

THE MONTHLY

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

BUD

November 1, 2021

Dear Families,

Hello Bud Families,

It's a new month and a great time for **compassion**! Last month, in October, the Bud room went through many changes! We have had friends come and go. This month we would love to introduce you to our two new teachers, Jemma and Stephanie. Together, we have made incredible progress in our lesson plans and interacting with all the kids. This month, in November, we will be learning about **compassion** and **giving thanks**. We will be reading from "Bear Says Thanks" by Karma Wilson and Jane Chapman and "Bad Kitty Does Not Like Thanksgiving" by Nick Bruel.

Back in October, the kids read "The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything" by Linda Williams. This book was very repetitive with the sounds of the clothing which would startle the little old lady. The story being read multiple times during the month allowed the children to catch on to the pattern. They began making the sounds as the story was read. The kids were even able to take turns acting as the clothing from the story. They would stand by the teacher as the story was being read. Each one was holding either shoes, gloves, a hat, a pair of pants, a shirt, or a picture of a jack o' lantern. They all showed a lot of patience as they waited quietly for their turn to make the sounds.

Along with the book, we had many fun activities with the children over the month. In the story, the clothing and the pumpkin head ended up turning into a scarecrow for the little old lady. Because of this, Miss Amy cut out the different clothing on large paper. She then, over many days, let the kids paint the different clothing. One day they would paint the head, the next the pants, and so on. Eventually, the scarecrow was finished creating one big scarecrow.

We also brought in a big pumpkin, a medium pumpkin, and a small pumpkin. We sat the kids down and asked them multiple questions about the pumpkins. We would ask them questions like, "Are there any differences you can see with these pumpkins?" or "What do you think is inside the pumpkin?" The children had some fun answers to what they thought was inside our pumpkins. Charlie

thought it would be purple inside, and Isabella thought there was candy in the pumpkins. Our room was full of laughter and smiles as the kids continued to guess. The next day we brought in a knife from the kitchen and gathered the kids at a table. They stood back and watched as Miss Amy took the knife and cut the top off the big pumpkin. The kids were able to see what was inside and got to touch the pumpkin guts.

After opening the pumpkin, Miss Stephanie saved the pumpkin guts and seeds. She put them in separate trays creating a sensory activity for the kids. We had them take turns sitting at a table so they could play with the guts. This allowed them to touch, smell, and look at the pumpkin guts. The kids had so much fun being able to observe and assess the squishy orange pumpkin guts!

Miss Stephanie also cut some paper to look like pumpkins. She took the pumpkin seeds and placed them onto a table with some pumpkin cut outs. With a sharpie she wrote 1, 2 and 3 onto the pumpkins. The kids took turns sitting at the table, placing the seeds on the numbered pumpkins. This allowed the kids to organize the seeds anyway they wanted. Some would count the seeds and place them on the numbers while others would organize theirs by size or color.

This month, our classroom will be focusing on compassion and giving thanks. Throughout the month, we will be learning what exactly the children all are thankful for in their lives. Each day as they enter our classroom, we want to ask them, what is something they are thankful for? We will put an emphasis on our classroom as a community, discussing what everyone is thankful for and how that makes us each unique individuals. We will be focusing on the word compassion and incorporating activities and concepts around this word. Some activities include, making friendship bracelets, making a compassion paper chain link, and making homemade bird feeders.

Making friendship bracelets will allow the kids to acknowledge people in their life they consider special or important to them. They will be given string and beads to use for their bracelets. Along with the bracelets, we will be asking kids what they are thankful for everyday and then writing down the responses. We will then write each

response onto a paper for a paper chain. Every day the chain will continue to grow, allowing the kids to see how much they are thankful for in their lives. Also, we will help the kids each make a homemade bird feeder. If you choose to, you can help them find a place to hang their bird feeder so they can watch the birds eat from it. This will allow them to feel compassion for the birds knowing that they helped make the birds food.

