

THE MONTHLY

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

SEEDS

May 1, 2020

Dear Families,

Wow, what a month it has been! We really miss seeing all our friends. We know this is a difficult time for everyone but hope all our parents have been able to enjoy the extra time they are getting to spend with their little ones at home. Thank you to our parents who have posted pictures and updates on our seesaw app. It makes our hearts happy to still be able to see their smiles and all the new skills they are developing. Likewise, we hope you and your little ones have enjoyed being able to see what we are doing here at Growing Tree and what their friends are up to both here and the ones at home. Learning to run the seesaw app has been a real learning opportunity for us but it has been fun being able to connect and share.



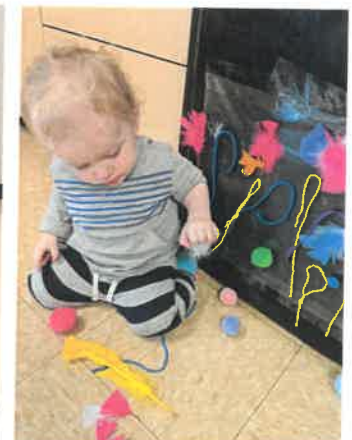
Mason and **Kate** have really been on the move exploring our class as well as getting to spend a lot of time playing in the Big Seeds room. We have been taking advantage of the beautiful weather and spending lots of time outside. **Kate** and **Mason** appreciate the extra room to stretch their legs and new things to explore.

We have enjoyed watching them and have been focusing on how they use their senses to explore their world. Sensory development begins in the womb and is a critical part of development.

Mason loves the sounds the pots make when he bangs on them with the lids and spoons- the louder the better. **Kate** was a little slower to join in the band and prefers the sounds they make when she gives them a gentle tap or even a rub. She is also drawn to the soft jingle of the bells on the activity box.

Autumn smiles at the soft crinkle sounds her cloth blocks make when she plays. **Mason** loved the feel of the dry leaves outside crunching in his fists (as well as the crinkly sound) and the squishiness of the play balls. **Kate** preferred the feel of the silky ribbons on the activity cube and the smooth plastic of the shape sorting blocks. **Autumn** enjoys stroking the soft fleece on Miss Jolene's vest while she drinks her bottle. **Mason** enjoys tasting everything as he plays including art feathers and fake flowers inside and rocks, sticks and grass outside. **Kate** reserves most of her oral explorations for food and loves eating sweet strawberries and cool smooth yogurt.

Babies are using their senses all the time and it is important to give them opportunities to try different things even if it is messy or loud.



Autumn joined us mid-month and she has grown and developed so much in the short time she was gone. We missed her.

Mason and **Kate** have also enjoyed being able to join the Big Seeds for circle time and are transitioning to the same schedule so they will be ready to move when the time comes. **Kate** took her first steps and is working on building her confidence before going more than a couple steps at time. It will not be long before she is walking everywhere. **Mason** is working on his walking skills too pushing all the furniture around the room and working on his balance. He and **Kate** have been like two peas in a pod and wherever one goes the other is not far behind. We have really enjoyed watching their friendship grow. **Autumn** has been working hard on rolling and has rolled from her front to back but so far has not been able to get from her back to belly. She loves being able to stand in the jumper and is even starting to sit with a little support.



We will also be welcoming a couple new babies to our room this month. **Mirabel** has two older sisters Ada and Kate who are in elementary school now but started here in the seed room as infants years ago. We look forward to getting to know her and welcoming her family back. **Charlie** is Miss Tammy's third grand baby to come through Growing Tree and we are excited to have another Rundle.

Thank you for your patience, understanding and support as we get through this together. Hopefully, things will get back to some kind of normal soon and we can see how everyone has grown and give them hugs. We hope you have a great month!

Miss Jolene and Miss Deann

We loved seeing **Nora's** zip lock art on seesaw and watching her and **Tula** learn to crawl. We laughed watching **Mackson** try some big food and hope he has found some foods he enjoys. We miss seeing everyone's smiles and being able to cuddle them. Please keep sending the pictures and updates as it truly makes our Day brighter.

