

Monthly Newsletter



September 2022 #2

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- 10-4 **Annual Fundraiser Meeting**
2:15pm. All welcomed to join
- 10-5 **Parent Talk Story: Challenging behaviors.** 6:30-7:30 Parents ONLY
- 10-7 **Parent Teacher Conferences**
NO SCHOOL
- 10-17 **Seedlings/Sprouts Kailua Library Walking Field Trip**
- 10-21 **Halloween Date Night**
5:30-8:30pm. Sign up required
- 10-24 – 10-28 **Scholastic Book Fair**
- 10-27 **Fall Surprise**
- 10-28 **Spooky Storytime on the Marsh**
6pm

Monthly Recap:

Seedlings: Seedlings welcomed a few new friends who just made the age requirement, welcome new Seedlings! In class they've been learning more about themselves by discussing feelings and emotions, learning how to sign the first letter of their name in ASL, and of course singing and dancing to songs like "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes."

Sprouts: Sprouts finished up their Self Unit by taking a closer look at the five senses. To end they juiced their own lemons for lemonade and tasted it before and after sugar was added. They've started investigating fall, with a quick unit on Apples. Last week they got to taste test 9 different apple varieties...yum!

Shoots: Shoots are moving forward with their Hawaiiiana curriculum, learning about canoes and the ancient way of navigating with the stars. As a hands-on activity they pounded taro into pa'i'ai and poi using a pohaku (stone).

Whole School: Our first movie night of the year was a huge success, raising us just over \$500. Thanks for all who came and helped with the event.

Did You Know? We swapped out our bucket swing on the back playground for three traditional swings. Not only are these swings great for fine motor (gripping the rope), gross motor (coordinating leg movements), and core muscle strength, it also helps children develop their sensory system, which is how our brain organizes and interprets information. Swinging helps the sensory system develop their ability to adapt to different sensations (loud, chaotic, etc.) Swinging also encourages social interaction and spatial awareness, and of course it's fun!





Letting Children Choose

Article adapted from NAEYC Family Communications

Why do we as adults pursue hobbies such as golf, crochet, surfing, or gardening? We spend time in such an activity because we find it enjoyable, we have some control over the activity, and we see it as offering some probability of success. We choose what we will crochet or plant, then decide where, when, and with whom we will play golf or tennis.

Children, too, learn best when they have some control over their learning, when activities are meaningful and relevant, and when they can make choices in the materials they will work with and how they will use them.

Children thrive when they

have opportunities every day to make choices in their learning. We facilitate children's choices within a carefully planned environment. We create the environment to allow each child to choose activities that are developmentally appropriate for his or her age. The children choose the peers with whom they will work and play and usually determine how they will use the available materials.

These choices empower children to take control of their own learning. Children use materials and equipment in far more creative and innovative ways than we could ever plan, and they use the materials in ways

that meet their own developmental needs.

Research indicates that intrinsic motivation- when we work on a task primarily because we find it satisfying- is the most effective and engaging way to learn. At Sunshine School, we make an effort to provide materials and activities that provide choice and interest for the children. That's a key reason you'll see busy, involved children.



Children's Corner:

What's your favorite movie?

"Aladdin" - Nolan

"Iron Man" - Lukas

"Diary of a Wimpy Kid" - Daelan

"Despicable Me" - Miles

"Star Wars" - Micah

"Raya and the Last Dragon" - Isla

What's the silliest word you know?

"goo-goo-ga-ga" -Athena

"Phone" - Remi

"Funny bone" - Arlo

"kookoo" - Talocct

"turniphead" - Liev

