

The Nurturing Nook - Glendale

Inside this issue:

Notes from the Director	1
Special Days	2
Bouncing Bunnies	2
Playful Penguins	3
Birthdays	3
Teddy Bears	4
Flashing Fireflies	5
Busy Bees	6
Shining Stars	7
Rising Stars	8
WI Immunization Registry	8
Sunshine	9
Rainbow	10

NURTURING NOOK GLENDALE

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Notes from the Directors

March has arrived and hopefully so too will spring weather. We can already see our days getting longer and are anxiously awaiting more days of sunshine.

We have officially been in our new building for one year! On Wednesday March 15th we will celebrate with cake-the best way to celebrate 😊

Please congratulate Jessie as she was recently promoted to our new Assistant Director! Jessie has been with The Nurturing Nook since July of 2016 and has worked in a variety of capacities. We are excited to have her join the administrative team 😊

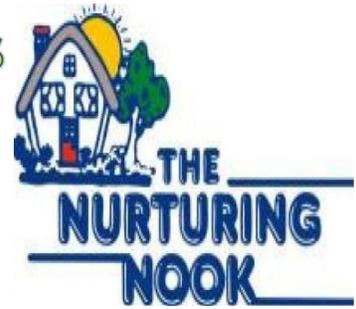
Please welcome Shanice who has joined our team as Jessie moves into her new role. Shanice has joined Alexis in the Rising Star classroom. Please introduce yourself to her and help her to feel welcome at our center.



We are expecting a licensing visit in the upcoming weeks so please help us by keeping us informed of your child's doctor visits and returning their Health Report, which requires a physician's signature, and Immunization Record as timely as possible. We know that this is one thing that she checks on each of her visits so we want to be prepared! We must also maintain accurate attendance records for DCF. Please help us with this by accurately signing your child in and out on the classroom clipboards on a daily basis.

Please remember to inform us when your child will be missing a scheduled day so that the teachers are able to maintain accurate attendance. If we have not heard from you within two hours of your child's scheduled arrival time, we will reach out to you to ensure your child's safety.

Classrooms are planning St. Patrick's Day parties so please watch your child's classroom for notes about



special activities & parties the week of March 13th. Any snacks that you sign up to bring in need to be prepared in a commercial kitchen and have an ingredient listing on the container in order to meet our licensing requirements.

Thanks to everyone who has returned their 2023 Summer & Fall Questionnaire. Knowing your plans for summer and all helps us to plan for the future. If you have not already returned it, please do so. You can return a hard copy or through email.

May success be with you or as the Irish saying goes "May the road rise to meet you". We are looking forward to a busy and fun-filled month!

Donna

SPECIAL DAYS IN MARCH

- 2nd Dr. Seuss Day
- 4th National Play Outside Day
- 6th Oreo Cookie Day
- 10th International Day Of Awesomeness
- 11th Johnny Appleseed Day
- 12th Working Mom's Day
- 14th Pi Day
- 16th Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
- 18th National Corn Dog Day
- 19th International Read to Me Day
- 20th International Day of Happiness
- 22nd National Goof Off Day
- 23rd National Puppy Day
- 27th National Scribble Day
- 30th Pencil Day
- 31st National Crayon Day

BOUNCING BUNNIES

Welcome March!

We had so much fun last month talking about friendship and family. Thanks to all that participate in our Valentine's Day exchange.

We would like to say goodbye and wish luck to all our Bunnies that move to the Playful Penguin room. We will miss you! Don't forget to stop by and say hi! 😊 And on the same note, we welcome all the new families to our Bouncing Bunny room.

This month we will be focusing on looking at and talking about colors. We will continue working on tummy

time. We encourage our families to do the same so we can help our babies to strengthen their neck and upper body. We are also going to work on standing and supporting our weight and our older Bunnies will be working on sitting with and without assistance. For small motor development we will be practicing holding our bottle and exploring our hands.

A friendly reminder, please make sure to label all your baby's items, including the handle of your car seat with your baby's first and last name.

If you have any questions and concerns, please feel free to call.

