

~ Toddlers ~

Wow! We can not believe that July is here already! Summer has been flying by in Toddlers and we have been having so much fun! Water days have definitely been a favorite around here, and when you add popsicles, well is there even a competition?! We have also loved continuing our conversation around the construction, now that it has moved to right outside our front door, we are spending lots of time talking about the machines and making observations and guesses about what will happen next!



In June we had so much fun with our water unit that we extended it by a whole week! It is always such a treat to see how much the kiddos get excited around something and finding ways to keep providing new opportunities to explore and interest! We did tons of art projects outside, experimenting with painting

with just water, and watching how the sidewalk and brick on the building changed colors, we took our sponges around to find what else we could paint or “clean” on the playground, and it kept us busy for a good hour! We also did some ice exploration! We had some ice mixed with paint that we used to paint with, and watched how it changed how the paint moved and dried on the paper. Another favorite was mixing water and paint with a cotton ball and hitting it so hard that it went SPLAT! The marks it made were so fun, but moving on to throwing the cotton balls on the ground or at the wall was also such a fun exploration! The kiddos really found all the ways we could explore our materials and it was so fun to watch! Our aim in toddlers is to always focus on the process of art, and not the end production, the toddlers really took that to heart this month and we watched them use their cognitive skills for things like cause and effect and observing. They used executive functioning skills on waiting turns, prioritizing what material to work with first, and to keep trying even when it didn't go to plan. We love seeing these little moments during such fun activities!



In June we also started our camping theme! The room was transformed into a campground full of tents, bonfires, fishing areas, camp stoves and flashlights! We did forest animal puppet theater with our Bear books and practiced chopping wood to use for our bonfires! We will continue our theme into July with a s'mores themed sensory table, campfire painting with tinfoil, and practicing making a starry sky with our flashlights! We will also look forward to some fun 4th of July crafts for the scrapbook!



Later in July we will start our Zoo theme! We will explore building homes and habitats in our “Zoo” of a classroom! We will explore maps and following them to each animals home! We will also practice sorting with animal crackers, build zoos in our block area and make every last handprint animal that you can possibly think of! :)

At the very end of July we will start exploring our next theme, which is all about us! We will talk about bodies, hygiene, how we move, how we look, what our families and houses are like! We would love if you would send along an updated family photo and any photos of your homes and pets so we can make our own book about our classroom! We are excited to celebrate all the special things that make us, us!



We hope you are having a wonderful summer and can't wait to keep exploring with you!



- Your Toddler Team!