**Champlain Island Parent Child Center**

**August News**

July has been a bit rainy, but we are excited to have yielded some fresh vegetables from our gardens that were planted during our parent work weekend! We are so excited to continue to care for these gardens and for all the learning opportunities they provide for everyone! Each of the classrooms at the center has been working on fun curriculum that is truly reflective of the interest of the children.

Thank you for those of you able to make it to Jenn’s BBQ celebration at the Sand Bar. It was an amazing way to send her off into this next chapter and we look forward to her coming back to visit us soon!

Open House for our families will be August 31st from 8am – 9:30am. We welcome both new and returning families! This is a great opportunity for you and your child to visit in their new classroom prior to the first day of school! Our afterschool program is now hosted at Folsom Education and Community Center! We have our own classroom (room 104) and we are so excited to have a space to call our own!!

Our new “Lending Library” is located in the lobby of the Red Building. There are books, games and activities that families are able to borrow to bring home and enjoy with their families. We also were given two 10 person camp tents, coolers and lanterns for families to use to go camping for the weekend with your family! Please check in with CIPCC staff to ensure we know who has signed out each item!

Thank you to our Strengthening Families grant for providing these amazing materials for our CIPCC family!!!

**IMPORTANT DATES**

August 28th – September 1st CENTER CLOSED (Teacher In-Service)

August 31st – Open House at CIPCC! 8am-9:30am

September 4th – CENTER CLOSED (Labor Day)

September 5th –First day of school! ☺

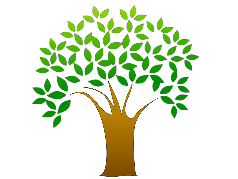
Duckling July news 2017

It is so hard to believe that it is the end of July already. We have not had much of a summer. We have had a quiet time in the duckling room with just three little ducklings. We have been working on a bubble theme the kids really like that. We did some diaper painting meaning we just let the littles paint in their diaper.

The end of August J.J will be moving up to the chipmunk room with his friends. Kendra and I will be getting a new batch of littles this fall.

We will be closed for the week of August 28- September 4 for in-service and Labor Day we will reopen on September 5. This is when we will revamp our rooms and take some classes.

I will be on vacation the week of September 4- 8 Kendra will be in our room for that.

JULY Chipmunk Classroom

Holy smokes, life as a Chipmunk sure does fly right by! We had a super fun month, but…where did it go? The most exciting part of our month was welcoming Abbie as our co-teacher; she is SO MUCH

FUN! We are going to miss her incredibly when she leaves us in August to return to college. Who needs college anyhow? We think she should drop out and commit to a life of toddler room teaching!

We started our month just as anyone should, celebrating America and 4th of July! We made red, white, and blue EVERYTHING…coffee filter “fireworks”, pom pom paintings,handprint fireworks. We partied alllll week and hope you enjoyed our Americana artwork.

The second week of July was just beachy! Abbie created a really cool lesson plan, which included all things water; and in case you haven’t heard…WE LOVE WATER! We listened to songs about the sea and songs about sharks. We watched video clips of ocean life and fun beachy dance songs. We made fancy art projects using tissue paper, sticky tape, ink pads, spiky bouncy balls, and paint. Our teachers loved them so much they decorated our classroom with them! Don’t worry, we’ll be bringing them home for the refrigerator real soon.

We hoped so badly it would stop raining, we decided to go from beach week to summer week. It didn’t work, but we sure had a good time! We created watermelon slices using tissue paper, paper plates, and paint. We also used scissors in another fun project! (Insert evil laughter). No need to panic, Amy and Abbie wouldn’t give us the cool grown up scissors - we had to use cute little safety scissors. We were super confused and mystified. We held them, we spun them this way and that, we tried to eat them like popsicles. How anyone cuts paper with those things was beyond us. Then Amy and Abbie helped us put our fingers and thumbs in the holes. Great, but how were we supposed to open and close the darn things…AND hold our papers?! We’re pretty sure our teachers are crazy. Somehow we finally managed to cut here and there - you can see the finished product displayed on our classroom door.

We wrapped up the month with Language Development, which we particularly loved. You might not think little people like us can understand sign language. You especially may not think we can actually DO sign language. Guess what? Mommies and Daddies are not ALWAYS right! It’s true, just ask us. We can show you:

* Drink
* Milk
* Water
* More
* Cracker
* Shoes
* All done
* Eat

And maybe even a few more! We picked up on ASL (American Sign Language) so quickly and impressively that our teachers are going to continue incorporating it in our day to day.

We are absolutely in love with our goldfish (Mac, Cheese, Ben, & Jerry) and our turtle (Jimmy). Amy is an animal lover and believes in teaching children to care for and respect animal life. We are showing her every day what caring, kind-hearted kiddos we are! Please feel free to stop in and visit our classroom pets at drop offs or pick ups! We LOVE to show them to you and tell you all about them. Special thanks to Miss Katie for the donation of a 30 gallon and 10 gallon tank! Our pets sure were happy to move from little apartments to great big condos!

Here’s looking forward to an amazing, fun-filled August!

Turtle Talk

Summer is surely here!! The Turtles have been enjoying the outside as much as we can. Water play and the sprinkler have become one of our favorite things to do outside. We even have our pool that some of us love to take a swim in. Don’t forget to make sure your child has a bathing suit or a change of clothes. Water shoes would be great as well.

The month of July was spent exploring a few different types of things. Farm animals were the first 2 weeks. We did lots of fun activities that allowed us to learn and explore about farms and animals. We visited Allenholm at least twice per week weather permitting. We made clean mud in our sensory table and the Turtles loved exploring in that. This is an easy and “clean” recipe that can be made at home by having the children rip up toilet paper or any kind of paper. Then shave some bar soap into the paper and add a bit of water. There you have “clean” mud.

