

Further Investigating Avocado Pits

May 11th, 2016

A few weeks ago when we made guacamole, a few of the children – particularly Colin and Lola – became curious about the pit of the avocado. We kept the pits and allowed the children to incorporate them into their everyday play for the next few weeks. Some of the children utilized them in kitchen play. One day on the back deck, Colin, Eden, and Lola offered the pits for the baby birds to eat. There were curiosities about what the pits actually were, what might be inside of them, if they were edible, etc. When making the decision to further study the pits, I decided to start with the avocado again, as a reminder of where the pit originated. With the avocados set out on the table as well as photos from the internet of avocados cut open exposing the pit, a group of children most interested in the pits (Colin, Lola, Ruby, and Eleanor) began to sketch. They also looked through the diary page of our guacamole making experience to inspire their sketches. Colin decided to draw the pit, while Ruby used only green in her drawings (perhaps drawing only the outside of the avocado?) Lola decided to use the printed photo of the cut avocado as her reference.



“What is the pit?” –Rachel

“It’s an avocado egg!” –Eleanor

“Is it an egg?” –Rachel

*“Kinda look like an egg... But not like those white eggs.”
–Colin*

“Do you think a bird will come out of it?” –Rachel

“No I don’t think so.” –Colin

“Is it a seed?” –Rachel

“I don’t know...” -Lola





While Ruby continued to create many sketches of the avocado, Eleanor, Lola, and Colin went on to cut open the avocados and extract the pit.

“Where the other one go?” –Eleanor re: the crater left in the half of the cut-open avocado without the pit.

“Look! I got it out!” -Colin



After the pits were retrieved, Colin, Lola, and Eleanor washed them as well as part of the shell of the avocado. We had a discussion about what parts were the avocado and what parts were the pit. Lola believes the outer shell is the avocado. Colin believes the whole thing is the avocado. Then, we discuss what we should do with the fascinating pits...

*“Could we eat it like an egg?
Or should we try to plant it like
a seed?”*

“Plant it!” —Lola

“It’s a seed.” —Colin

