



## **Big Seed Happenings, September, 2018**

Welcome families to the Big Seed room! Here is what you can expect every month in your child's new classroom. Each month we do a curriculum centered on a study that is developmentally age-appropriate with centers and activities that will build skill sets in the five areas of development: physical, language, cognitive, social-emotional and mathematics. Look for our monthly newsletter that will highlight what the children learned and what piqued their curiosity in that month. It will also include a brief overview of what we will be studying the following month. This will include the theme, books, songs and a written description of our American Sign Language (ASL) signs. These signs will be everyday words that will complement our monthly study. We will have a circle time which is a great tool to help build bonds between peers and adults.

As a part of our move towards Conscious Discipline, (social-emotional development) we will be introducing mindfulness activities throughout the center. We live in a busy world full of triggers that engage our senses and at times it can be very overwhelming, especially for children. Mindfulness activities are a great way to help children center themselves and their focus on one thing at a time. Even if it is only for a few minutes throughout the day, the practice of mindfulness will help to develop a child's self-regulation skills as well as build their self-confidence. Every art project, every inside/outside activity, the language we use and even the toys we put out is done with the intention of developing your child's mind and body. We look forward to working with you in accomplishing the goals that together we have set for your child.

This September come and "Bust-a-Rhyme" in the Big Seed room with some "oldies-but-goodies" nursery rhymes and maybe even a few new ones. Make sure to take a few minutes to check out your child's art displayed throughout the classroom as we get further into the month.

Thank you and have a fun and safe Labor Day weekend!

Jessica, Erin and Korinea

*\*See attached bios*

**Books:** *Mother Goose; Pete the Cat: Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star; and Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*

**Signs: More-** Use both hands and on each hand connect the tips of all four fingers to your thumb. Then connect both hand by the finger tips and then separating. Repeat at least two times.

**Please-** take your hand with fingers extended and all together, and thumb extended and sticking out. Take the hand with palm facing in and rub it in a circle on your chest.

**Thank you-** touch your fingers to your chin and move that hand out and down into your other hand. It's almost like you are blowing a kiss to someone.

**Songs:**

**Row, Row, Row Your Boat**

Row, row, row your boat

Gently down the stream

Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily

Life is but a dream

Rock, rock, rock your boat

Gently to the shore

If you see a lion, don't forget to roar

ROAR!

Row, row, row your boat

Gently down the stream

If you see a crocodile, don't forget to  
scream

AHHHHH!

Rock, rock, rock your boat

Gently to the shore

If you see a peacock, don't forget to snore

ZZZZZZZZ!

Row, row, row your boat

Gently down the stream

Ha-ha-ha-ha fooled you

I'm a submarine

(Motorboat noises)

**Baby Bumblebee**

I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee

Won't my mommy be so proud of me

I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee

Ouch! It stung me!

I'm mashing up my baby bumblebee

Won't my mommy be so proud of me

I'm mashing up my baby bumblebee

Ewww! It's all over me!

I'm wipin' off my baby bumblebee

Won't my mommy be so proud of me

I'm wipin' off my baby bumblebee. All

clean!

**Itsy, Bitsy Spider**

The itsy, bitsy spider went up the water  
spout.

Down came the rain and washed the spider  
out.

Out came the sun and dried up all the rain  
And the itsy, bitsy spider went up the spout  
again.

My name is **Jessica Freitag** and I have been a part of Growing Tree for eleven years now. I moved to Bend after graduating high school in Bandon, Oregon, where my family grows cranberries. I first came to Growing Tree because my older sister was teaching here and spoke very highly of this amazing school. Growing Tree was my first job ever and after all this time I still love it here. I started out as an aide while I went to school for massage therapy at COCC and shortly after finishing my degree I was offered a full-time position working with the older kids. Since then I have gradually taught younger and younger until February of 2016 I was offered a teaching position in Big Seeds. I love working with this awesome age group and I'm very excited to begin working with our new Big Seeds and with you, their parents. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you in the classroom.

