

Birch Room February Update



Programming Update: Sensory

From birth to early childhood, children use their senses to explore the world around them. Sensory activities, in addition to being fun and interesting, encourage children to explore and investigate. As well, these activities support the children to use a “scientific” method of observing: forming a hypothesis, experimenting, and making conclusions. Other reasons sensory play is beneficial for children is that it supports language development, cognitive growth, fine and gross motor skills, social interactions, and aids in developing and enhancing memory. Sensory activities are also great for calming an anxious or frustrated child.

Some sensory activities you can enjoy at home with your child are water play, blowing and popping bubbles, scrunching and tearing paper, sand and snow fun, sound bottles made from empty water bottles and filling them up with rice to shake and listen to!

Children’s Interests

The children continue to show an interest every time it snows. This time around they were very interested in making footprints, so we decided to go over to the preschool playground for more space and see what we could find. Well, we discovered bunny footprints by the climber. The children were fascinated at how little they were as well they began to ask questions such as “Why was the bunny on the playground?”, “Where did the bunny go?”, “Did the bunny go up on the climber?”. Ms. Suzie then asked, “I wonder what else can we use to make prints in the snow?” so we got out the cars and trucks and made tracks all over the playground. Then we played follow the leader and the children walked in Ms. Suzie’s BIG footprints!

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Thistleoaks
Child Care Centre

Reminders from your Educators

Please make sure your child has seasonally appropriate outwear in their cubbies including a second spare set of mittens, with one pair being waterproof, as well as a full spare set of labelled clothing.

Programming: How Does Learning Happen The Learning Environment

Children need an environment that reflects and respects their interests and ideas as well as provides creative and open-ended experiences, and offers opportunities to work alone and alongside each other. The learning environment is one of the most important ways to personalize learning from the current interests of the children as well as it promotes motivation, inspiration, and belonging. The leaning environment should be child-centered with a range of materials, resources, and opportunities in which the children can engage.

Important Dates

February 14: We will be celebrating Valentines Day with a Friendship Fruit Salad activity, so we ask that everyone please bring in a piece of fruit in on that day to share. This will create a sense of belonging for the children when he/she is connected to others and contributes to our program. You are also more than welcome to bring in valentines for your child to share.

February 17: Centre closed for Family Day

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