



Week of October 5th, 2015



Your children love to read! They love sharing stories, reading books, re-telling books, making up collaborative stories and everything about the art of story telling. As part of our emergent curriculum, last week I introduced our new "Shadow Box Theatre." I was excited to see where it would take us. Everyone was immediately drawn to this little red box with the light behind it. Our shadow box became a place for story telling, art displaying and joke making! Each child used it slightly differently and it was a great display of how mixed age classrooms can be beneficial for all. Some of the children told complete and unique stories with a beginning, middle and end. Some borrowed ideas from their friends and retold stories of another child. Several used it as a t.v. and

pretended to "watch a movie." And finally some just enjoyed showing the shadow puppets to see the shadow that their movements made without any words involved...a display of cause and effect. I look forward to adding more "puppets" to go along with some of the classic stories that your

children already know as well as new stories to go along with the puppets that your children already made.

The friendships that are developing in our class this year are the kind of friendships that will last a lifetime. All of our students are here between 3-5 days per week and this allows for enough time to truly get to know each other and develop meaningful relationships. On one morning this week, I simply walked around the classroom taking pictures of each group of children working together on tasks. Whether they were in groups of 2 or 3, each group was taking turns toward a





shared goal while laughing and conversing back and forth. I thought to myself...this is a great morning! Social development is such an important part of early childhood and really, all of childhood and adulthood. These experiences will help shape the way that your children learn to relate to others in all kinds of future experiences.

Here are a few more photos from our week together. There was yoga, clay, music, nature walks, dress up, bowl making, blocks, puzzles, art and much more. I hope you enjoyed your weekend and I look forward to seeing your children this week!