Jeannette & Marija



PLAYFUL PENGUINS

Are we seeing any green yet? Maybe only with St Patrick's Day decorations. Hopefully soon we will see new buds on trees and grass growing as well.

It is hard to believe that this month we will celebrate our 1st year in our new space building! Most of the current Penguin Kiddos were not born yet and a couple were just a few weeks old. Here we are with a room full of growing babies. It is a joy to experience all the learning that is happening each and every day with the Penguin flock. There are fast crawlers accomplishing this mode of transportation in various forms from Army to Roll/Army to Hands and Knees crawling. There is also pulling up to standing at furniture happening. Some babies just stand at it and some cruise along shelves and balance bar. We are proud of

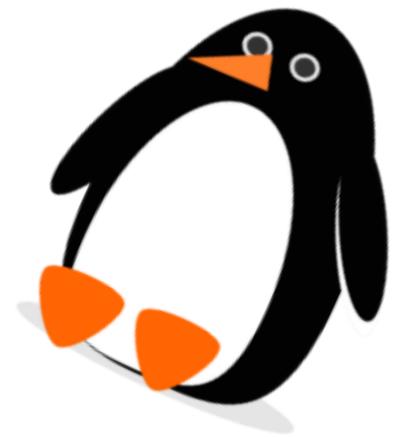
them and they are proud of themselves 😊 Praise is heard by them from teachers often. One favorite activity for those who know how to move along while standing is pushing various items while walking. The activity table, the push activity center and sometimes the high chairs have become walking learners. They are so happy moving about in this way. A few Kiddos have begun to stand without holding on for a few seconds at a time. Balance is key.

Another area of development which is expanding the Penguins are expanding are their verbal skills. All of them babble in various forms. Some are making mostly one syllable sounds and some are doing both one and two syllable sounds. A few have come to the stringing several double syllable words together and

adding intonation. This is very close to speaking real sentences. We hear a few Mamma and Dadda's from some of the Kiddos. The activities that we use to enhance verbal skills are reading, singing, and talking to them throughout the day. We often simply describe to them what we are doing for them when meeting a caregiving need. It is very important also to respond to their babbling as if carrying on a give and take conversation. Before we know it, they will be carrying on a full conversation.

We wish everyone a wonderful St. Patrick's Day and hope everyone will wear GREEN! And before we know it Spring will be here and we will celebrate newness.

Karen Ivey & Marija



WHETHER YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BEHAVIOR AND DEVELOPMENT, OUTDOOR LEARNING, OR SCHOOL READINESS, YOU WILL FIND RESEARCH-BASED RESOURCES, TIPS

naeyc

National Association for the Education of Young Children
<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/for-families>



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!

WISHING A BIG HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE WHO CELEBRATES THEIR SPECIAL DAY THIS MONTH!



CATE	MALCOLM	IVEY
BEAU	EDWIN	JEANA
EZRA	CONOR	NETTE
ELI	OLIVER	
CORA	ADELINE	
LUNA	MADISON	

TEDDY BEARS

Wow, another month has passed by in the blink of an eye! We were so happy to welcome our new friends into their new classroom, and we are so impressed with how quickly they have transitioned into their new schedule.

Our little Bears have grown so much and we feel very lucky to have been there to witness them blossoming into full on toddlers. We love each and every one of their unique and silly personalities. We look forward to another month of smiling faces and goofy giggles!

We will continue to help the Teddies on their journey of continued development and meeting new milestones. Please continue to

keep your child's cubby updated with a warm jacket, hat, mittens and shoes.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call or chat with us at pick up and drop off.

Jeana & Iliana



Congratulations!

TEANNA AND CAMRYN CELEBRATE ONE YEAR WITH THE NURTURING NOOK THIS MONTH! PLEASE CONGRATULATE THEM! WE ARE SO GLAD THEY JOINED OUR GLENDALE TEAM 😊

FIREFLIES

Happy March! Spring is almost here and we are so excited for warmer weather and longer days! We cannot wait to see what this month brings. During the month of February, we welcomed a new friend from Teddy Bears and we had one friend move up to Busy Bees! We are excited to get to know our new friend and we are happy for our friend who moved up.

