

Young Child Academy News

Nurturing Growth Through Literature & the Arts



What's New?

Friends & Family

Here we are, the new school year 2020-21! Our theme for the month was "**Friends & Family**" which helped our friends and families get to know each other a little more. Older students worked on their ALL ABOUT ME posters. It surprises us how much they already know about themselves and how many fun places they have visited already at an early age.

We started our new school year with the smoke, and our friends were getting ants in their pants while we could not go outside and play! Thankfully, the rain washed away the dust (yay!) Our friends are more than happy to play outdoors!

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](#)



PARENT REMINDERS!

- Please send in jackets in the morning for the chilly autumn days.
- **Please monitor for the COVID-related symptoms daily!**

September 2020

Calendar & Upcoming Events

October 30th

Costume Party &
(10 - 11 am)
Teacher-in-Service
(School closes at 3 pm)

November 6th

School Portraits
(8 - 11 am)

Costume Party?

While we are still living day by day with the COVID virus, we do not want to cancel this fun event! All our students are welcome to come in wearing their costumes on **Friday, October 30th**! Please send in a set of extra clothes so the students can be changed before lunch/nap time.

Unfortunately, **we won't be able to invite our parents** to the party or go on trick-or-treat in our neighborhood with all of the uncertainty this year. However, we are still planning to share lots of photos and videos with you. We will also try to come up with some fun event ideas!



CLASS NEWS

The Monthly Theme was...

"Friends & Family"



Hi!

Infant

This month, the babies have been busy learning new things. Grey is rolling back and forth, and Loewen is so stoked she can roll all over the room. She also loves solids and is such a good little eater. Jamie and Vik have so much fun playing with each other all day. Vik learned how to climb to the top of the climber and is so happy to watch the big kids play outside. Hayden is happy he can sit up and is learning how to self-feed and so far loves his veggies. Madison is a social butterfly and loves playing with her friends and is sitting up like a big girl.

Reminders- This time of year, the weather is all over the place. Please send a sleep sack, socks, and a jacket for your baby.



Yum!



Knock knock!



Preschool 1

Welcome back for the 2020-2021 school year! We kicked off the first week playing together, exploring the new classroom, and getting to know each other. We read books about being back in school like 'Maisy Goes to Preschool' and 'Froggy Goes to School.' The following week we learned about class rules through interactive activities. We learned some new routines like cleaning up after meals, getting ready for outside time with the addition of helmets, and potty time using the toilets. During the smokey days, we made sure to stay active indoors. We did a lot of dancing to some class favorites like 'freeze dance,' 'baby shark,' 'Simon says,' and many more. We also enjoyed some yoga, and the kids even came up with new yoga poses like 'fries.' The class has been LOVING the new bubble machine. To end the month, we learned about manners, friendship, and family. On a different note, we have gotten the majority of our friends to practice sitting on the toilet regularly, so we are off to a great start!

Toddler 2

Hello T2 family!

We had a fun and exciting first month of school! The theme this month has been "Friends and Family," so we have spent time getting to know each other and doing fun art projects, like family trees and "All about me" caterpillars! The bad air had us spending a lot of time indoors and having to get creative. The kids are really good at the "Freeze Dance" and taking turns on an obstacle course. We're looking forward to Fall and all of the holidays and fun projects we have in store! 🍁

Toddler 1

September was another exciting month here in Toddler 1. We welcomed our new friend Maddie into class and are having so much fun together! We marked our new year with new beginnings by recording some current stats of our friends. Everyone was measured against our height chart, and their unique likes and dislikes were recorded. Now we're ready to grow and see how much we change! Here's to a fun year of new social and scholastic development!



Website:

www.youngchildacademy.com



Contact:

206.282.7132



Email:

youngchildacademy@gmail.com

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Preschool 2

Hello YCA Families!

We had a wonderful first month in Preschool 2! We focused on back to school, rules and learned all about ourselves, families, and friends. We learned new songs and became familiar with our new classroom, teachers, and expectations. We started strong with pre-writing lessons and alphabet learning! Everyone was very happy to see teacher Jacqui from Preschool 1 and to meet their new teacher Chloe. Because of the smoke, we stayed indoors for a few days and learned new yoga positions, dancing songs, and everyone's new favorite game, Duck Duck Goose! We're looking forward to October and learning all about farms, fruits, vegetables, and having a fun costume party!

PreK1 Classroom Rules

- 1) Inside voices, hands and feet
- 2) Look and listen to Teachers and friends
- 3) Respect for others and property
- 4) Being safe at ALL times.

BLAIR CAMERON
CATHIE AVE
DREW
MAYLIA
MAYLIA
Teacher Emma
Teacher Trent

PreK 1

September is a month full of changes. First, September means that Preschoolers change into Pre-Kers! What a fun change and what a great beginning to a new school year we are all having. These new Pre-K kiddos are a very energetic and curious bunch who were committed to putting their own flare in their new space. The first thing they did once they arrived was creating as much art as possible to cover the walls and making this place their own. Now that things were cozier, they were ready to get down to business. These kiddos were excited to learn the rules and routines in their new classroom. As teachers, our goal is to create a positive environment that makes everyone feel welcomed and involved. So, we all worked together to discuss and design a set of classroom rules that would be just right for all of us to create a happy classroom family. Afterward, each of us signed the new classroom rules and agreed to do our very best to follow them.

