



March 2020

## EELC- Wilfrid Walker

Life's too short to wake up with regrets.  
So love the people who treat you right,  
forgive the ones who don't and believe that  
everything happens for a reason.  
If you get a chance, take it. If it changes  
your life, let it. Nobody said it'd be easy,  
they just promised it would be worth it.  
-- Dr. Seuss

### Director's Message

Parent's I would like to take this time to thank you for all of your kind words, understanding and support during these very difficult and unpredictable times.

I would also like to acknowledge the amazing work of the supervisors and educators to ensure children felt safe, secure and continued to have fun during such stressful times. Their dedication and caring attitude has never been more apparent. Once again, we want to assure you that we will resume operations as soon as possible and that your child/ren's space in the centre are secure. Rest assured that no fees are required during our closure or to secure your space. We will share relevant updates from the Ministry of Education as they come available.

Thank you for your continued support. Please be safe and be well.

### Supervisor's Message

I want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding through this difficult time. My staff and I will miss spending time with your amazing children and the daily interactions with you. We hope everyone takes care of themselves and family and we will see you very soon.

## Cultural Showcase: South Africa

Jr. Toddlers - The junior toddlers worked together, measuring and mixing ingredients to make a special South African dish known as malva pudding. They enjoyed eating this delicious dessert for snack along with a side of fresh berries.

Sr Toddlers - For our cultural showcase we learned about African animals and played a game of match the animal to the picture. We also read stories about African animals.

Sr. Preschoolers - We were able to become more familiar with some of the animals that live in South Africa. The children enjoyed tracing their footprints and playing a little guessing game of whose footprint belongs to who. This activity helped them concentrate, increase their short-term memory and pay attention to detail. The children were able to gain more knowledge of why African American women carry things on their heads. The children were able to participate by attempting to balance things on their own heads. This gave them the chance to work on coordination and to try something new. The children really liked it, turning it into a game of who can keep an item on their head the longest.

Kinders - The kinders asked to color a flag of South Africa this month. As well, we learned about the different types of sharks off the coast of South Africa and which land animals live there. The children really liked all the different wild animals you could find in South Africa – their top two favorites were elephants and giraffes. We also discussed where South Africa is in relation to us.

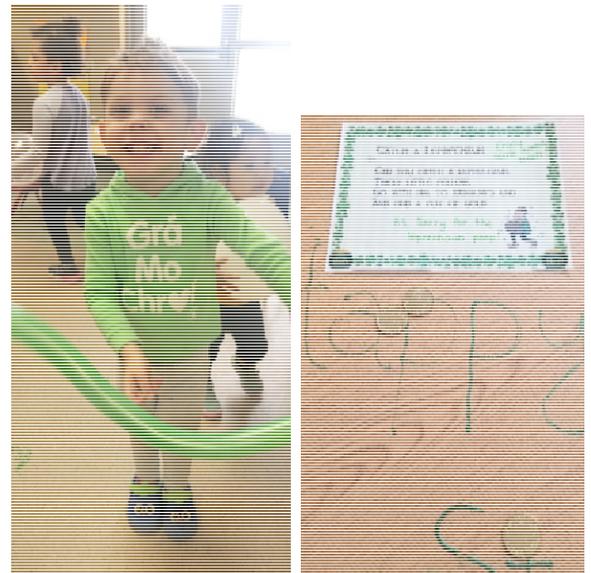
## Chelsea and Tiffany's Jr. Toddler Group