During the month of February, we focused on Black History Month & Valentine's Day. We learned about Black inventors, artists, musicians and influential leaders. We also did fun art and sensory activities to incorporate these concepts like creating mosaics and creating Black Pride Flags.

The week that we dedicated to Valentine's Day involved lots of fun experiences like heart shaped scoopers in pink rice, sensory bottles, disappearing hearts, etc. It was a very fun month!

For the month of March, we are going to focus on all things spring and

women, since March is Women's History Month! The themes for the month would be, Insects and Spiders, Wonderful Women, Rain, Clouds and Rainbows, In the Spring and Pond Life. Skills we will focus on will be fine motor, personal social and science and sensory. We will work on these skills by engaging in popsicle stick activities, turn taking games and smelling spring scents.

We will still be cooking/baking together to help develop skills like utilizing utensils, measuring, and working together.

NOTE: We still ask that the children have snow pants, boots, hats and gloves throughout the month of March as we expect there will still be cold weather and snow. If you could please ensure your child has all of their winter gear we would appreciate that!

Camryn & Ariel



BUSY BEES

Hello Busy Bee Parents,

Last month the Busy Bees learned all about love and gratitude and Valentine's Day!

As winter comes to an end, we will begin to learn about spring and all things that spring brings! As we move into March we will talk and teach the kids about the seasons changing and everything that March has in store!

We will still continue to explore activities to support our curriculum. This includes encouraging the children's development across all the learning domains. Our activities and curriculum focus on: social, language, cognitive, motor, and self-help skills. We have planned fun and exciting ways to help guide the children to develop these skills.

An example of an activity we will do this month will be decorating four-leaf clovers! In this activity,

we will offer different objects including stickers, paint and so much more to give the children a wide range of things so they can get creative and have fun. This activity will help strengthen children's fine motor skills, as well as partake in decorating the classroom for March!

This month will also be the Busy Bee's music month! We will learn all about different instruments and types of music to help broaden our Bee's musical knowledge! We have planned fun and creative activities that will carry our curriculum forward including (but not limited to) singing songs, reading books, music-based activities, lots of large motor movement games, painting, and sensory bins!

We have developed fun and creative ways to practice our large motor and fine motor

skills! Some of these activities include movement games like dancing to fun educational songs, art activities, and so much more! We also have set a few activities this month that apply to the children's cognitive and social development. These activities include "find the instrument," where the children can look at pictures of instruments and find the other picture that matches which will help enhance our Bee's problem-solving skills, as well as cognition. Painting and coloring activities that boost creativity, and sharing games to support social development!

While in this class we want the Busy Bees to gain as much words as possible! We work with the Bees through various activities to help develop their social and self-help skills and get those words flowing! We will continue to play



There are so many wonderful things to see and do around our great city. Please check them out at:

www.onmilwaukee.com



games, listen to songs and books, and do fun activities to continuously help develop our Busy Bee's!

If there are any questions please feel free to ask!

WELCOLME TO SPRING!

Jonesha & Lyla



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SHINING STARS

Hello parents!

It has been a fun and exciting month for the Stars. For the entire month of February, we went on a world tour to explore a different culture each week. We first visited Italy where we listened to music and ate pizza, pasta and drank wine (sparkling juice). We colored maps, explored the decorations and food, and we also looked out for pictures of Italian food in the stories we read. Another art and fine motor project we did was making paper pizzas. Some looked very real and made us hungry!

After eating and drinking, we packed our bags and flew over to Asia. We made Chinese art with symbols, listened to Asian music and ate and tried Chinese fried rice, sweet sour chicken, tea, Lo Mein noodles and rice roll (rice cake). We pretend to cook in the kitchen and dress up in different types of

clothing. On the walls were pictures of Asian food and clothing.

We then flew to Mexico and Puerto Rico and ate lots of black beans, taquitos and nachos. I think the kids really just like the cheese! We danced the tango and enjoyed lots of salsa dancing. We listed and danced to many songs in Spanish.

