

The Start of a Project: Cubby & Hook Photos - August 12, 2016



At Morning Meeting we discussed the issue of the identifying cubby & hook photos. Historically, teachers have photographed children for these photos, but we felt it was more respectful of individuality to open a dialogue about how to approach this need. At the close of the conversation, the children chose from three methods: self-portraiture, peer-peer photography, or teacher-child photos. The majority of children chose to take their own photos, while a handful wanted to take each other's photos. Unsurprisingly, none of the children elected to have a teacher snap their photo.



Kalei began with the individuals who wanted to take a self portrait on a one-on-one basis. She asked if there was a specific place in the school or outside the school where they would like as their backdrop. Some children knew instantly, but for those who were initially unsure, a trip around the space helped generate ideas. Wren, perhaps thinking of where the photos would be displayed, chose the bathroom. Colin wanted to go on the playground, where he then found a ladder on the exterior of the fence to use as his backdrop. Sol & Lila both started on the giant "jellybean" cushion; Margaret started on the daybed with the colorful pillows but also tried the jellybean. Emerson was unsure but after a tour of the school, she settled on the Twos daybed, which happened to be near a basket of stuffed animals. The basket did not go unnoticed & she quickly selected three animals (a bunny, a squirrel, & an Angelina mouse) to pose with. Wren & Colin took the task with seriousness, while Sol, Margaret, & Emerson's style loosened as they worked. Lila, however, was playful from the start with a long, joyful session filled with expressive faces & laughter.



