

# Young Child Academy News

Nurturing Growth Through Literature & the Arts



## What's New?

### Teacher's Choice

The investigation theme of the month was **"Teacher's choice."** It was absolutely fun to watch each classroom coming up with some great ideas. They explored and traveled to the outer space, to the fairytale land, to the prehistoric (dinosaurs) period, and even to the future! What a fun-filled month to finish up our school year!

Thank you for all your support throughout the whole school year. Here we are, starting our new school year 2020-2021!

**Please keep your child home if your child is not feeling well.** To come back to school, the child should have been symptom-free for **at least 72 hours without the use of medicines.**

[YCA Covid-19 Policies and Procedures](#)

## August 2020

## Calendar & Upcoming Events

**August 31<sup>st</sup> - September 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Teacher-in-Service**  
(YCA is closed)

**September 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**First Day of School**  
(School Year 2020-21)

**September 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Labor Day**  
(YCA is closed)

### Stay Safe!

Check out our year-end performance video if you haven't done seen it yet! 😊

### Last Day & Graduation Video

**Our Annual Picnic and Practicing** were canceled! Instead, we had Virtual Open house Meetings for each class. It was a time for the parents and students to learn about the new classroom teachers and the environment.

**Starting Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, each child will be dropped off at their classroom entrance doors.** We will no longer combine the classes in the mornings!



### PARENT REMINDERS!

- Please monitor for the COVID-related symptoms daily!
- Please remember to include shorts or leggings under the skirts and sundresses! Socks must be worn during the day!

# CLASS NEWS

The Monthly Theme was...

**"Teacher's Choice"**



Hi!

## Infant

This month we said goodbye to Charlie and Elijah. We already miss them, but we are so happy they are loving the Toddler 1 class. We welcomed Loewen, Grey, and Madison to our room, and we are so excited to have them here with us. Our class favorites are music class, Japanese class, and eating, and lots more eating. We have big eaters in our room, and the babies love trying new foods and textures. We are excited to enjoy the rest of summer with lots of outside play and exploration while the sun is still here.

Reminders: Please pack lots of extra clothes for your baby and enough solids/snacks!



**Baby Walk**

## Preschool 1

For the last month of the school year, the class dove into various fun themes chosen by the teachers. For Dino week, the kids got to crack open their very own egg. They were so proud when their hard work revealed a little toy dinosaur. We learned about different jobs people do through both books and dramatic play. We also got to retouch on the question, "what do you want to be when you grow up?" The answers included "fireman, a garbage truck and semi-truck driver." Stars and space week was full of astronaut books and rocket ship adventures. To finalize the month, we used our imaginations to travel around the world and learned about different cultures. And of course, we repeatedly sang one of our all-time favorite songs, "Tell me the continents."

## Toddler 2

Hello, YCA family! As August is the last month of our school year, we decided to make this month's topic Teachers' choice. We learned all about space while inventing new planets with the kids. Turned the kids into mermaids during mythical creatures' week and did lots of cool science experiments like growing a rainbow on paper towels! For this last week of school, we made it all about having fun! Some of our friends will be transitioning to Preschool 1, and we wish them all the best, we know they will do great! We are excited to start this new school year with four new friends from T1 and look forward to meeting their families.



## Toddler 1

August was a month of storytelling with our "Once Upon a Time" theme! We read a few popular fairytales and then finger-painted our own fairytale characters. Dragons and unicorns and gnomes, oh my! We also dipped our toes into myths and legends, reading about creatures such as Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster. Then we painted a Pacific Northwest version of Vincent van Gogh's "The Starry Night," featuring Bigfoot himself! "Don't Eat Me, Chupacabra!" was one of our favorite books of the month, and it even gave us the chance to practice our Spanish! ¡No me comas, Chupacabra! We welcomed two new friends into our class and said goodbye to our graduating friends. We look forward to watching our graduates excel in Toddler 2, and we can't wait to make memories with our new Toddler 1 friends!



**Website:**

[www.youngchildacademy.com](http://www.youngchildacademy.com)



**Contact:**

206.282.7132



**Email:**

[youngchildacademy@gmail.com](mailto:youngchildacademy@gmail.com)

# TEACHER'S CHOICE



Ice cream!



Cheese 🧀

## Preschool 2

Preschool 2 had a great month of August! We had a space theme and made galaxy water bottles. We had a sports theme and had our own version of Olympics playing baseball, high jump, and beanbag toss. On the last day of school, we dressed up with "What we want to be when we grow up." We know the kids will do well in Pre-K, and we highly enjoyed spending time with them!

## PreK 1

Well parents, it's finally here. It's August and the end of the school year. This month's theme was Teacher's Choice, so we decided to keep things simple, yet fun. We started off with a week or two of science investigations. These little scientists learned about density and why some things sink and some things float. They made predictions and recorded their findings, just like proper scientists. They learned that just because something is big does not mean it will sink. That was mind blowing! Another mind blowing fact we discovered that made Scientist Makaio say, "Whoa! Did you see that!?" An orange will float but, if you peel it...it SINKS! You should have seen the looks on those scientist's faces. In the remaining weeks we safely explored fun sensory items, went digging for dinosaur bones, raced boats, and created some elaborate tracks for our coding robot.

