

New Possibilities at The Nest

October 24, 2011

Last week during our meetings with Amelia Gambetti, Kristi and I were inspired to come back to The Nest and re-evaluate the spaces and materials in our school. This weekend we looked at the space as a whole and asked ourselves, "How can we create more opportunities for children to explore and feel a part of a school community? How can we keep children from feeling "trapped" in one space?"

We thought about the presentation we gave to Amelia and other educators last week during our meeting. The main focus of the presentation was our school being in a house. In putting the presentation together, we were made even more aware of the uniqueness and advantages of having a school for young children in a house. From the very beginning the co-founders of The Nest knew that we wanted our school to be in a house. We wanted children to feel the freedom and comfort they can feel when they are at home and for them to experience real life situations in which to problem solve together.

The first change we made to open the space was to move the baby gate from the end of the hallway to the dining room. We also replaced the gate from the infant room with one that comes down more easily so that children can move between both classrooms with more freedom. The children had such a great time today—smiling and laughing as they moved from space to space in the school.



Even Adele felt the love and freedom in the school today! Louise got to know baby Adele and even shared the "bird" she made out of the bristle blocks. Theo (on the right) loves babies. He had Adele laughing then in the moment Mandy asked Kristi to take a picture she started crying!