



## ***Collaging with Old Classroom Diaries***

**7/12/2017**

As the 2016-17 school year comes to a close Kalei has been taking time to reflect on our year together while considering & preparing for the future. While filling children's portfolios with the last of this year's diaries she discovered a cache of duplicated or goofed copies. This discovery provoked her to share these extras with a small group of children in the form of a collage provocation. Would photos inspire reminiscing, a narrative? Have these diaries served as a physical trace of our experiences this year? Might the children be interested in relaunching some of these previous experiences?

*Helena queries the origin & function of the material, leading us to a small conversation regarding documentation.*

Helena: Hey, why are there copies?

*Wren selects photos to collage based on aesthetic appeal, but is very actively engaged in the process of looking.*

Wren: Oh! This is a really cool picture!

Wren: Hank, you want to see me? Look at me!

*Wren is the first to discuss the element of time in the photos, & begins to remember all kinds of experiences with nostalgia.*

Wren: I miss that time we went at that trip at the old school. I'm gonna find that picture.

*The prompt of time flows well into a focus on photos of children who have been out of school for summer vacation.*

Wren: Helena, I see you! Hank, are you gonna cut me out?

Hank: Only if I can see where your picture is. There's Leo!

Wren: Are you going to cut out Leo?

Hank: Well, he was my friend so I am gonna cut him out.

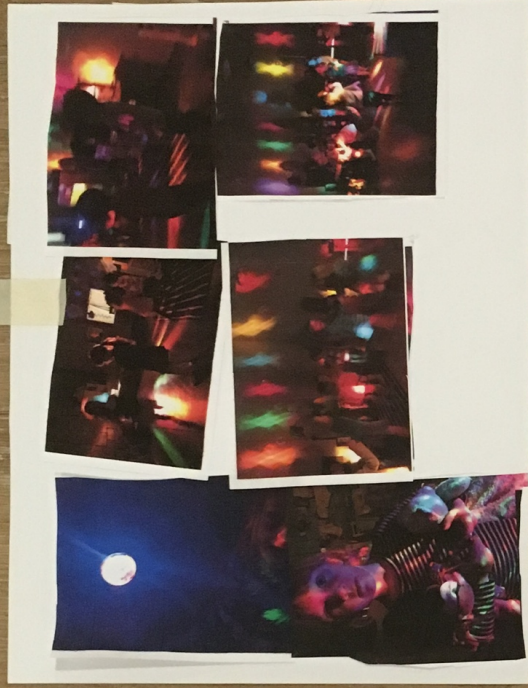
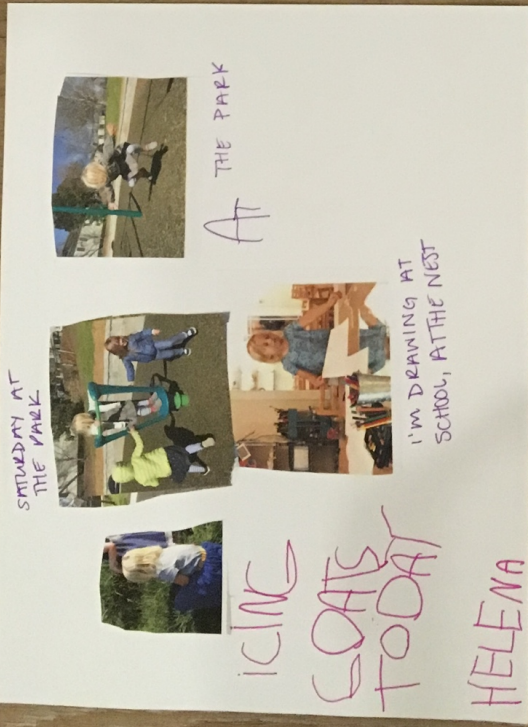
Helena: Well I am just doing ones [pictures] of Cyla because I'm sad she is not at our school anymore.

Hank: I see Julian. I am gonna cut him out.

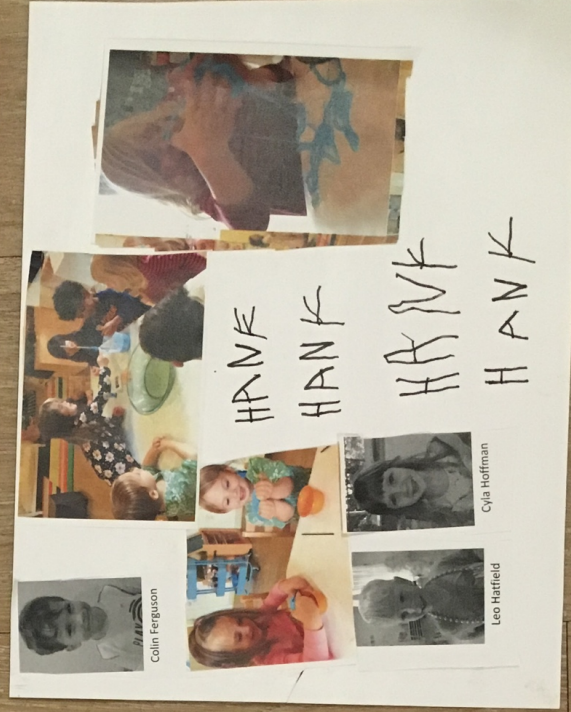




Helena's second collage centered on photos she or others found of herself. When Kalei invited her to "tell a story" with the photos Helena chose to caption them, sometimes truthfully & sometimes with story.



Wren seemed captivated by the photos from a diary about drawing & tracing printed images.



Hank cut out many, many photos but chose to collage those of friends & a fun blue goop-making experience!