One of our favorites was the singer Selena Quintanilla Perez. If your child comes home speaking Spanish or any other language, you'll know why!

Finally, our last stop on our world culture tour was Africa. It got really loud with the drums and music. For art we used our sensory skills with sticky tape. Our Stars did well with licking and sticking it down on the paper. We tried African food such as bean stew. It's nice to see the children try new



foods. Some were familiar with the different foods we tried. We appreciate everything and all the support you parents gave us during this fun month.

It is still cold but we continue to go outside and enjoy the fresh air, so be sure to bring coats, hats, mittens, and

boots in case it snows.

As always please feel free to ask any questions about your child or their classroom.

Stay safe and healthy!

Ci vediamo dopo!

Shaquanda & Nette



RISING STARS

We welcome Spring with open arms! We made it to the month of March! Just a friendly reminder that we do try our best to go outside daily, weather permitting. Take note of this and please make sure that your child has a jacket here at school every day. We really appreciate that you have all the winter wear here for the children.

Thank you so much to those parents who sent treats to share with the classroom and teachers during our Valentine's Day Celebration. We definitely appreciate your thoughtfulness.

For the month of February, we talked about Groundhog Day. In our sensory table the children played with dirt, baking soda, and animals. We talked to the children about what animals hibernate and also used their imagination to make homes, tunnels, and burrows. An art project

that the children really enjoyed making was painting their own groundhog. During this project we talked about what colors we were using and how to take turns with our friends. On Groundhog Day we asked the children if they thought the groundhog would see his shadow. This was fun for them since we were able to show them what a shadow looks like with the lights off and using flashlights.

We also started eating our meals family style this week which has been great to see all their skills come through; being very independent.

The following week we talked about Valentine's Day and Love. This was a very exciting week filled with lots of expressions. We talked to the children about how to use their words when they are frustrated or need something. There were a few art projects that the children enjoyed doing. We did a lots of fine motor

work for art. The class was able to decorate their own Valentine's Day bags and make their parents a Valentine's Day gift. They were able to practice with glue sticks and holding crayons/markers like an adult. During our circle time the children worked on letter recognition by focusing on the letters in their own names. They all now know the first and second letter of their name and can identify their full name in a pile of their friend's names. They are also doing really well with their primary colors.

Lastly, we talked about Multicultural Appreciation. In our home living area, we had different pictures of how children learn in classrooms from around the world. This opened up a fun and interesting conversation with the children. They asked lots of questions like, "What do they learn, Why don't they have chairs, Where is their teacher? etc." In block area, we put different foods from different cultures on the



blocks so the children were able to see and stack the food in different categories. During snack, they were able to try guacamole dipped with chips. This was a lot of fun and we were very impressed with the number of children who did try! It was also very fun to hear them say avocado over and over again, since we told them that's where guac comes from!

In March, our themes will be: my body, the alphabet, and bugs.

As always, feel free to talk with any of us if you have questions, comments, concerns, or suggestions. We love hearing feedback!

Alexis & Jessie

Wisconsin Immunization Program

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) is a computerized Internet database application that was developed to record and track immunization dates of Wisconsin's children and adults. Immunization registries are seen as an integral tool for assuring that children and adults receive their immunizations according to recommended schedules and can prevent over-immunizing.

The Public Immunization Record Access feature allows look-up access to immunization records by individuals, parents, or legal guardians. Offering parents and guardians access to look-up their child's immunizations can decrease the number of requests to providers for immunization records from their patients.

SUNSHINE ROOM

Happy March Sunshine Families!

We are nearing the time of year we have all been waiting for, it's almost spring and we can't wait to start our spring activities!

Last month was lots of fun learning about many different African American inventors like Phillip Downing, Garrett Morgan, and George Washington Carver.

We also talked about dental hygiene and how important it is to keep our teeth clean.

Our children have been learning so much throughout the past few months and by implementing our Sunshine fun packets children have been able to continue their learning while at home.

The new season will bring many new things we would like to introduce and teach our class. Some of the themes that we will go over this month will be Dr. Suess, Community Helpers, and Spring.