We will also be reading a book called "Bear Says Thanks" by Jane Chapman and Karma Wilson. In this story, Bear begins by laying in his cave feeling bored. He then gets an idea to "make a big dinner." He checks his cupboard to find it empty. Then one by one his forest friends come by with various food items. The mouse with some huckleberry pie, the hare with a batch of muffins, and so on. With each addition, Bear says "thanks" and starts to feel bad for not having anything to contribute to this "feast". The woodland creatures reassure him by telling him how he has "stories to share." They all then enjoy this "feast" to share with one another while Bear tells stories.

Since the story revolved around a feast that all the woodland creatures contributed to, we thought it would be fun to have a feast of our own. So, if you would be so kind as to bring in a fresh vegetable, either the day before or the day of, we would greatly appreciate it. We will add each vegetable into a crockpot and make a soup. The kids will all be able to try the soup at our "feast."

New Teacher Introductions

- My name is Jemma Norris. I am 20 years old, and I am a new teacher in the Bud Room. I like going to Drake Park and playing Chess with my boyfriend. Working with children is something I've always enjoyed. I have been getting to know the kids in the Bud Room and can say that they are all so unique and sweet. I look forward to seeing them everyday
- Hello Guardians, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as a new teacher in the bud room. As a new member of the staff at Growing Tree, I am very excited to be given the opportunity to work with such a dynamic versed group of teachers, about whom I have heard great

things. I look forward to getting to know the children and you over the coming months and hopefully be able to help your son or daughter achieve even greater things than you have expected.

To give you some brief information about myself, I have worked in Early Childhood Education for 25 years and have undertaken many roles including lead teacher, English as a second language teacher, assistant director and afternoon activities director. My teaching philosophy is: "Every child has the right and ability to learn. It is my job as a teacher to identify how they best learn and give the tools to achieve their potential". I plan on doing all I can in the bud room to help your child reach their full promise under my care. I am hands on, silly and engaging teacher who is well versed in teaching phonics to young children and who has a passion for educating children about animals.

Having worked in multiple roles within daycare/preschool, I am ready to put all of my knowledge and abilities into the education of your child. The year ahead will most likely be the most important of your son or daughter's academic career so far. I see my as not only a teacher, but a support staff and extension of home during these crucial years of development.

I look forward to the coming year and teaching, giggling and shared joy within the bud room. Please message me if you have any questions. I would love speak with you.

Be blessed, Mrs. Stephanie Zollman

Please bring in:

- **A family picture for our family tree board.** The picture should be a copy that you are ok with being used and not returned.
- **November 19th, a vegetable for our classroom soup.**

Parent Reminders

- Please remember we are in the **potty-training room**. In order to help set your child up for success, please send them to school in **loose**

clothing that they can take on and off by themselves.

- Please continue to take your child's blankets home to wash at the end of the week and return them to school on Monday, in their cubby bag.
- Since the weather is changing, please bring a **warm coat** for your child to keep at school. Also don't forget to provide extra potty-training clothes that are weather appropriate for the season.

November Celebrations/ Birthdays

- November 11th- School closed for conferences.
- November 25th-26th school closed for Thanksgiving.

November



2021

GIVING THANKS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Bud Room	1 Bear	2 Huckleberry Pie	3 Muffins	4 Fish	5 Honey Nuts Pears/Herbs
This month's book:	8 Feathers	9 Corn	10 Beans	11 Conferences Closed	12 Gourds
Bear Gives Thanks	15 cranberry sauce sensory	16 turkey and cat montage	17 turkey bowling	18 turkey hokey pokey	19 five little turkeys
<i>Bad Kitty Does Not Like Thanksgiving</i>	22 hand turkeys	23 a turkey is a silly bird	24 Thankful Tree	25 Thanksgiving Closed	26 Thanksgiving Closed
<i>This Month's Songs:</i> <i>five little turkeys</i> <i>a turkey is a silly bird</i>	29 Thankful Heart	30 Thankful Heart			

