

Newsletter - Issue no. 12

early
years



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Beauty of Inclusive Learning environment

In an incredibly competitive world we all race through, **Early Years education** creates fundamental values that support children all through their life. Children in those five first years of age consciously and unconsciously develop their values from the surrounding environment and people. The nursery is one of the most influential places where children pick up some of their values.



In this article, we are highlighting the value of inclusion, where no one is left behind and all children can learn. This is the environment we are looking to raise the children into and teach them about the diversity of capacities and how some easy tasks to us can be challenging to others and vice versa. It is worth contemplating on compassion and kindness as well as gratitude and appreciation to what others bring into our lives.

In an **inclusive learning** environment, all children with all physical and developmental or behavioral differences learn intertwined. Both thrive as a result; children with challenges in speech will pick up from those who are expressive, children with eating problems will attempt to try new foods by watching and participating in activities with their peers.



Other children develop empathy waiting for their friend to achieve their tasks, acceptance while cheering those at the end of the race and the value of individuality from a young age by acknowledging that we are all learning at our own rate. Some of the benefits of inclusion for children with (or without) disabilities are friendship skills, peer models, problem solving skills, positive self-image, and respect for others."

Working together as a community and creating a partnership with families is an important part of inclusion and can help all children reach their developmental potential. Imagine yourself belonging to one big community that embraces different capacities and connects with empathy to each other, the influence of the presence of this place is considered a haven to families who face many challenges in the outside world. **An inclusive learning environment** of supporting families can impact the lives of those children and create a culture of acceptance and compassion if their influence expands beyond this current experience in early childhood.

Inclusive environments are not only beneficial for children within, but its benefits expand to touch many families. Family is the main unit of support, teaching parents and families to be more accepting of differences is what inclusive learning environment is all about. Since parents are a child's first teacher and know their child best, it is important to have all families understanding and support to create consistency between home and school.

Why do I want my child's teacher to be an inclusive educator?

In this matter, all families receive benefit from having a teacher with an inclusive teaching philosophy. All children typical or none learn differently, much research have proven people have several types of intelligence as Howard Garner multiple intelligence theory and preferred way of learning as VARK (visual, auditory, Read/write, Kinesthetic) modalities style of learning.

An educator who has the inclusive thinking will be eager enough to learn about your child preferred learning style and connects with them.

This inclusive educator will have the drive to search and find the suitable engaging activity to ensure your child is progressing and assist you with working tools that support your child success in academic, behavioural, and personal growth.

An Inclusive learning environment encourages parents' involvement and foster a culture of respect and belonging in those who experience it.

It provides opportunities for everyone to grow and accept individual differences.



(New Brunswick Association For Community Living (NBACL), 2018)

Crawling Caterpillars



What we've been learning

Caterpillars have been learning things around them, like (cars, toys, class tools, kitchen tools) different types of food. We made orange juice, pizza & fruit vegetables (banana, orange, apple, tomato, cucumber, lemon, potato, carrot). They learned different colors such as blue, red, orange, yellow, green and purple. They have learned simple things about Egypt such as the flag, camels, the pyramids, and the Egyptian anthem.

We have new friends joining us this month

Mallika • Tia Malek



Upcoming themes

Caterpillars are going to learn about animals (pets - farm - zoo). They are going to learn about different kinds of pets, such as dogs, cats, fish, turtles, and birds. We are planning to bring a turtle and a fish to the class so they can play with them. They are going to learn their sounds and do some animal crafts. As they will learn some animal songs, they will learn some songs for Mother's Day. They are going to prepare the Mother's Day gift and enjoy other activities with their Moms' collaboration.



Busy Butterflies



What we've been learning

The *Butterflies* have been focusing on knowing the basic emotions they can experience; happy, sad and angry, and how to best display them. They also get to know the heart shape, experiment with it and focus on the red, pink and purple colors. Starting mid-February, the *Butterflies* have been talking about Egypt, its main water sources as the 2 seas and the Nile river, the colors of its flag, singing its anthem and try some of its traditional food items, like oriental pies with cheese and molasses, fava beans and falafel and grilled sweet potatoes. They got to know that we are based in Cairo and that the pyramids and camels are its most famous attractions. They were introduced to the triangle shape, worked on color sorting up to four colors and are counting items up to 7. Most of the kids are now capable of wearing their shoes and washing their own hands with minimal help.

Upcoming themes

For the month of March, the *Butterflies* are continuing with the "All About Me" series and will be discussing the 5 senses. They already started with the Tasting sense and then they will focus on Smelling, Seeing, Hearing and Touching at last. In each week, they will be using food items, spices, materials, tools, and instruments to help them understand each sense and the organ responsible for it in their body. At the end of the theme, they will have some classification activities to recap the whole theme. Half-through March, the *Butterflies* will be working on creating gifts and decorations for their mothers to celebrate the Mother's Day party together.





Upcoming themes

Bees will explore the 'community helpers' and how they help us to support our community. We will start with a police officer and get to know the tools they use to arrest the robbers (walkie-talkie and handcuffs). Then will move to a firefighter and the equipment they use in putting out fire. The real life fireman is going to visit us to show us how to spray water from the hose to extinguish a fire. We will speak about a doctor and how they help sick people feel well. *Bees* will continue to study opposite adjectives sick- healthy, safe-dangerous, hot-cold. We will learn new geometric shapes such as rectangles and revision heart, circle, triangle, square.

