit salad.

Ms. Salessa & Ms. Brittannie, Almost 2's

help.

Ms. Ericka, Infants

Cabbage Patch Kids

November has brought very cold winds, so please bring a warm hat, mittens, coat/snowsuit, and booties to wear as we go on our walks outside. We can go outside for walks as long as the temperature is 20 degrees or above with the wind chill.

Babies are constantly learning about their environment by grasping toys and manipulating them. This also ties into another child portfolio focus of exploring cause and effect relationships. Their body movements at first may be random and erratic but through practice they develop their skills. Some home activities to help your child reach and grasp and explore cause and effect are:

- *Introduce your child to toys in their environment by touching their hand at first with the object and then allowing them to attempt to reach and touch it. If they don't attempt to do so, place the object in your child's hand and let them explore all of its properties.*

Lemon Head Crew

I hope everyone enjoyed the final days of the nice fall weather. Winter has now arrived and with it comes the holiday season. The children will be learning all about winter and what comes with it. We will also be working to refine our self-help skills such as putting on and taking off cold weather gear. So, remember practice makes perfect.! In addition, we will work on special projects and practice following simple instructions.

Ms. Zee, 2-1/2's

Strawberry Shortcakes

As the year is winding down, we just wanted to remind you of a couple things. Please make sure outdoor clothing (coats, snow pants, boots, hat and mittens) are labeled. Also, please check cubbies to make sure your child has extra clothes, including socks that may get wet. Recently, we have been working hard on handwashing with more independence. Communication is key for two-year olds. We encourage them to use words to express their feelings and if they don't have a word, we can help them find one. We have also enjoyed playing games

- *When in new surroundings, let your child explore the textures of objects they see by placing their hands on these objects and talking to them about what they are touching.(e.g., a tree, a glass window, etc.) Also talk about what happens when they touch it (e.g., The leaves and branches move, or they see their handprint on the window.)*
- *Make a basket of objects of everyday items to explore (change out the items in the basket every once in a while.) Examples would be: a lid from a container, mesh bag from fruit, measuring cup or a rubber duck. Be creative!*

Ms. Judeen & Mrs. Jefferson, Infants

Veggie Tales

This past month, the Veggie Tale Kids had fun learning about their different senses and bubble wrap painting. We also had fun exploring colors and light. We hung up multi-colored lights by the diaper changing area to give the children a visual experience while getting their diaper changed. We also filled water bottles with plain water and then added the primary

and singing songs to help with identifying colors.

Ms. Shaparis & Ms. Claire, 2's

Zany Zucchini's

What a busy month we have had! We had two themes this month: Dinosaurs and Vehicles. Both themes related to our portfolio focus -"Responds to questions appropriately." An example would be with our vehicle unit. Children were asked to name different vehicles and then where those vehicles were parked (i.e. fire truck at the fire station or airplanes at the airport.) Another portfolio focus was 1 to 1 correspondence. One way we did this was with our Stegosaurus. Each one had a number, the number name and the corresponding pieces of velcro. Each child then placed that many paper "spikes" onto the back of the Stegosaurus. We also would like to say thank you to all the families that were able to participate in our dinosaur expedition. We hope you enjoyed it as much as your child did. In closing, we would like to remind you to check your child's cubby daily. If they are missing clothing (pants, tops, underwear, socks) please replace. Finally, remember to take your child's artwork home. These masterpieces may not appear to be much,

food coloring to the bottles and watched them change colors. This month we will learn about winter. We will talk about how unique snowflakes are and the different types of winter animals. Speaking of winter, please remember to bring in warm spare clothes for your child's cubby (hats and mittens too!).

Ms. Christie & Ms. Melissa, 2nd Infants

Red Hot Chili Peppers

Wow! We cannot believe 2018 is almost over! We can't wait to have some sensory fun with winter right around the corner. We have been learning a lot about all things associated with fall, such as pumpkins, leaves and turkeys. We even got to see a turkey during our nature walk. We have been working really hard on our sign language. Most of us finally mastered how to sign please, eat, and milk. This month we will be focusing on winter themes such as snow, arctic animals, and the holidays. Some skills we will continue to work on are hand-eye coordination and balancing. December will be a busy month but we hope you all have a happy holiday!

Ms. Jennifer & Ms. Pakou, Toddlers

however, your child has used their imagination, creativity and time to create them!

Ms. Lynn & Ms. Nicole, 3's

Wild Berries

Winter is here! Please start bringing in warmer coats, hats and gloves. The Wild Berries have been working really hard recognizing and spelling their names using their name puzzle. We have also been practicing our numbers and experimenting with things that sink and float. We loved dressing up as farm animals and now we will be talking about pets and how to take care of them. We will continue to work on counting and identifying our numbers.

Ms. KeKe, 4's

Wild Watermelons

We are having lots of fun in the school age room. This month we made "monster" cookies. A lot of the children had interesting monsters. We also had some friendly competitions. In one competition we had to use vampire teeth to pick up spiders and place them in cups all with one hand. Our other competition was blowing

Cuties

As the cold weather has come upon us, our little cuties are bundled up watching the seasons change. We are continuing our learning through play by experimenting with all kinds of fun things. We will make s'mores to embrace the cool weather with a warm snack. We will play outside in the snow, observing different forms of water, and we will create paintings to represent the color of the fallen leaves. Our portfolio focuses will be to increase our word usage and vocabulary through our high interest of songs and stories. In our upcoming month, we will encourage parents to join our classroom and share their own stories and songs (holiday related or not!).

Ms. Sam & Ms. Mia, Toddlers

pom poms across the room on our bellies using smoothie straws. We also made shadow cut outs of our heads and we tried to guess who was who.

Ms. Ami, School-Age

Happy Birthday

- 1 *Nico Mirell*
- 3 *Owen Rohde*
- 4 *Alasia Hills-Fischer*
- 5 *Luis Maury*
- 7 *Breon Billups*
- 8 *Samuel Hack*
- 9 *Finnley Hoskow*
- 10 *Demaryrius Urgel*
- 14 *Ms. Ericka*
- 15 *Isabelle Dickinson*
- 16 *Henry Hartwell*
- 16 *Joshua Modl*
- 18 *Lucas Bavuso*
- 18 *Logan Bavuso*
- 19 *Ms. Johnnetta*
- 21 *Joseph Oby*
- 22 *Robbie Nielsen*
- 24 *Cameron Gahl*
- 26 *Ja'Nalia Buford*
- 29 *Ms. Jessica*