

December 1, 2019

Dear families,

We would like to thank all of our families for coming to conferences. We really enjoy being able to talk "one-on-one" and appreciate you for taking the time to meet with us and hope you got just as much out of it as we did.

November has come and gone quickly but our Big Seeds have been just as busy as ever developing their skills. **Om's** language has really exploded and he constantly surprises us with all that he has to say when communicating to us. **Chandler** is taking big steps towards walking- literally! He's pushing himself up on his own and taking steps out towards teachers and safe landing spots. Go Chandler! **Clover** enjoys playing "peek-a-boo" with teachers. She picks up the closest thing she can find to cover her face or uses her hands. When teachers ask, "Where did Clover go?" All we can hear is her giggling just before she uncovers her eyes and laughs again excitedly at our surprise. **Enzo** is falling in love with art time. He loves watching his classmates do their art project and then when it's his turn, he is focused and knows just how he wants to make his own masterpiece! **Quinn** loves playing catch with teachers and will spend several minutes just tossing a ball back and forth with a look of pure joy on his face the entire time. **Mac** has started showing interest in block play and likes to connect our Duplo Legos together before pulling them apart. He does this several times and tries using different blocks together as well to see how they fit together. **Maeve** has really been enjoying being around her classmates. Whether she is joining them in parallel play or trying to give the other children hugs, she always has a big smile for everyone.

Brynley, Eleanor and Ellie are sadly leaving us and moving up to Sprouts. We have enjoyed our time getting to know them and their families and will miss their smiling faces but we know that these three ladies are ready for their next adventure and we wish them and their families well.

We will be welcoming **Madeleine, Benham** and **Theo**. Madeleine is new to Growing Tree and the boys are coming over from the Seed room. We are looking forward to working together with our new families.

Our December study is the Pacific Northwest. We are looking forward to this adventure.

Reminders:

- **Our annual Holiday sing-along is Dec. 9th**
- **Growing Tree will be closed Dec. 25th and 26th in observance of the holidays**
- **If you haven't already, please bring in a family photo for our "Family Board".**
- **Please make sure that your child has everything they will need to stay warm for when we go outside. This includes: a snowsuit, snow boots, a hat and waterproof mittens.**

ASL Signs:

Tree- The sign for tree looks like a tree waving above the ground. To make the *tree* sign, take your weak hand and extend it flat across your body to make the ground. Then take your strong hand and stand it up at right angles, with your fingers extended and shaking them back and forth.

Bear- Make the *bear* sign by making your hands into claws and crossing your arm with one hand on each shoulder. Now scratch up and down with each hand.

Diaper- Take your hands and place them down around your waist. Take your index fingers and middle fingers together from each hand and tap them on your thumbs. It is like you are playing mini castanets at waist-height.

Books:

Night-Night Forest Friends
Woodland Walk; A Walk in the Forest
If You Were My Bab:
A Wildlife Lullaby and Never Touch a Porcupine

Songs:**I am a Squirrel** (*Action Rhyme*)

I am a squirrel in a tall, tall tree.
(*Stretch up tall toward the sky*)
I like to look around and see, see, see!
(*Make hands into binocular shapes and look around*)

I am picking acorns for my lunch.
(*"Pick" invisible acorns out of the air*)
I love the way they crunch, crunch, crunch!
(*Make exaggerated crunches with your mouth*)

Sometimes I stretch my arms up to the sky.
(*Stretch arms out wide*)
Take a leap and start to fly!
(*Jump and "fly" around the room*)

Five Little Bears

One little bear wondering what to do.
Along came another then there were two!

Two little bears climbing up a tree.
Along came another then there were three!
Three little bears ate an apple core.
Along came another then there were four!

Four little honey bears found honey in a hive.
Along came another then there were five!

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, reach up high,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the sky,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, bend down low,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch your toes,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, go to bed,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, rest your head,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn out the lights,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, say, "Good night."

I'm a Little Pine Tree

(Tune: "I'm a Little Teapot")
I'm a little pine tree as you can see,
All the other pine trees are bigger than me.
When I'm a grown up then I'll be,
A great, big, merry Christmas tree!

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

Jessica, Eva, & Chloe

Dec-19

Over in the Forest

Notes:

This Month's Books:
<i>Never Touch a Porcupine</i>
<i>Woodland Walk</i>
<i>Night-Night Forest Friends</i>
<i>If You Were My Baby:</i>
<i>Wildlife Lullaby</i>
<i>A Walk in the Forest</i>
This Month's Songs:
"I am a Squirrel"
"I'm a Little Pine Tree"
"Five Little Bears"
"Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear"
This Month's Signs:
Tree, Bear, Diaper

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Sly Foxes	3 Friendly Hedgehogs	4 Stinky Skunks	5 Nutty Squirrels	6 Giant Mushrooms
9 "I'm a Bear"	10 Nature's Garland	11 Bubblewrap Animal Painting	12 Natural Paintbrushes	13 "We're Going on a Bear Hunt"
16 "Quiet as a deer"	17 Snowy Forest	18 "Hoo-Hoo"	19 Pinecone Painting	20 Colorful Trees
23 Animal Tracks	24 "You can't catch me..."	25 CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS	26 CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS	27 Snowballs
30 Making Mittens	31 Watching for Snowflakes			

Big Seeds