

Dear Families,

Thank you for your support during our tree study. It's been a remarkable month of investigation, discoveries, connection and inquiry.

During our study we've collected the pine seeds hidden deep in the scales of pine cones, grown our own ponderosa pine seedlings, learned and labeled the parts of trees, learned the life cycle of a pine tree, compared coniferous and deciduous trees, investigated and identified real artifacts and came up with a lot more new questions along the way.

As the tree study continues for the next two weeks, we'll focus on 'arboreal' animals and specifically squirrels and birds. Understanding relationships between living things and the places they occupy are essential early social studies and scientific inquiry skills that children begin developing at a young age.

Because trees are so diverse and prevalent in Bend, we have the unique opportunity to investigate them up close. Following our 'arboreal' investigation, we'll embark on our very own field study to examine trees. *On WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5th from 9:15am-11:15am we'll be leaving The Growing Tree for a FIELD TRIP to our local tree nursery and to Juniper Park* to measure, observe and document trees. We'll bring the information we've gathered back to our classroom to summarize what we've learned about trees over the past few weeks. We invite and encourage you to join along with us if you are available!

Beginning the second week of April we'll begin a new study about the human body. As always, your support is invaluable to us! If you have access to x-rays, anatomical models, safe medical tools and dress (for our dramatic play area), bones, posters, teeth molds, photographs, stories or ideas please let us know! We're also looking for visiting experts who can answer questions and make connections with our Blossoms as they learn more about the amazing functions and design of our own bodies. During this study, we'll discuss the circulatory, digestive, and nervous systems, our skeletons, muscles, eyes, ears, organs and skin through hands-on activities and investigations.

Please note that Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for THURSDAY, APRIL 20th. Scheduling for your conference will be available at The Growing Tree front desk soon.

As always, please feel free to talk with us at anytime and share your questions, concerns or ideas with us. We are here to help best support your children and accommodate your requests.

Thank you for the opportunity to work and play with your outstanding, creative, kind, brave, curious children.

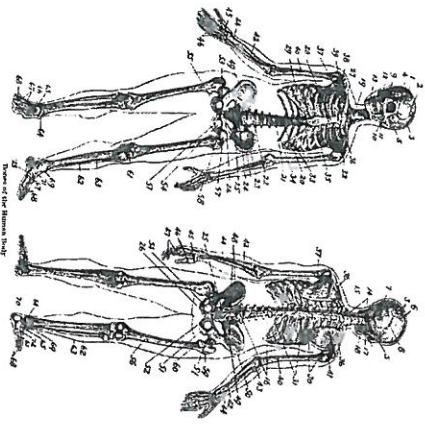
All the best to you!

Your Blossom Teachers, Lane, Caroline, Linda, Salina

April '17

Notes:

- April 16 - Easter Sunday
- April 18 - Tax Day
- April 20 - Blossom Conferences
- April 22 - Earth Day



What do we know about the Human Body?

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| 10 | | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| What do we know about the Human Body? | | | | | |
| What are our bodies made of? What do our bodies do? Our Five Senses | | | | | |
| 17 | | 18 | 19 | 20* | 21 |
| How does our body work together? Skeletons, Circulation, Muscles, and Skin | | | | | |
| 24 | | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| What's inside our bodies? What jobs do the organs have? Digestion and Nutrition | | | | | |
| MAY | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| What did we learn about our bodies? | | | | | |
| | | = | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| Beginning of Life Cycle Study | | | | | |

