

February 2018

Sequoia's Treehouse



Welcome to February!

There's still just over a month left until spring, but we are ready for its arrival, and the few mild days we've had recently has made us even more excited!

Our theme for February is **Diversity** and each classroom has special activities planned for your little ones. Be sure to check out what they have planned!

See you at school!

Introducing the Treehouse's newest staff members, Beverly and Kean!



We are very excited to welcome our newest staff members, **Beverly and Kean**, to Sequoia's Treehouse!

Beverly has joined the Shoots class! She graduated from North Thurston High School in June 2017 where she was a member of the dance team for three years. Currently enrolled in college to become a pediatric nurse, she loves kids and is excited to be a part of the Treehouse and is ready to have a positive impact on our students lives.

Kean has joined our Sequoia's class! Originally from California's Bay Area, he is excited to live among the greenery of the Pacific Northwest. The urban gardens of Oakland inspired him to share the many ways gardens can grow with those of all ages. A friend ushered him into the world of The Child Unique, a Montessori school, for three years. He then selected early children's education as the major for his Associate's Degree. In his free time, he enjoys dance and music, riding bikes with his 11-year-old, and toiling in the garden with his partner. In the future he aspires to join or establish an educational farm in the Olympia area.

Seedling Room

<p>We've been exploring:</p>	<p>Looking forward to:</p>	<p>Hello!</p> <p>February is blowing in with a promise that Spring will be here soon. This month we are welcoming Rowan to our Seedlings classroom as we learn how to distinguish, communicate, and respect diversity.</p> <p>Families are welcome in our cozy room! We love to foster your involvement. Be a part of our family by bringing in photos of your family to hang on our Family Wall!</p> <p>While we anxiously await Spring, we ask that you continue to dress your little ones warmly and bring multiple outfit changes.</p> <p>Happily, Tori and Pace</p>
<p>Friendly gestures Winter Evergreens</p>	<p>Diversity in nature Nurturing Marine life</p>	



Sprouts Room

<p>We've been exploring:</p>	<p>Looking forward to:</p>	<p>For the month of February, we will be focusing a lot on diversity. The Sprouts will be exploring patterns, differences in textures, and colors. We see diversity in nature every day, but this month we will explore this concept even further. We will examine different colors and textures of leaves and trees. We will also be welcoming Zoey into our class this month!</p> <p>We would also like to remind parents to be sure to label all of your child's clothing and accessories with their name and initials. Thank you!</p> <p>- Chylee and Eileah</p>
<p>"Frosty the Snowman"- we also created our own Frosty with blue and white tissue paper on sticky contact paper! Earth worms</p>	<p>Sensory boards Letters: S,T,U,V Color change experiments</p>	



Shoots Room

We had a busy and exciting first month of 2018! The Shoots spent January exploring concepts related to winter. We did several experiments with melting large blocks of ice, discussed what ice is made of, and had conversations about observing naturally occurring ice in the outdoors. We worked on developing motor skills by practicing using scissors, as well as working on many art projects including: making snowmen, penguins, and a variety of paintings with collage items. For February we look forward to exploring the idea of diversity.

It was Audie's first month joining us as a Shoot and we are so pleased to have her as part of the group! We would also like to welcome Graham to our class, and welcome back Cooper!

- Rachel and Mike

Visitors:

Aly Long Yoga: 2/1,
2/15

We've been exploring:

Concepts of hot and cold

Arctic animals and the noises they make

3-D arts through sculpting with play dough using gems, popsicle sticks, and yarn

Looking forward to:

Learning about diversity by studying animals and habitats, different kinds of foods, and colors.

Welcoming our new friends to class



Family Notes:

Please provide your child with one or two changes of clothes

It is cold! Layers are necessary, and hat and gloves are strongly recommended!

It is also very wet; please make sure your children have rain boots and rain gear if possible.

Sapling Room

It's February! Winter is trudging on and the Saplings are showing no signs of Seasonal Affective Disorder! They've been high energy, always excited to explore and have fun in the mud and puddles. January never ended up getting super cold, but we had fun anyway learning about all things winter. In yoga we practiced winter themed poses like "hibernating bear," and "snow leopard." In Circle Time we read books about families playing in and coping with snow and freezing temperatures. During Table Talk we shared our favorite snow activities and what we like to do to stay warm. Mittens, hot chocolate, sledding, and snowball fights were some of the favorites. We got to make and paint snowflakes, while also learning about their magic and uniqueness.

- Joe and Jenny

Visitors:

Aly Long Yoga:
2/1, 2/15



We've been exploring:

We've been incorporating more ways for the children to participate in Circle Time, especially through music.

We brought in a new selection of Loose Parts for exploration.

Looking forward to:

In February we will be delving into the concept of Diversity in all of it's forms. We will be sharing ways our families are different and do different things at home. We will also be learning about the diversity of the world around us, especially the wetlands. We will be celebrating this through songs, books, and art.

Family Notes

Please make sure your child has at least 2 changes of clothes at school!

It's winter! Please bring warm clothes and rain clothes (boots, jackets, pants)! Hats and Gloves are SUPER helpful to keep warm while outside.

Sequoia Room

Happy February!

We welcomed lots of new friends to our class this month! We're looking forward to getting to know new friends Eva, Marilyn, Emma, and Galen, and are so excited to have Margot, Dylan, and Aksel join us from the Saplings class!

In January we helped get ready for the goats and they are here, and they are adorable! Stay tuned for their names, we have some great ideas!

Don't forget to check the art folder and the lost and found (both near the front door). We also recommend taking blankets home to wash weekly during flu season.

- Jey and Tess

Trips & Visitors:

Lunch Buddies at South Bay Elementary every Tuesday

Aly Long Yoga: 2/1, 2/15

Swim lessons: 2/1



We've been exploring:

January was all about winter. We talked about what it looks like, what makes it different from the other seasons, and what the animals are doing.

We enjoyed going to a play, swimming lessons, lunch in the wetlands, and a fun nature walk and rainy picnic at a park. We love eating outdoors!

We've been learning to recognize the numbers 11-20, what letters and sounds are at the beginning of our names and favorite words, and some of us are starting to be able to read! We learned all about symmetry, creating and discovering what snowflakes look like, and played and played and played!

Looking forward to:

Another play, swimming lessons, Lunch Buddies, visits to another park and a farm!

Talking about diversity – among people, animals, plants, and climates.

Welcoming the upcoming Saplings and expanding our classroom into the back space!