

THE MONTHLY BLOOM

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

May 1, 2020

Dear Families,

“In these unprecedented times, children need connection to the people who are important to them. They do not need an avalanche of activities.” -Sally Haughey

Thank you for the plethora of ways you have supported Growing Tree and your child this month. Thank you for supporting your teachers as we learn how to facilitate engaging and meaningful connections with your children while also continuing to serve children in the classroom. We appreciate all of the feedback, suggestions and questions we have received so far and encourage families to continue reaching out. In the classroom this month we enjoyed recreating a beaver lodge, acting out the salmon life cycle, and keeping bird sighting journals among other activities. Seeing, hearing and watching all of the little moments you shared on Seesaw from home brought more joy to everyone at school than we could have imagined. Thank you for sharing! We can do this.

Conversations to have with your zoologist:

- *Why are beavers' two front teeth so large?*
- *How do beavers change the environment they live in?*
- *What challenges do salmon potentially face on their journey home from the ocean?*
- *How do salmon (while they are alive and after they have died) help other creatures and the earth around them?*
- *How many different bird species live around or visit our house?*

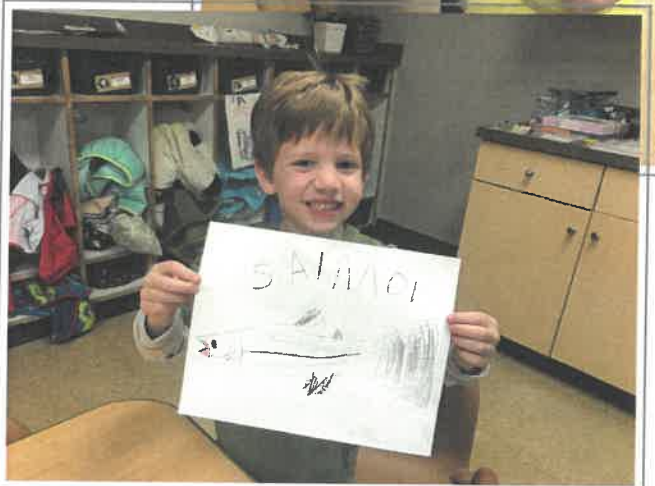
Looking forward to more sunshine and seasonal changes, this month we will begin a garden exploration. Our study will build on the wonder and knowledge your children gained about plants in the Branch Room. We are excited for several new themes within this study we believe will be conducive to learning from home. We will investigate various methods of planting, necessary conditions for different plants, gardening in greenhouses, crucial garden critters, and the countless uses for household herbs. We are excited to find out where our curiosity takes us during this study.

We will continue our presence on Seesaw and hope to expand our use of Zoom. Stay posted and please share any feedback you have from your experiences. It is so helpful to know what content is most valuable to you and your child when we are deciding what to post. Thank you!

Thank you all again for your understanding and patience during this confusing time. Please know that Growing Tree, Ms. Gale and I will continue to support your children's growth whether in person or from a distance. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

We are so grateful to you for sharing your creative, kind, curious, clever, capable, caring children with us this year.

We wish you well,
Emily, Gale, Coyote, Kinderoo & Joey



May '20

Gardening Study

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 4 Planting: Gardens we Know/At Home | 5 Planting: Seeds | 6 Planting: Seeds | 7 Planting: Caring for a Garden | 8 Planting: Caring for a Garden |
| 11 Greenhouse Gardening: How it Works | 12 Greenhouse Gardening: Selecting Plants | 13 Greenhouse Gardening: Selecting Plants | 14 Garden Inspired Art | 15 Garden Inspired Art |
| 18 Creatures: Worms | 19 Creatures: Bees | 20 Creatures: Bees | 21 Creatures: Ladybugs | 22 Creatures: Other Garden Insects |
| 25 Herbs: Can I Eat it? | 26 Herbs: Medicinal | 27 Herbs: Medicinal | 28 Herbs: Cooking | 29 Herbs: Cooking |

