

# The Little Flower

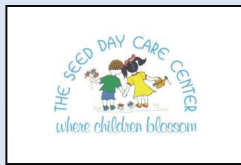
## News from the Coordinator

It is amazing to see how much the children have grown in the last couple of months. Just like the green shoots appearing outside in our late spring landscape, these Little Flower children are sprouting up right before our eyes! Part of this growth, we know, comes from good, nutritious food. Lunchtime is an event that is anticipated with eagerness each day by these growing kids. When Mr. Phillip, our cook, comes over to our kitchen carrying pots full of steaming food, he is met by excited questions such as "What's for lunch today, Mr. Phillip?" as well as polite greetings, such as, "Thank you for our food, Mr. Phillip!"

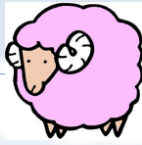
Part of the learning experience at The Seed comes at mealtime: Children try new foods when they see their peers enjoying them; children hear polite conversation modeled for them by their teachers; and children learn new vocabulary, such as "couscous" and "quesadilla." They also have a wonderful multicultural experience practicing Spanish, for example, learning how to say, "Leche, por favor" ("Milk, please!") and "Muchas gracias" ("Thank you!") during our Cinco de Mayo lunchtime celebration.

Playing outside these sunny days of May also affects lunchtime—the children have a great appetite! In so many ways, spring is contributing to the children's growth and happy development.





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### The Woolly Lambs

May has been full of surprises for James, Jake, Bruno, Sofia, Haylee, Emma, Phoebe, Matthew, and Aarush. We started by celebrating the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo. We made special chocolate milk, sang songs and danced "La Bamba". It was great fun!

As spring progressed, we learned more about plants. We planted bean seeds in individual pots. Each one took good care of their plants by checking them often. The Woolly Lambs were so cute as they informed one another when their beans were sprouting. We talked about flowers, petals, and seeds. We made our own cherry tree, full of pink paper flowers. How beautiful spring trees are! We were very happy to learn about Mother's Day and prepare a gift for each of our moms.

The Woolly Lambs started noticing bugs outside. We started reading about caterpillars, butterflies and bumblebees. We made caterpillars with pompoms. We made our own bumblebees and used our bumblebee costume to play and visit all our friends the way bumblebees visit all the flowers. Our favorite books this month: **Ten Little Caterpillars**, **A Hug for Me**, and **I Am a Tree**.

This month we also said goodbye to our dear friend, Matthew, who will be attending a new school. We will miss you, friend!





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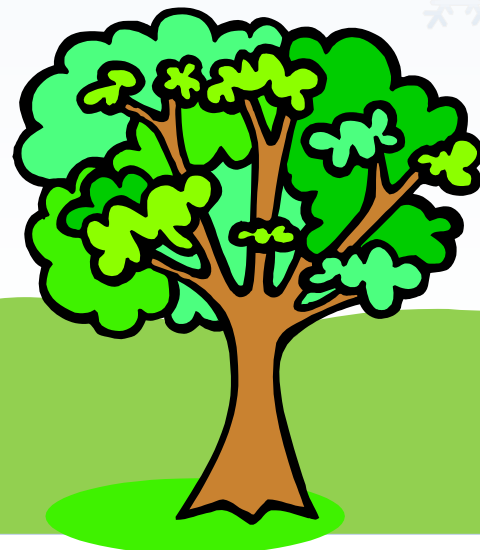


## The Canopy Critters

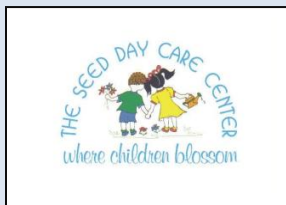
The “Critters” were happy to start off May with Mother’s Day. Zinnia seeds were planted by each “Critter” with the utmost care. It was extremely rewarding to watch Alex, Alison, Andrew, Anna, Annie, Darin, Evan, Nadia, Penny and Tyler nurture the sprouts so that they could give them to their moms on their special day.

Our theme of rainforest animals and their babies afforded endless opportunities for exploration. A few of our fun activities included Rainforest Bingo, where we pretended to be various creatures in the rain forest as we climbed, jumped, swung, slithered, and flew among the layers of our imaginary rainforest. The children are partial to monkeys since they are full of “monkey business”. We learned monkeys rarely leave the canopy, getting what they need by playing pranks on their fellow inhabitants.

We are looking forward to Open House on June 12 and are busy, busy, busy, planning and preparing for a wonderful day!



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## The Busy Bugs

This month we started learning about the weather, seeds, plants and bugs. We first planted lentil beans in wet napkins and then, when they grew, we planted them in eggshells with dirt. For Earth Day, we planted tiny fir trees for taking home. We also planted tomato seeds, watered them and watched them grow. They are growing quite nicely in our garden. One of our favorite books this month was **The Surprise Garden**.

Meanwhile, we painted suns and clouds and raindrops. We learned the "Weather Song" and played games called "Bean Bag Puddle" and "Jump over the Puddle". Some of the books we read included **The Cloud**, "What's the Weather?" and **When the Sun Rose**.

We are now learning about bugs and love to find them and put them in our bug cage. We have been dancing to the "Act Like a Bug Song" and reading the Eric Carle books. We love to read **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** because we all love to eat. We are also reading **The Very Busy Spider**, keeping ourselves very busy working on spider webs for the Open House. Be sure to come and see our projects on June 12!



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## Fun with Art

May has been a busy month in the Art Room. We began with our Mother's Day project, and the children couldn't wait to make the flower wreath for their mom.

Another project the Little Flower children worked on together was the *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* bulletin board. They worked as a team to make the coconut tree. Then each one decorated the initial of their name to be part of the story. They used different media to decorate the tempera painted letters: sticks, glitter, buttons, pompoms, etc.

The Seedlings have also worked on their name banners, which you will see at our Open House & Family Day on June 12th. The name banners are different for every group.

One day, as a special art activity, we gave a little twist to tempera painting, by painting around a shape that was pasted onto the blank paper.

More projects and art adventures are in store in the coming weeks as we prepare for the Open House. We hope you can come with family and friends and enjoy the friendly gathering while seeing the children's creative work on display throughout the school, as well as the delicious refreshments!

