The Extended Morning Program has a weekly Focus Book that expands on the Pre-School theme of the month. The teachers support the stories through related activities that include experiences in each of the Developmental Domains. The story is further enhanced by weekly cooking projects with Mrs. Loomis, and daily music with Mrs. Bird. A brief description of the focus book is included in each Monday’s email, with a list of available activities each day.

The newsletter for each theme recaps the related activities through text and photographs, with captions highlighting the developmental emphasis.

Focus Books

January Pre-School Theme: Children Around the World

A picture is worth a thousand words. These photos tell the story of our Children Around the World theme at the Children’s School and express just how much we learn from our explorations!

Extended Morning Teachers: Mrs. Bird, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Myers, and Mrs. Opferman
As the children master new skills, self-esteem and independence is fostered.

Sitting close during a story builds relationships with grown-ups and between the children.

Children practice taking turns during activities.

The fine motor skills used to put the long stick pieces into the holes takes a steady hand.

Moving our bodies while piecing together a floor puzzle helps us to see the big picture.

Practice with small paintbrushes grows our hand-eye coordination.

Our friends have lots of opportunities for using writing utensils.

Singing rhyming songs builds understanding of our language.

Sorting cereals builds comparison skills required for letter recognition.
During block building, children recognize shapes and begin to learn about the law of gravity as blocks fall.

Experimenting with balancing blocks takes patience and concentration.

Pushing a stroller means using a simple machine: the wheel. From the looks of it, this experimentation is not only educational, but lots of fun!

Folding paper and cutting pieces from it can become a symmetrical surprise!

How many stones does it take to make a square shape?

Boys and girls experiment with varied roles in dramatic play, such as pushing baby dolls in strollers. This may be what they are experiencing in their own homes.

Our children are familiar with the concept of shopping.

Kneading bread is a good finger strengthening activity, and it is also a common practice among other cultures.

Sorting in the kitchen promotes the practice of classification.
We enjoy hearing our amplified voices as we sing into a microphone!

At the Children’s School, we get to try different machines, tools, and utensils!

Sometimes exploring old technology is beneficial for our understanding.

Sometimes taking time to ponder the next move allows us to be intentional in our creativity.

Using appropriate tools, and quantities of supplies makes it possible for children to creatively succeed.

Various kinds of materials are introduced during activity time.

Cooking alongside a teacher causes us to gain future independence.

Talking about healthy foods during activity time gives us a good outlook on our snack and lunch choices.

Working beside a friend allows children to take turns helping one another to cook safely.