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Seedlings Classroom

**We have been exploring:
S.T.E.M.**

**Looking forward to:
All things water!**

We had so much fun in July as we explored each component of S.T.E.M.! We counted, sorted, mixed colors in bags and bottles, explored how things move on ramps, how oil and water separates, and examined various items (cords, screws, keys, etc.) in sensory tubes. We also acquired some new fidget toys that are fun to manipulate and make sounds when shaken.

We said goodbye to our friend Henry who moved out of state and friends Melita and Ryder who moved up to the Sprouts Classroom. We will miss them in the Seedlings Classroom, but we know they are ready for new adventures ahead!



Our theme for August will be Water! Our weekly themes will include lakes, ponds, rivers, streams and oceans. We will find many ways to explore water in our classroom through lots of play.



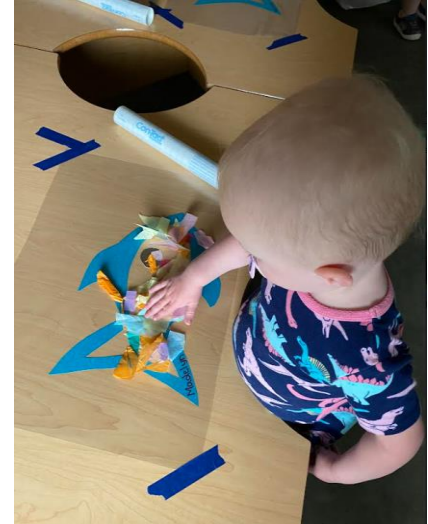
Reminders: If you have any time off planned for the rest of the Summer, please let us know either in person or send a message through Brightwheel. You can always send messages through Brightwheel to report absences or if you will be late. We worry when a friend is missing, and it is helpful for staffing! Also check Brightwheel for pictures from the Seedlings Room!



Sprouts Classroom

We have been exploring:
Sprouts Camp!

Looking forward to:
The rest of the summer!



To kick off the month of July, we transitioned from the Sprouts Class to Sprouts Camp! Every week we explored new Summer Camp theme topics. We explored camping and what we do while camping. We built a tent on the playground and imagined that we were sleeping under the stars. The following week we transitioned to Under The Sea. We read “The Rainbow Fish” and used contact and tissue paper to make our own rainbow fish to hang in the front class window. We spent our afternoons enjoying picnic snacks, splashing at our water table, running through the sprinkler, cooling off with popsicles and watching our sunflowers grow bigger with each passing day!



Welcome to our new friends Melita, Ryder, Lola and Palmer!
We also said goodbye to our friends Charlie and Margot as they transitioned into the Shoots Classroom.



We have welcomed a new Assistant Teacher to the Sprouts Classroom. Sierra M. has been with the Treehouse for a year and is so excited to be a part of the Sprouts! We look forward to all that summer still has in store for us!



Shoots Classroom

**We have been exploring:
Rhythm, Routine & Summer**

**Looking forward to:
Learning about Self, Space & Body Boundaries**

Teachers Em and Claire have started as co-teachers and begun to lay a foundation that focuses on rhythm, routine, and the Summer season on both sides of the classroom. Through songs and poems recited during circle time and daily transitions, we have been building structure through consistent daily routines and rituals. From learning new hand games, signing new snack time songs, and playing new outside games, the Shoots have been quick to learn and look forward to our new routines!



This month we explored art and nature by gathering sticks and flowers from the wetlands to make nature paint brushes. We froze poppies and daisies and rose petals for an ice rescue and even enjoyed a “flower soup” sensory table for the warm weather. In the month of August, we plan to explore self, space and body boundaries. We will read books such as “Don’t Hug Doug” and My Body Belongs To Me” and practice phrases such as “That hurts!” and “Can I have a turn?” to use in our classroom.



Welcome to our new friends Margot, Charlotte and Ande S. We said goodbye to our friends Theia, Magnolia and Dylan who moved up to the Shoots II classroom.

We are so excited for the rest of the Summer and can’t wait to see and experience what the rest of the season will offer.



Reminders: Families should take home water bottles and blankets every Friday to get washed. Make sure your child has extra clean and seasonally appropriate clothing and shoes in their cubby. Even though it is Summer, we still get wet and dirty outside and may need a change of clothing. Thank you!



Shoots II Classroom

**We have been exploring:
the ocean, tides and hard-shelled
creatures, family beach traditions**

**We are looking forward to:
geoducks, sea urchins and oysters and
learning about ocean pollution**

We have spent the last month exploring the ocean, tides and hard-shelled creatures of the sea! Our classroom was buzzing with questions about shells: Where do they come from? Who lives inside of shells? Who picks up shells? Why are they different sizes? We have been exploring answers to these questions by making collages of under the sea using paint, noodles, pom-poms and glue. We used our own imaginations and what we have seen at the beach to build our own interpretations of what under water in the ocean looks like. We have also been making our own sea urchin sculptures to dive into other shelled creatures that we don't normally see washed up on the shore. We have also been doing a lot of water play to experience the ocean for ourselves and doing experimentation with salt and freshwater. We can't wait to complete our classroom "aquarium" project in August!