An interest in shapes and colours continued well into the month of March. The Jr. Toddlers practiced their shape recognition as they participated in a button sorting activity. The group worked on their colour recognition as they took turns tossing coloured balls into the air, attempting to land them on the appropriate coloured plates. A colourful science experiment was also incorporated into the children's learning as they mixed vinegar and baking soda together to reveal multiple explosions of hidden colour. As these activities unfolded, we made sure to work on enhancing the children's vocabulary, saying the names of each colour and shape out loud as we played. The toddlers became very familiar with the colour green as St. Patrick's Day came around the corner. They put their numeracy skills into action as they enjoyed measuring, adding and mixing ingredients to make their own green rice Krispy cake. The toddlers celebrated this special holiday by exploring the legend of the leprechaun, as we discussed some of the folklore that accompanies this mystical creature. They developed an appreciation for a new genre of music as we listened to Irish folk songs, and their gross motor skills flourished as they attempted to imitate an Irish jig that had been demonstrated by their educator. To fully get into character, the children had their faces painted as orange bearded leprechauns. They were fascinated by this new look as they ran back and forth to the mirror to check themselves out. This month the toddlers' creativity blossomed as they painted rainbows, leprechauns, and pots of gold. Adding their own unique touches to each piece of artwork. They also painted shamrocks using special green puffy paint. Although the month was cut short, there was no shortage of fun!



## Linette's Sr. Preschooler Group

March roared in like a lion, the weather was brisk and chilly! We did get some nice days to play outside and enjoy some puddle splashing and playing with animals in the puddles. The toddlers were really interested in reading books, colours and counting, so this month I focused our learning experiences on early literacy activities/ primary and secondary colours and counting games and rhymes like "Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar". We read and engaged in learning opportunities focused around these books: "White Rabbits Color Book," "My Many Colored Days," "Rainbow Fish," and "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish." The children loved painting the colours and mixing them to make secondary colours, just like the white rabbit in the storybook. "Look its purple or green!" they would shout excitedly as we painted a new colour or mixed them to make a secondary one. The children enjoyed listening to the "The Rainbow Fish," and learned some important social-emotional concepts. They were all eager to share and be kind to one another just like the rainbow fish sharing his brightly coloured scales with his fish friends. However, our favorite day in March was our PJ party! The toddlers loved showing off their pajamas to their friends, dancing to bedtime music, playing with and sharing their favorite stuffed animals and then enjoying a special snack of popcorn, oranges, chocolate chips and water. They listened to a bedtime story called "Lions Lullaby." As well St. Patrick's Day was a lot of fun as we had a balloon dance party, dancing to Irish music, and even got a special visit from a Leprechaun. We coloured rainbows, played with green playdough and painted a shamrock shiny green adding special holiday stickers to it.



## Alina and Lora's Jr. Preschool Group

One day early in March, a few of the children and I were looking at an abacus with different coloured beads on each row. The colours were similar to the colors of the rainbow. They were very interested in how different colors were created. This was how our March interest came about. We spent a great deal of time exploring colours, and revisiting colour creation with the activities that followed. Creating colours was introduced to them one day when we worked as a group using liquid watercolors of red, yellow, and blue. Pipettes, white paper, and three empty containers were used to mix the colours. We began by questioning what would happen if we mixed different colours together, starting with red and blue. We took a poll, with each child telling me what colour they thought this was going to create, and I would write the predictions down on paper. Each child chose either red or blue to add to the empty containers, using the pipette to transfer the colour of their choice into the new container. Sometimes they would add one drop of colour, sometimes two, three or four. They discovered that red and blue make purple! We continued with the same questioning, predicting, and mixing for blue and yellow, then red and yellow. Some of the predictions we heard were yellow, black, orange, purple, and even rainbow! The children seemed to really enjoy this process, as they were very engaged, showing lots of smiles, excitement, and sharing of their ideas. After mixing these beautiful colours, we used them to paint some very creative water colour paintings. This process was used again with the group in the days to follow, using red, yellow, or blue with any other projects we did, such as painting rainbows and gluing clouds to the rainbows or creating storms, which some of the children chose to do instead. This month provided us with a great deal of opportunity to ask questions, make predictions, watch processes, building relationships through working together as a group, and having lots of fun together! Some of the other highlights of the month surrounded discussions about St. Patrick's Day, shamrocks, leprechauns, and the pot of gold found at the end of the rainbow. We practiced our scissor skills with activities like cutting out heart shapes, then gluing them on paper to make shamrocks, and 'giving haircuts' to rolled up pieces of paper. The children seemed to love to give these haircuts to the paper rolls, giving each roll a face and name. A big highlight for all the children at the center, was arriving on St. Patrick's Day morning to see that a mischievous little leprechaun had come in through the night, leaving quite a mess to clean up, as well as a few treats for the children!