The Turtles loved when we read Three Billy Goats Gruff so we explored that book for a week. We made goats and trolls out of paper plates which they all really enjoyed. They really loved reading the book over and over (and over) again. Reading a book several times is great for children this age as they can predict and really follow sequences of events that happen in the story.

In the Turtle room we have also been working on using scissors and also using words like “please and thank you”, as well as familiarizing ourselves with numbers 1-5 both verbally and visually.

One more month of summer before we began transitions. The summer is surely flying by. We hope you and your families are enjoying every day!!!

Kendra and Lila

**CUBS Newsletter – August,2017**

What a delight it is to get to watch your children explore, discover, and learn! Eager to participate and motivated by enormous curiosities, the CUBS’ students have been enjoying expanding their knowledge of key developmental concepts while participating in a variety of open-ended activities. The students have also been strengthening friendships and further developing social skills, learning how to negotiate a larger classroom with more children – what close and respectful relationships they are all forming!

In July we opened up our very own “Ice Cream Shop” in the classroom! The children loved playing the roles of Ice Cream Maker, Ice Cream Scooper, Delivery Man/Women, Cashier, and Customer. They learned how to use money to buy the ice cream and greatly enjoyed discovering that each dollar was designed with a child’s face on it! While we all greatly enjoyed playing pretend “Ice Cream Shop,” a favorite activity of all was actually making ice cream! In two different science experiments we made delicious ice cream – once using a Kitchen Aid Mixer and once using the salt and ice method. We compared and contrasted the two different methods before gobbling up the product of our experiments! We concluded the month of July with a “Summer Fun” unit, engaging in a variety of activities that evoked the delight of the summer season!

Looking Forward:

We will begin August by playing with bubbles! Our “Bubbles” unit will allow for children to explore the science of bubbles while mixing up their own bubble solution and creating bubbles of various sizes using a variety of materials! We will culminate the week’s lessons by making bubbles that are so big the children can stand inside of them!

If the weather holds out we also plan to spend a lot of time outside this month, on nature walks behind Folsom, visiting the animals at Allenholm, and watching the apples grow at Folsom. We also look forward to learning more about farms and farm animals during a Farming-themed unit!

Important Notes:

-Children who will be transitioning to the Allen House (Farmhouse) will do so during the week of Monday, August 21 – Friday, August 25.

-Don’t forget that CIPCC’s annual staff in-service week is Monday, August 28 – Friday, September 1. The center will be CLOSED to children, so please make other arrangements for childcare. School will resume on Tuesday, September 5 after the Labor Day holiday!

-Please make sure that your child has a swimsuit and extra clothing at school for those hot August days! We love to get wet in the sprinkler and at the water table!

-If your child will not be attending school for the day, or is going to be late, please inform us by **9:00am** so that we may plan accordingly. You may either email us at cubs@cipcc.org or call 372-4704.

**Farmhouse Fun!**

**Teachers:** Misty and Halle

**Sharks, Snakes, and Frogs- Oh My!**

The month of July was filled with the sort of creatures that scare most teachers! ☺ The Farmhouse preschoolers (inspired by our visiting musician Buddy’s unique songs) voted to learn about sharks as the month began. Did you know sharks don’t have skeletons? Their bodies are made up of cartilage, a great vocabulary word, by the way. We wiggled our ears and noses to experience how flexible cartilage is. You can also see our pom pom painted whale sharks on the wall opposite our front classroom door. We learned that whale sharks are the biggest (and the gentlest) of all the shark species.

During our second week on sharks, we noticed that the grass all around our school was starting to hop and jiggle- it was full of small frogs! Some of our friends were brave enough to catch them, and we kept a couple as pets for a few days, but this seemed to be the perfect topic to learn about next. We also threw snakes in there, too, because that was a topic of interest, and it seemed relatable. We learned the frog life cycle, while working on ordinal counting (first, second, third, etc.). We marble painted green and speckled frogs (inspired by a favorite song). These can be seen in our back classroom (aka “our eating room”). We made up our own snake dances after watching video of real snake charmers in India. We also located India on a map! Did you know snakes smell with their tongues?

As we move into August, the children voted to learn about cars and trucks (especially monster trucks). Notice our train table turned truck located in our front classroom, complete with real car keys, small hula hoop steering wheels, flashlight headlights, and game spinner used to measure miles per hour (MPH). We’ve added fire hats, sunglasses, and maps to help complete the “driving experience” ☺.

**Taking the Learning Home:** Trying to get some help cleaning up after meals? We use the system of “everyone gets a job” to end our mealtimes. Someone gets the cups, someone pushes in chairs, etc. I bet your preschooler would love to see this happen at home, especially if they get to choose what the adults do as jobs ☺.

**Reminders**

* We do go outside even if it’s raining! Especially since the days are still warm. Exploring the outside when it’s wet can lead to new findings- like wiggly worms or tiny mushrooms to squish. Plus, the unstructured outdoor play is great for their overall development. We ask that you send in a pair of boots and a raincoat, so that your child can enjoy the puddles. And, make sure your child has extra clothes, so they can change when they come in.
* As the end of the summer approaches and several of our children will be going off to kindergarten, please let us know when your child’s last day of school in the Farmhouse will be. Thanks!
* We are closed August 28-September 1 for in-service. And, September 4 for the Labor Day holiday.
* Don’t forget to register for our 1K/5K Run/Walk happening on Sunday September 17. A link to registration can be found on the CIPCC Facebook page.