During the week of Dr. Suess, we will be having a birthday party on Thursday March 2nd in celebration of Dr. Suess, so please wear your best Dr. Suess attire.

We would also like to ask all families to bring in items to help us with our community helper themes as well. Any items you can think of will be appreciated that is, toys, books, clothing, etc.

We have been working hard to maintain structure while learning through play within our classroom and have appreciated all our parents in their support and patience in working with us to keep a strong united front within the center and at home. It is important that we all stay on the same page when it comes to structured routines and redirecting inappropriate behaviors. As we are dealing with many different personalities and learning styles we are working on different ideas and strategies to help with different behavior issues as well as how the children receive and retain



information. Implementing small group activities has helped us to better assess the children's strong and weak areas of development and to better help us in understanding what routes we can take these next few months in helping them to achieve their developmental milestones.

We hope that the conferences helped you all to get a better understanding of what we are doing in our classroom and the methods and strategies we use in our day-to-day routines. We enjoyed getting to talk with you all and tell you a little bit of why we do what we do and how it helps us in teaching and nurturing our children. We hoped that you all were able to get a lot out of the conferences as well. We will continue building up different strategies as our children grow and new

challenges arise. We just ask that all our parents continue to work with your children at home and talk to them about appropriate behavior within the classroom and with their friends.

Also remember we are accepting all donations like books, home living items, dress-up clothes, puppets, and puzzles.

Teanna & Tia



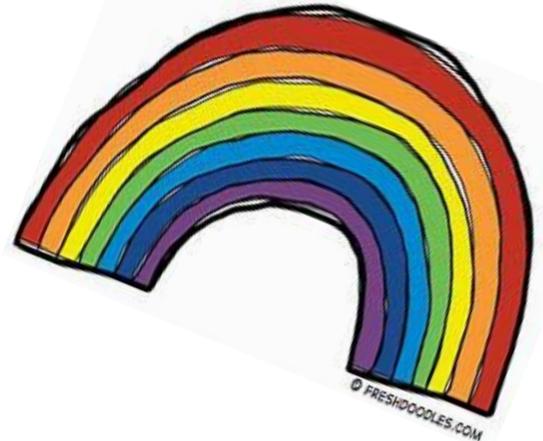
RAINBOW ROOM

Wow, the month of February went by fast. It was a month filled with friendship and love. We started out by learning about all the people that help us in our community. We read stories about community helpers and played some guessing games to see if we knew who our helpers are. They sure enjoyed the grocery store we had in home living. They also spent some time putting on their baker hats and making some yummy cakes and cookies with the playdough. The children have also been putting together community helper puzzles.

Next it was a week all about friendship. We sat down and made a list of things that make a great friend. Hugs and sharing were at the top of that list. We then went over some pictures that showed us some ways to be a great friend. We are working on some of these suggestions in the classroom. We read a story called

Leonardo the Terrible Monster. It is about a monster who can't scare anyone and, in the end, decides to make a friend instead. The children got a chance to make their own monsters out of coffee filters as well as a friendship puzzle. We got out our big cups and the children worked together to build tall towers. We played a who's missing game which was a lot of fun. Thanks to all of you who brought in show and tell. The children loved showing off their favorite toy.

We moved on to everyone's favorite week, Valentine's Day. The children worked on patterns using conversation hearts. They also tested their building skills to see how many hearts they could stack at one time. Cameron was the big winner with nine. In science we used our light table to make hearts with red and white glass beads. We made plenty of art projects using hearts such as windsocks and



marble painting. We ended the month talking about dental health. We worked on our lacing skills by lacing a tooth. We did an experiment for science by soaking a boiled egg in soda and one in water then predicted what would happen. We talked about what the dentist does for our teeth and read many stories about the tooth fairy.

We also played a game called happy tooth sad tooth where the children had to tell us if a certain food was healthy for our teeth or unhealthy. Watch for information on Dr. Suess week coming February 27th thru March 3rd.

Have a great month!

Renee & Nichol