## Elfie's Senior Preschool Group

The children and I started off our month by doing plenty of activities to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. These activities gave the children the opportunity to trace and work on their cutting skills by using scissors. They were also able to practice writing their names. The children enjoyed mixing colours and getting their hands messy. We were able to take a break and go sledding. The children enjoyed bringing their own sled and sharing with their friends. They had tons of fun going down the hill, getting back up and doing it again. They said they didn't want it to end, because they were having so much fun. With the perfect temperature that day the children were able to stay outside for a good amount of time. We were able to paint using marbles, the children really enjoyed it. We were able to have a show and tell in which the children were all able to bring something they wanted to share and talk about. They really enjoyed bringing one of their favorite toys, telling their friends more about it and how it works. The children also had fun playing with shaving cream, mixing it with green food colouring and getting their hands messy.



Fun Activities we want to give our families that we have done in the center. We hope this can provide some fun and entertainment, not only for your children but for your whole family. Activities, supplies needed, and instructions included!

### Glitter Slime

- Elmer's Clear Glue (6oz)
- 2 tablespoons of water
- Glitter
- ½ teaspoon of baking soda
- Liquid food coloring
- 1-1.5 tablespoons of Contact lens solution



### Best Ever No-Cook Play Dough Recipe

- 2 cups of plain flour (all purpose)
- 4 tablespoons of vegetable oil
- ½ cup salt
- 2 tablespoons of cream of tartar
- Up to 1.5 cups of boiling water (added in increments until you get the right consistency)
- Food coloring (optional)

Step 1 – Add all dry ingredients, mix and make a well

Step 2 – Add wet ingredients in a separate bowl, then combine into dry ingredients slowly.

### Unbreakable Bubble Recipe

- 3 cups of water
- 1 cup of liquid dish detergent
- ½ cup of white corn syrup

Simply stir the ingredients together to make the bubble solution. You can also use dark corn syrup just as easily as white corn syrup, but the solution will be colored. You can also add food coloring or glow paint to color the bubbles.



### Homemade Air-Dry Clay:

- 2 cup baking soda
- 1 cup corn starch
- 1 ½ cup water

Directions:

Combine and stir baking soda and corn starch. Add in water and stir until everything is thoroughly wet. Place on stove over medium heat and cook until the ingredients form a ball. Remove from stove and knead to reduce water. Once excess water is removed, knead on cutting board with corn starch until smooth and cool.

### Chocolate Play Dough:

- 2 cups water
- 1 ½ cup white flour
- 1 cup salt
- 2 tablespoon oil
- 1 ½ teaspoon cream of tartar

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in pan. Stir over medium heat till combined and the dough begins to form. Remove from heat. Allow to cool properly to knead with hands. If too sticky, add more flour.



### Puffy Paint:

¼ Cup Flour, 1-3 Drops Food Coloring, ¼ Cup White Glue, ¾ Cup Shaving Cream OR One-half Shaving Cream and One half White Glue, Drops of food coloring

Mix ingredients together and paint on cardboard as may soak through paper



### No-mess Shaving Cream Bags

- Large Ziploc bag
- Shaving cream
- Food coloring
- Duct tape

Fill one bag 2/3 of the way with shaving cream, drop in a couple of drops of food coloring. Gently squish the air out of the bag, sealing the top and then taping the closure. Then allow the children to squish the bag to incorporate the color and draw letters/shapes/numbers on the bag using their fingers. Simply squish the bag to start over!