What we've been learning

The *Bees* were learning everything about transportation, which we use every day or when we go on holiday. There are three types of transportation: on land, on the sea and in air. We learned that water transportation is non-sinking and made boats from special sponge to see it. *Bees* now know that trains have many carriages, so it is so long; unlike cars which are short, and trains move by using electricity and rails. The children can respond to the question "How did you come to the nursery today?" - By car, by bus. The air transportation has a propeller that helps to stay in air. *Bees* have been learning opposite adjectives: clean- dirty, big- small, fast-slow, and up-down. *Bees* have been exploring Egyptian culture and history, they focused on the Nile River, how it is important to keep it clean and care about it and it is the longest river in the world. We learned some facts of Egypt that Pyramids and sphinx- are part of the 'Seven wonders of the world', pharaoh, national clothes and food.





What we've been learning

The Lucky Ladybirds were discovering the different animals in the world around us and their different habitats. We started with the arctic animals like seals and penguins, then the jungle animals including tigers, giraffes, ostriches, hippos, rhinos, monkeys, and lions.

Then we moved to the farm animals and talked about the life cycle of the chickens and learned how we benefit from other animals on the farm, like how we get milk from cows and honey from bees. Finally, we discussed the various kinds of pets we can have at home from fish to cats, dogs, and birds. We introduced the shapes of diamonds and rectangles and practiced counting till 5 and matching the correct number to the objects counted. We also started to identify the letters S, A and T by sound.



We concluded our animals' theme with a trip to the ZOO, where the children got to see a lot of the animals that we talked about in real life and experience the joy of feeding them and even go for a ride on a pony.



Upcoming themes

We just started our new theme of "All around the world", where we spend every week talking about a different country. We started with our very own Egypt and learned about different parts in Egypt and what we can see there and concluded it with Egypt day celebration.

Next, we will discover Hawaii with its volcanoes and beautiful flowers, then we will move to Italy and its cuisine, and we'll have our own pizzeria. Australia will be our next with its animals and beaches. And we'll end our tour in India with its rich culture and colorful costumes.

We will take some time to celebrate Mother's Day and create something special for our lovely mummies. We will start to introduce the sounds P, I and N. And start working on blending the sounds.



What we've been learning

The spiders were learning about everything at home; the name of each room, the furniture and the objects that should be in each room. They enjoyed furnishing our class with home furniture like bed, couch, bean bags, pillows, kitchen with its tools, iron, washing machine and clothes hanger. They were interested in washing clothes in the washing machine, hanging them on the drying rack with clothespins to dry and after that they took the clothes to the ironing table to iron them. They had fun using the kitchen tools, cooking for each other and washing the dishes, spoons, and forks. They got a chance this month to get to know each other's favorite animals, colors, meals, hobbies, friends, and cartoons.

They Spent two weeks talking about the Egyptian landmarks, the pyramids, and the Nile River. The kids had fun making their 3D pyramids, ancient Egyptian accessories, and a pharaoh's headdress with pasta.



In Phonics:

We covered r, m, d and their sounds and we learnt lots of things that begin with these letters, moreover we traced them on laminated sheets.

We reviewed jolly phonics phase one oral and traced them. We practiced some CVC words like "car, cat, cap, can".

In Math:

We covered these numbers 11 and 12 and we practiced counting them on our fingers. We also practiced learning how many sides in each shape by lots of fun activities, and we covered the octagon.



Upcoming themes:

5th of March we begin a new theme which is sky and outer space. In this theme we will work on the kids' imagination, we will help them to become more imaginative children by lots of activities and songs. First, we will start talking about the Sun and its importance and off course we will practice singing Mr sun for two weeks. The next two weeks we will talk about the Moon, the phases of the Moon and will practice singing the Aikendrum. We will do fun activities like building the Aiken drum with food like the song. The last two weeks we will learn about the planets and some information on each planet, we will practice singing an amazing song for planets.

In Phonics:

We will start jolly phonics phase three, we will cover g,o,u and l. Moreover, we will continue practicing CVC words like (mat, sat, cat, pat, rat).

In Math:

The kids will be able to identify the word one, two and three through songs.





What we've been learning

Dragonflies have been learning about healthy habits and how we make healthy choices every time we can. and to reinforce healthy choices we had a supermarket trip and they managed to choose healthy choices by themselves. We made our own healthy pancakes without using sugar or white flour and they loved it. We also made a healthy milkshake in our classroom. Also we are talking about how important it is to eat fruits and vegetables every single day, brush our teeth, sleep early and exercise. In circle time we keep talking about emotions and how important it is to express our feelings and use our words when we feel sad or angry and this is how we can help each other.

In Math:

we are working on their counting skills and being able to know the differences between shapes and sizes.

In literacy:

we are working on letters s, t, n, i, a and we covered letter m and e also. They do a lot of tracing and finding words starting with all the letters we covered. They also enjoy cutting and using scissors activities which improve their handgrip.

Upcoming themes

This week we are talking about our mum's role in our life and how grateful we need to be and appreciate all the effort our mum does for us. We will have the same theme next week (healthy habits).



Upcoming Events

Thursday April 6th

Easter Bonnet Parade

Sunday April 2nd

Blue Day



Please note that not all kids are pictured during the activities yet
this doesn't mean they didn't share in the practising...