Typically, a new school year brings the change of new friendships into our lives. Although this group knows each other pretty well, we spent the first few weeks getting to know one another just a little bit better. The teachers wanted to put their own colorful stamp on the classroom decor, as well. Teacher Emma made her special All About Me: Rainbow Rain Clouds. We also used an information-gathering tool called a glyph to put different facts about ourselves into eye-catching displays around the room. Teacher Amanda is a big fan of the glyphs so, you'll probably see more of them throughout the year.

The last of the changes that September always brings... the end of summer and the beginning of FALL! This is where Teacher Trent added his flair to the classroom with beautifully finger-painted trees. It is such an exciting change for everyone, and there is always so much to learn and enjoy. In the last weeks of September, we are investigating leaves and apples! We will break out the clipboards and magnifying glasses and become little scientists. Let the discovery begin!



Website:

www.youngchildacademy.com



Contact:

206.282.7132



Email:

youngchildacademy@gmail.com

PreK 2



We started the year in PreK2 by learning about and celebrating the ways we are all different with this monthly investigation topic "Friends and Family." We started out by drawing a map on a large sheet of paper. Everyone drew a picture of their home and a road connecting them all together and leading to YCA. Then, everyone made little pictures of things like themselves, their family members, their friends, their pets, and their cars and cut them out so that they can play with them on the map. This map and these figures will now be a part of our classroom for the kids to play with at free choice. We made "All About Me" posters and did many different activities where we drew things about our lives at home and shared them with the class. We drew things like our families, our favorite toys, our favorite movie/show characters, and our favorite foods that our parents make for us and discussed them all with our friends. We also had sharings every morning where anyone that wanted to share could come to the front of the class to show us something they brought to school or to simply talk about anything they wanted to tell us.

In Pre-K2, writing journals are a huge part of our day and we got right into it on day one. Every day, each child draws a picture of anything they would like to tell us about and uses invented spelling to write out a sentence to go with it. After we write, everyone gets a turn to go in front of the class and talk about what they wrote. After that, we each complete one page of our kindergarten-level Handwriting Without Tears workbooks per day.

For our storytelling/guided reading part of the day, we started out the year by focusing more on the storytelling before we get into guided reading. We started out using the Vivian Paley inspired storytelling curriculum of dictating and acting out stories. Then, we started doing some improvisational storytelling. Then, we got into storytelling with books where the kids would sit in front of the class with a book and tell a story based on what they see in the pictures. Toward the end of the month, I let the children choose for themselves which of the three they would like to do at storytelling time. As we move along through the year, we will get more into the storytelling via books and then start the explicit reading practice.

We also eased into our math activities. Every day, we did things such as identifying numbers that were written down or on a calculator, writing down numbers, using ten frames to see and determine values without counting, putting number values in order from least to greatest, counting physical objects, and counting by ones, fives, and tens on our number line. By the end of the month, we were able to do some activities that combined many of those different skills into one activity.

Lastly, of course, we had a lot of time to play! Free choice time is where the kids get to freely use our art supplies, engage in sociodramatic play, or play with our many different STEM toys such as different kinds of building blocks or even our coding robot, Botley. I think it's safe to say they all enjoyed being able to come into a new space with all new toys and friends to play with!



Rainy Days



Website:

www.youngchildacademy.com



Contact:

206.282.7132



Email:

youngchildacademy@gmail.com

Special Class News

Asian Folktales with HaeLim

As we were waiting for the rain to wash down the smoke this month, we read a Pourquoi story, "Toad is the Uncle in Heaven," and many other stories. For the introduction, we used plastic bags to make raindrop sounds. Our friends started making the sounds with the fingers at first and then ended up pounding on the bags on the floor to express the sounds of pouring rain. People in the past made raindrop sounds using their percussion instruments to call for rain. It was fun to figure out how all these multicultural instruments could be played without any directions given. We are planning to talk about Moon festival and Harvest next month 😊



Musicality with Ben

In Musicality, we've been enjoying songs about the sun as we pass into the long rainy season. All of the classes have been singing Mr. Sun and Here Comes The Sun. Although we can't sing together in person, the silver lining is that I can show the kids all sorts of instruments that I can't usually bring in. This month we got to see a beautiful hand-painted ukulele that looked like the ocean! We also had a lot of fun hearing all of the crazy sounds a synthesizer makes.

Music & Drama Class with Kiki

Hello, friends!
It's been a fun first month of school and really cool getting to see all of the kids settling into their new classrooms! I've taught all of the classes a new song called "Elephants Have Wrinkles," and Amalie and Ady (in PK1) said it was their favorite song after hearing it one time! We used our imaginations in a game called "All the Children are Sleeping" and got really silly, playing the "Hokey Pokey." I asked the kids to give me body parts to sing about in the Hokey Pokey, so we got funny ideas like "neck," "eyeballs," and "bottoms." 😊



Magnet Experiment

Art & Science with HaeLim

While Teacher Karlee was on vacation, Teacher HaeLim came back for Art and Science class! We read several books about getting used to a new environment and making new friends, like the stories called "A House for Hermit Crab" and "Peanut Butter and Cupcake." The big hit was the magnet activities. We learned about the friends of a magnet (magnetism) and the magnetic force of push and pull (attract and repel). The magnet pendulum was really fun to watch, for it looked like an invisible ghost was moving it around!



Website:

www.youngchildacademy.com



Contact:

206.282.7132



Email:

youngchildacademy@gmail.com