### Bubble Foam:

2 parts water to 1-part sunlight detergent—or any children's bubble bath  
Food color—optional

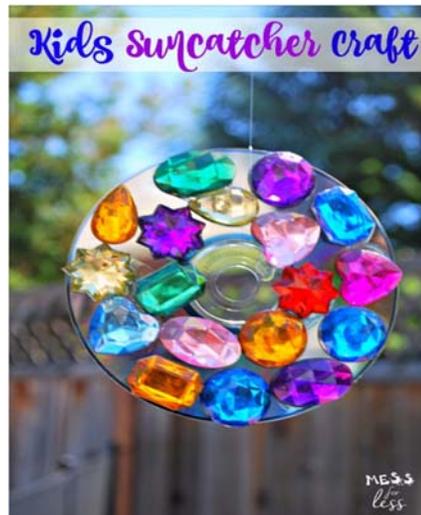
Mix with electric mixer until peaks are formed---have fun



### Sun Catcher/Wind Spinners:

An old CD, foam stickers, gem stickers, permanent markers, fishing wire

Have your child decorate the CD as you wish and then tie a fishing wire to hang from your tree or window.



### Editable Pudding Slime:

¼ Cup Instant Pudding Mix, 1 Cup Corn Starch, 1/3 Cup Warm Water

Add instant pudding mix and half of your cornstarch into a mixing bowl. Add 1/3 cup of water and stir until slime begins to form (it will be pretty sticky at this point). Slowly add the rest of the cornstarch, stirring as you go. When slime thickens and is hard to stir with a spoon, finish by kneading by hand. Knead for 3-5 minutes.

If it is still sticky – add a bit more corn starch

If it is still too dry – add a bit more water

### Ice painting:

Freeze colored ice cubes, using food coloring and Popsicle sticks inserted and have the children paint, and create new colors



## Christine's Kinder Group

The children were still really interested in learning about their bodies and all about each other. We continued playing the *get to know you* game and *what makes me feel that way* game, in which the children liked learning more about emotions and each other. We had fun with our birthday day where we celebrated all of our birthdays together. For this experience the children were most excited about making a chocolate cake from scratch. The children took turns measuring the ingredients and mixing them together. Once they had finished mixing everything, they wanted to do a taste test of all the different ingredients. While they were tasting the different ingredients, we talked about the different taste buds we have and what category they thought each ingredient falls under. They also enjoyed making their own birthday crown, decorating it however they wanted to. While they decorated their birthday crowns, we discussed different things we might like to do for our birthday parties and made a birthday graph to see which month had the most birthdays in our group. Finally, for snack we sang happy birthday to each other and shared our cake with the other children in the center. The children also wanted to learn about different ways we could move our bodies. We did this by having 'ways to move' races. Some of their favorites were running, hopping, bear crawling, and leaping like a frog. We tried yoga, which the children loved and added stretches to our circle time. For the second week of the month the children also showed an interest in St. Patrick's Day. For this the children made a leprechaun trap to try to catch a leprechaun. They did this so that we could get his pot of gold and ask him some questions, but it didn't work. The children had fun making paper plate rainbow spiral wind chimes, while mixing different colours of paint to see what new colours they could make and had fun making up different silly names for the new colours we made.



## Celeste's Kinder Group

This month has been all things green! We started off with shamrock collages; using a variety of green materials in different shades of green, which created a cool effect. Then we made St. Patrick's sensory bags. In these, we included green marbles, buttons, stickers, lime Jell-O powder, and green and gold coins. After this we used the leftover lime Jell-O powder to "paint" small lucky shamrocks; this made them smell amazing! We also made paper plate leprechauns with orange hair. The children did a great job personalizing their leprechauns.



We also traced our hands-on construction paper using the colours of the rainbow. The children cut out their handprints and we arranged them in a rainbow shape on the wall above our bulletin board. We also included literacy by using letter tiles to spell words associated with St. Patrick's Day. The children really enjoyed using the letter tiles to spell! We included numeracy when we did some St. Patrick's counting.

On St. Patrick's Day the children arrived to see leprechaun footprints on the floor, a message on the table, coins all over, Irish music, and green marshmallow treats! This created a lot of excitement and wonder for the children!



## Contact us

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