

THE MONTHLY

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

Branch

September 1, 2019

Dear Families,

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Welcome to the Branch room! Let us start off by saying how excited we are for this upcoming year! What makes the Branch room so special is that you will see your children grow and flourish in so many developmental domains. At this age, the children are really picking up language, physical and social skills! It is truly amazing to see the amount of growth that occurs in the children from their first day, all the way to their last in the Branch room. We cannot wait for you all to witness it for yourselves!

One of our main priorities in the classroom is to help create and develop our social-emotional skills; such as problem-solving, emotional and self-regulation, as well as a sense of independence. It is our belief that once these skills are established, the children will be much more receptive to learning!

We will also be incorporating more Conscious Discipline in the classroom. As you may remember, Growing Tree has made the commitment to working with the Conscious Discipline curriculum to help guide our children through their development and we are loving the changes we are seeing so far! Our plan in the classroom is to work more with mindfulness through deep-breathing exercises and relaxation to help promote a calm and welcoming environment. We are dedicated to learning more about the Conscious Discipline philosophy and hope that you are welcoming towards it as well!

With all that being said, we would like to introduce the teachers you will be seeing on a day-to-day basis! The Branch room happily includes **Ms. Heather** and **Ms. Kenzie** as the Branch teachers. We cannot wait to get to know each of you, and your families, better. We hope you feel the same towards us! If you ever have any questions or comments to make, please feel free to ask! We would love to give you any clarity you might be

seeking. We are dedicated to the development of your children and want to provide a welcoming, fun and safe.



Ms. Heather

Hello! Hello! My name is Heather. I have been working with and teaching children for nearly 20 years! After moving to Bend in 1999 and attending Central Oregon Community College, I knew Early Childhood Education was my passion! I have worked in both middle schools and elementary schools, but preschool is where it's at! I am no stranger to Growing Tree. From 2007 to 2010 I worked as a Blossom teacher as well as a teacher in Tree House. Although moving away in 2010 brought many new adventures and opportunities, I was beyond thrilled to make my way back to Growing Tree in 2017 after moving back to Bend! Working in the Branch classroom is an adventure... daily! I am excited for the new school year, so let's do this!

Ms. Kenzie

Hey there! I'm Kenzie, and this will be my third year working as a Branch teacher. I was introduced to Growing Tree after graduating from Oregon State University with a bachelor's in human development & Family Science with a focus on Child Development. I grew up in Bend, so I am beyond thankful that Growing Tree has brought me back home! Working as

In September, our study will be Getting to Know One Another and Our Classroom! Coming into a new class can be a total mix of emotions. It can be exciting and fun, but also intimidating and nerve-wracking. That is why it is so important to us that we make this transition as smooth as possible for the children. By taking the time to learn the ropes of the Branch room, we believe we will accomplish just that! We will be focusing on classroom procedures and expectations, as well as incorporating fun and engaging activities that help us get to know each other's personalities better! We also plan on tackling a Germ study in the month of September to help the children learn more about their bodies and the importance of keeping them clean!

Cheers to a great year ahead!
- Ms. Kenzie & Ms. Heather

Reminders:

- Please bring ONLY one small blanket and one lovie for our nap times. Our cubbies are a space we use to not only store each children's items, but it is also a space we utilize during daily transitions. So, having space in the cubbies is essential to making this as easy as possible.
- Please ensure that your child has a change of clothing in their cubby basket. Accidents happen and we want to make sure that your child is comfortable throughout the day!
- We do not allow any outside toys in the classroom, so please make sure to keep these at home. We would greatly appreciate it! We do, however, allow children to bring in books to share with the class, if it pertains to the study of the month.
- Please bring in pictures of your family for our classroom Family Board! You may bring however many you wish. The children love to show off their pictures and it makes our classroom a little bit brighter! :)

Sep-19

LOOK WHO IS A BRANCHER

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Growing Tree CLOSED	Welcome to the Branch Room!	Who's who as a Brancher?	"I Like Me!" By: Nancy Carlson *Self Portrait*	Brancher Share Chair	
Branch Classroom Safety	Branch Playground safety	Hand Washing 101	Wash, Wash Wash Your Hands!	Washing Bubble Handprints	
"Jerry the Germ!" By: Jaycee Cribbs	Pom - Pom Sneeze Science	Wipe & Blow Your Nose Poem	"A Germ's Journey" By: Thom Rooke	Dirty Hands VS. Clean Hands	
Sparkle Glitter Hand Shake	Oooey Goocy Germ Playdough	"Germs Are Not For Sharing" By: Liz Verdick	Splat Art Super Germs	Germ Re-Cap Questions Answers	
First Month Down- Go Brancher Go!					

CLOSED
Monday September 2nd
First Day AS A BRANCHER!
Tuesday September 3th
Happy Birthday, Knox!
September 11th

Branch

