



## September Seedlings 2018

For those of you who are new to Growing Tree, the Seedling room has two teachers; Jolene and Melanie, and we have Korinea, our aid who helps with breaks and lunches. September is a bittersweet month for us here in the seedling room as we watch so many of our little ones move on to new adventures in the Big Seed room, most of whom have been with us since they were small infants. However, we are so excited to meet all our new little ones coming in! We look forward to getting to know them and their families as we help them grow and blossom. It means so much to us that we are trusted to nurture these little ones at such a precious stage of life. We love being able to watch them grow and learn while making lasting friendships. That being said let us introduce ourselves to our new families.

Jolene moved to Bend from Seattle with her daughter Kayla (now 15) and has been with Growing Tree for 12 years. She has since married and added two more boys to her family Neal, (5) and Ronin, (9months). Two are Growing Tree graduates, and Ronin is currently in the Seedling room. She enjoys being outdoors hiking, biking, camping and playing in the snow with her family.

Melanie moved to Bend with her husband 1 year ago from Breckenridge, CO. She has been working at The Growing Tree for 1 year in September. She enjoys working with children, and has worked in an infant room for about 7 years cumulatively. She and her husband love to snowboard and split board all winter, and to hike and camp in the warmer months.

Korinea was born and raised in Bend Oregon. She has worked at Growing Tree for a total of 4 years, (she left for awhile and then came back in March of 2018). She has worked primarily with infants in the Seedling room, but now bounces between both Seed and Big Seed rooms. She enjoys camping and kayaking in the summer, and indoor activities like painting and playing piano during the winter. She is currently expecting her first child which is due in February 2019, and plans on returning with the baby after maternity leave.

Each baby is unique with individual needs that can change from one month to the next. As they grow, we try to tailor each baby's schedule to fit them and their family's needs. Please don't hesitate to talk to us about what you would like, what you would like your baby's day to look like, or if you think something needs to change as they grow. We know transitioning back to work and starting your infant in childcare is a big adjustment, and we want to do what we can to make it as smooth and easy as possible. Communication is very important to us, and we will work with you to make things as consistent as we can between here and home.

We do go outside during the warmer months as much as possible and would like to continue to do so until the weather starts to become cold and/or wet. We also limit outside time when the smoke is bad. We ask parents to please bring in a light jacket and socks for their little ones for cooler days and chilly mornings.

So it looks like **Teddy, Ronin** and **Izzy** are the "big guys" on campus now. They will have a little more time with us before they too will be making the big move. **Teddy** is pushing the ride on toys around the play yard and working on getting his balance. It won't be long now before he starts taking steps on his own. **Ronin** finally found forward gear and is off crawling, pulling up and cruising the shelves. He is excited about his new mobility and is already trying to stand on his own. **Izzy** has found her voice and will sit and talk to anyone around her or just to herself. She loves looking at the books, pretending to read and clapping her hands. We hope everyone has a great month, and welcome new families!

Mrs. Jolene, Mrs. Melanie and Ms. Korinea