My name is **Erin Corcoran**. I was born in Minneapolis Minnesota on June 6th, 1989 and 9 years later my parents moved us to Brandon, Florida. I have two sisters and am the middle child. My favorite color is purple and I am obsessed with giraffe's. Shortly after I graduated high school I moved to Tampa and had not lived there all that long, when my mom called and asked me to move back to help out with the family. So I moved to Sarasota, Florida to help out. I moved to Bend Oregon on St Patrick's Day of 2016. Moving here was hard but something I have wanted to do since I was a little girl and the first time I saw pictures of Oregon. I have been in early education for about three years, but I have always been very involved with my little sister helping and watching her grow. I started loving this line of work from a young age, from helping my mom with the infants at church to being a junior coach on my sister's cheerleading team. I have a range of experience in all ages. I started working for the YMCA in Florida with 4 to 6 year olds, before finding my way to La Petite Academy. I worked with 2 to 3 year old children, and before I left for Oregon they had made me head teacher of the 1 to 2 year olds. I am happy to be back doing what I love at an amazing place with wonderful children.

My name is **Korinea Riepma**. I worked at Growing Tree from 2011-2014 as a Seedling teacher, and I came back in March 2018 after trying out another career path. I now bounce between the Seed rooms. I worked as a banker for a couple years, only to realize that I was meant to be a teacher! I am so happy to be back doing what I truly love and I feel blessed to love what I do so much! I was born and raised here in the beautiful Bend, Oregon, and spend most of the summer outside camping and playing by the water. In the winter, however, you can find me cozied up in my home painting or playing piano and drinking hot tea and cocoa. I've always had a passion for working with children, and when I was given the chance to work with infants (Seedlings) and toddlers (Big Seeds), I knew I found what I was meant to do. I have never been more sure of anything. I am currently expecting my first child that is due on Valentine's Day 2019. I joke to everyone that I have all the experience I could possibly need to prepare for motherhood, although I think that my eyes will open to a whole new side of things when the

*baby comes. I intend on returning to Growing Tree with the baby after it is born. I look forward to helping each child as they make the transition from Seedlings to Big Seeds!*

**Few Reminders:**

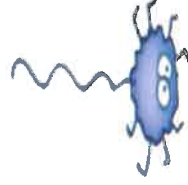
- Growing Tree will be closed Monday September 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Labor Day
- If your child is already attending Growing Tree, your child's teacher will move over your child's belongings for you.
- Please make sure your child has the following items:
  - Diapers, wipes, creams/ointments (if any you would like us to use)
  - Blankets for naptime
  - Extra clothes (please put your child initials on clothing tags)
  - Please feel free to bring in a pacifier, lovey, etc. anything you think will help your child feel more secure and relaxed in their new environment.
  - Please bring in a family photo

Sep-18

# Bust-a-Rhyme

<b>Notes:</b>
<b>This Month's Books:</b>
<i>Mother Goose</i>
<i>Here We Go Round the</i>
<i>Mulberry Bush</i>
<i>Pete the Cat:</i>
<i>Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star</i>
<b>This Month's Songs:</b>
"Row, Row, Row Your Boat"
"Baby Bumblebee"
"Itsy. Bitsy Spider"
<b>This Month's Signs:</b>
More
Please
Thank you

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 CLOSED	4 Itsy, Bitsy Spiders	5 Baa, Baa Black Sheep	6 Pom-Pom Pouring	7 "The cow jumped over the moon"
10 "Down came the rain"	11 Hickory Dickory Dock Mice	12 Teapot Painting	13 Hey Diddle, Diddle	14 Row, row, row your boat
17 Do you know the Muffin Man?	18 "Fee Fi, Fo, Fum"	19 Three Little Pigs	20 Star Stamping	21 "This little piggy..."
24 Frogs on a log	25 Wheels on the Bus	26 Humpty, Dumpty	27 B-I-N-G-O	28 Look how tall we all are!



## Big Seeds