August didn't just bring new scientific discoveries, it also brought a new student our way. We welcomed Keira into PreK 1! It is so much fun making new friends. August also brought new ways to stay safe during these strange times. We started doing our Special classes on the iPad. It was an adjustment but, like everything new that comes their way, these littles took it in stride and kept on going. Teacher Ben and Teacher Karlee kept up with their regular routines for Music and Japanese, teaching us new songs and new vocabulary. Teacher HaeLim continued giving us those wonderful Asian Folktales and introducing us to all of her really cool instruments from all across Asia. Teacher Kiki has been teaching us the art of storytelling. This class sure knows how to tell a good story! We heard about mysterious sandcastles, mushroom houses with fairies and monsters, and tiger attacks in the jungle.

Although we have had a lot of fun this month, we also have the tough task of saying good-bye. This sweet bunch of kids have grown so close over this past year. Watching them play and laugh together has been such a treat. They are so good at working and learning together. Just this week, in fact, we heard Lita yell out to the group, "We can do this. We've just got to work together, we're a team!" Music to a teacher's ears! As teachers, we are sad to see them go, but we are excited for what lies ahead because we know they are ready.

Thank you, parents, for making this year a great one! We could not have done it without you. For those of you who will be leaving YCA, please stop by and see us every now and then. For those who are staying with us, we look forward to seeing you soon.



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**I made this!**



**Overjoyed**

**Ady-saurus**



## PreK 2

This final month of Pre-K2 was very simple, practicing and playing. Since most of these kiddos will be moving on to kindergarten, where play starts to fade out of the curriculum, I wanted to give them some more free-choice time this month. We also don't know exactly when they will be able to be back in a classroom with other kids. So, rather than doing an activity in the afternoon every day, the kids got some extra time to play with their friends and use their remaining time in Pre-K2 together doing the things they want to do before graduating from YCA. With such small classes this month, we had some space to do some things we were never able to do before. For example, we brought out a little net, a ball, and some pool noodles to play some hockey in the classroom! These kids played a lot of hockey this month. August is also the month where many families take some time off. There were some days where we had only one or two of the Pre-K2 students present! On those days, we had many of the future Pre-K2 kids join us to practice.

Of course, the end of the year brings goodbyes and last day celebrations. We certainly had our fair share of last day treats and we thank all the parents who brought things in for us to enjoy together!

I can't believe the year with this group has come to an end. To be honest, I'm a little surprised we made it through! I'm so excited for these kids to be moving on to bigger and better things. I know they will all do fantastic in elementary school and life in general. I'm very grateful for the time we all got to spend together and all the great memories we made. It was such a pleasure to watch this group grow and learn together over this past year. I'm so proud of all of them. Lastly, I just want to thank all the Pre-K parents who supported us throughout this absurd year!



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# Special Class News



## Asian Folktales with HaeLim

In August, we listened to the stories from Arab, Thailand, and South Korea. "The Girl Who Wore Too Much" from Thailand was a cute little story about not having too much, so we decided to design nice quilted clothes using bleeding tissue paper pieces. I can't wait to share more multicultural stories in the upcoming school year!



## Japanese with Karlee

This month in Japanese, we read about construction vehicles and made some art designed to look like a scene from 'Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site' (Oyasumi Hataraku Kurumatachi). We also read some books about moving our bodies and making silly faces. A new song we have been working on is 'Atama Kata Hiza Pon' (Head, shoulders, knees, clap). We are looking forward to the new school year and new activities in Japanese coming up.

## Music & Drama Class with Kiki

Hello Friends!  
Drama and music class was a blast this month! We spent time exploring rhythm with various instruments like the triangle and handbells. We also worked on improvisational storytelling playing a game called "Picture Story." I would show 2 kids at a time a picture and then asked them to make up a story about that picture. It was a lot of fun, and I was very impressed with the creative and imaginative stories the kids came up with! To wrap up the month and the school year, we learned a song called "Peace" and made a fun video thanks to the help from HaeLim. If you haven't seen it, go to the Young Child Academy YouTube channel! I'm looking forward to the new school year and have a lot of fun activities planned.



True Friendship

## Musicality with Ben

In Musicality, we've been finishing up learning the words to "We're Going To Be Friends". We've learned four verses, and that's a lot of words! We didn't mind spending a little extra time on it since it's such a lovely song and the theme is excellent for starting the new year. This month we also got to see and learn about the 12 string guitar. She has twice as many strings as our regular guitar and she's almost 50 years old! At that age, she's a little too old to come to visit us in person, but it was really cool to hear and learn about her on the iPad. We've had a few growing pains transitioning to online music classes this month, but we've got the hang of it now and we're having a blast.



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