



Green Beginnings Chicago News

Take a peek into our classrooms and see what we have been discovering!

A Message from Katie and Krissy...

Hello Families!

August was a busy month for our center. Thanks to your flexibility, we had two successful professional development days in which our entire staff became infant/child/adult CPR certified!

We also hosted a successful Open House on the 24th. Many families had heard of us via word of mouth, so thank YOU!

We look forward to Fall and to celebrating our upcoming 1 year anniversary! More to come on this later ☺



New Faces at GB

We are growing! Check out our new friends who enrolled in August!

Seedlings:

Henry Nellemann



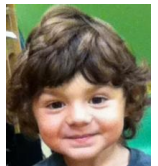
Sprouts:

Zara Mansour



Buds:

Gabriel Bifero



Birthdays of the Month

September

Sept 1 -Kalpana Gondi (Ajay's mom)
 Sept 2 - Mike Hill (Stanley's dad)
 Sept 15- Ms. Fran
 Sept 16- Maya Yuen (Harper Y's mom)
 Sept 16- Ken Ja (Emery's dad)
 Sept 18- Jim McHugh (Olivia's dad)
 Sept 18- Heather Holderman
 (Harper F's mom)

Sept 19- Josh O'Donnell (Catherine's dad)
 Sept 25- Charles Stephens (Charlie's dad)
 Sept 27- Lora Kendrick's 2nd bday
 Sept 29- Patrick Madden (Gabriel M's dad)
 Sept 30- Toni Capers' 1st bday
 Sept 30- Madelyn Harris' 1st bday



Seedlings

Ms. Larrita, Ms. Jewel, and Ms. Brittany

Last month, our Seedlings explored bugs! We read the books *Three Hungry Spiders*, *Bug to the Rescue*, *The Busy Bee*, *The Hungry Caterpillar* and *Ten Little Caterpillars*. The Seedlings also enjoyed learning about bugs by looking at cards and pictures of bugs, exploring plastic bugs at the sensory table, and by observing bugs on our nature walks. Seedlings made amazing bug art by making ants using their toe prints, bees using their fingerprints, and spiders and caterpillars using their handprints.

Seedlings were on the move this past month! We were very busy during tummy time looking at objects above and on our sides to encourage movement. Seedlings also enjoyed "Boppy Chair Fun" by reaching for objects and following objects with their eyes. The army crawl was another success, as Seedlings were moving and grooving all around the room and crawling up and over the teacher's legs in order to practice bending their knees. We also did a lot of standing exercises to increase balance. Fine motor skills were worked too, as Seedlings used a block to crush Cheerios in a plastic bag and practiced moving Cheerios from one container to the other.

Seedlings also explored cause and effect this month through pipe play as they dropped items through a paper towel roll and poured water through a water jug with a hole on the side for their hands to fit through.

As we wrapped up our summer play, Seedlings explored bubbles and water toys in our sensory table. We look forward to observing the season change!



Sprouts

Ms. Fran, Ms. Jisela, and Ms. Sandra

August was full of excitement as we dove head first into discovering all about our underwater friends. We explored fish, dolphins, octopuses, jellyfishes, crabs, and more! We had a wonderful time creating our own rendition of these sea creatures, building sand castles, discovering the water table, splashing in the pool with friends, and going fishing. These activities weren't just fun and creative, but broadened our imagination, stimulated our senses, strengthened our fine and gross motor skills, and broadened our knowledge.

The Sprouts room is steadily growing as we welcomed a new friend, Zara Mansour, this past month. We sadly said goodbye to our very own Lora Kendrick as she transitioned over to the Buds room this past month, but we look forward to the arrival of two of the Seedlings graduates, Ava Larson and Aurelia Torres, in September.



Buds

Ms. Judy & Mr. Jorge

The first day of Autumn is right around the corner and our Buds are excited to witness the change of seasons!

We are looking forward to exploring the leaves, colors, and themes that focus on Fall.

This month, we explored the wonders of the jungle and safari. We swung our fingertips on recycled paper to create monkeys. We cut out black stripes and pasted them on paper plates to create zebras, and we cut milk cartons in half and painted them gray to create our elephants.

We are continuing to grow and learn at Green Beginnings, as we focus on friendship in September. The class will learn about sharing, being kind & loving.

Blossoms

Ms. Devon

The Blossoms wrapped up summer with an in-depth study of ants! After closely observing various colonies of ants outdoors, we decided to create our own indoor ant habitat so that we could more closely witness the ants' creation of tunnels. The Blossoms learned that ants are drawn to sweet foods such as fruit, so they saved an orange slice from lunch in order to bait their ants. Meanwhile, we read up on the best way to create an ant habitat using recyclables and discovered that we needed two containers: One large container that would act as the ants' habitat, and the second smaller container that would be placed in the middle of the first container in order to force the ants to tunnel around it, near the outer edge. (This way, we would be sure to see the tunneling). After transitioning the baited ants to the habitat, we had to wait patiently for the ants' hard work to begin to show. Sure enough, within one week, the ants had begun to form their tunnels! Along with their impressive discussions and recorded observations, the Blossoms learned about the life cycle of the ant (*egg, larva, pupa, ant*) and recreated this cycle on paper using stamps and their own drawings.

As we approach Fall, we look forward to switching gears a bit as we discover the seasonal change and re-explore our various learning centers, in-depth.

