



Canary News

April/May, 2016

Growing and Changing

The development that happens in the first year of life never ceases to amaze us! As you are well aware, the first year of life, humans go through a lot of developmental changes. This means that the room is always changing with them. We thought that you might like to hear what a typical day looks like right now in the “infant” room, (which now looks more like a “toddler” room since almost all are walking around.)

When Heather arrives at 9:00 AM we all sing a welcome song that goes something like this: *“I’m so happy to see (child’s name), I’m so happy to see (child’s name). I’m so happy to see (child’s name). Everyone has fun at The Nest!”* We also sing *“Oh I wish I had a little red box to put my (child’s name) in. I’d take her out and (kiss, kiss, kiss) and put her back again.”* When we start singing, the children all stop what they are doing and crawl over to the circle to join in. Next year we will have a “group meeting” everyday in which we sing songs and read a book.

Then it is off to snack—three children go to the dining room and four stay in the room to eat. We rotate the children who go to the dining room based on their mood that day. When we come back into the room at about 9:45, we begin changing diapers and warming bottles for the younger children to take a nap (Reed, Christina, Mikey, and Nora). When they have all fallen asleep, Heather or I will take Robert, Casper, and Charlie outside to play.

While outside, the children either walk up and down the ramp, play with balls and cars, swing, or play on the playground. By 11:30 all the nappers are usually awake and we have lunch (half in the dining room and half in the classroom). After lunch, Robert, Charlie, and Casper take their nap while the rest of the children have their outside time.

As you might expect, outside time looks a little different for the younger children: depending on moods the afternoon outside time for the little ones consists of playing on the deck outside of our door, rolling cars, and balls down the ramp to see how far and fast they can go. If the weather is nice we travel to the playground where we build sandcastles, sand cakes, and pretend soup (this is Nora’s favorite.) The slides on the playground both big and little are huge hits. Christina and Michael particularly love being placed at the top, and slide down on their own where at the bottom we catch them with the biggest smiles on their faces.

We have been serving afternoon snack outside lately because it’s been such nice weather. Around 2:30-3 the younger ones come back inside for their second round of naps, where they sleep till around 4:00. At this time we take whom ever wants to go back out to the playground till about 5:00 when Heather or Amanda brings most if not everyone from our class back inside to cool off and take a little break before parents arrive.

Wish List:

- Push carts (IKEA).
- Egg shakers
- Wheels or things that roll



Shoes:

In the beginning of the year when the babies were little and spending most of their time on the floor we made sure adults and children took their shoes off before entering the room. With growth comes change. Now that all the children (except for Michael) are walking, we have lifted the “ban on shoes” in the baby room. Cleanliness should not be an issue because of the efforts made by the teachers and cleaning crew to keep the room in ship shape.

A Special Thank You to:

Britta for coordinating gifts and a cake so that Amanda can feel the love from her infant room community! And thanks to **all the parents** for the flowers and card!



Allison for being the infant room representative for the meet and greet last Thursday! The night was a huge success!

Reminders:

- We like to drink lots of water at The Nest—**PLEASE make sure you bring in a fresh sippy cup full of water each day.**
- It's getting real sunshine-y outside these days—**PLEASE apply sunscreen on your child each morning before school**, we will reapply in the afternoon.
- Please check the diaper drawer periodically **to see if your child needs diapers. We are almost out of wipes—please bring in a pack or two for the class.**
- Our fundraiser for the creative play scape is still getting strong! Click here to donate...

Upcoming Calendar Events:

- **Dine Out: Thursday, April 28th**—come eat dinner out with your family at FIGO in the Edgewood shopping center to support our on-going fundraising efforts
- **Last day school: Thursday, May 26th.**