Reminders: Please make sure you are applying sunscreen to your child before school. If you have water play outfits for your child it is easiest if they are wearing them to school under their regular clothing. Thank you!



Saplings Classroom

**We have been exploring:
ice cream, summer, boats**

**Looking forward to:
camping, beaches, bees**

In July we learned about ice cream, summer and boats! On the playground we always hear “Who wants some ice cream?” We decided that learning how ice cream is made and making it ourselves would be fun. To start our ice cream week, we danced to an ice cream song and throughout the week we made ice cream and ice cream volcanoes. We added our ingredients to a bag along with ice and ice cream salt and had to shake it for 5 minutes. Most of it came out runny but that was OK because it was still delicious!



As we learned about Summer, we explored ways to keep cool. We made our own popsicles by blending the watermelon and kiwi that we scooped out. We learned that we need to add liquid to make everything blend. As we ate our popsicles outside, we observed them melting because it was hot.



When we learned about boats, some of our friends talked about how they were on boats in July and were very interested in that mode of transportation. We made different boats out of cork, foil, paper plates and clay. The Saplings expressed some frustration with creating their boats, but we found our motivation with some enhanced direction on different ways to make them. They were so excited to make boats that would actually float!

Welcome to our newest Saplings: Louisa, Magnolia and Marnie! They are adding lots of fun, creativity and joy to our class!





Young Sequoias Classroom

We have been exploring: saving ocean animals, keeping water clean, applying sunscreen

We are looking forward to: learning about sharks and the ocean food chain

In the month of July, we explored our Ocean/Beach curriculum. We read about the importance of cleaning up after ourselves when we visit the beach or the coast and how this can contribute to saving the ocean. We also read about what animals we could find in these places. Our Young Sequoias shared their stories about visiting these bodies of water and how they could help educate the people they go with next time.

Our discovery learning included sensory tubs mimicking the textures of the beach with sand, shells and water. We did tons of artwork such as stingrays, jellyfish, sea turtles, fish sharks and even coral reef. A favorite activity of the Young Sequoias was building an aquarium with their very own fish to take home!

We are looking forward to August and learning about what animals live at what depths in the water, what kinds of sharks we have seen and the ocean food chain.



Reminders: Please keep extra clothes, water play clothes and shoes in your child's cubby if they enjoy playing in the sprinkler on hot days. As it continues to be hot, we are focused on staying hydrated, so always ensure your child has a water bottle at school. Please apply sunscreen in the morning before you drop your child off. Thank you!



Sequoias Classroom

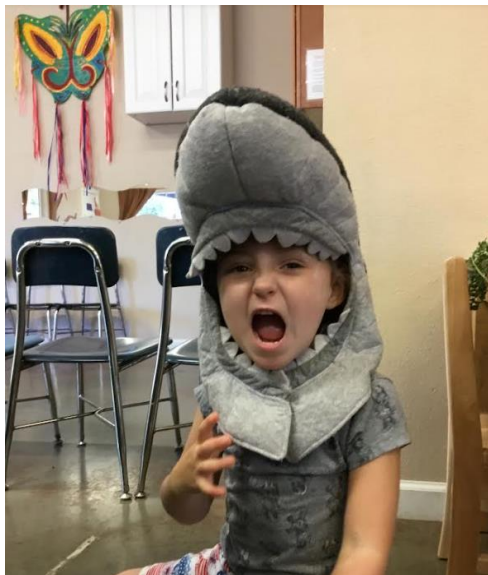
We have been exploring:
Spiders!

Looking forward to:
learning about the ocean

In the month of July we learned about spiders. We have learned about several different types of spiders and their characteristics. The Sequoias have particularly enjoyed reading/singing "Anansi the Spider: A Tale From Ashanti" as well as spider craft projects and examining spiders and their webs wherever we find them!

We just started a new unit on the ocean. We are looking forward to learning about many of the sea creatures that inhabit different oceans, continuing to decorate our ocean submarine fort. We will also be collecting fresh blackberries from the wetlands to make a pie.

Welcome to our new friends: Aria, Coco, Nicholas and Henry G!



Reminders: Thank you for continuing to take your artist's creations home from on top of their cubbies. Friday is also water bottle take home/cubby clean up day. Your child needs rain gear for those few days in the summer that it rains, pants and boots for nature hikes, a water bottle, blanket for quiet time. Please apply sunscreen in the morning before you drop your child off. Thank you!