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 experiences in our make shop, with wood working, and cooking activities in the kitchen. We also enjoy daily music with Mrs. Bird. A brief description of the focus book is included in each Monday's email, and 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.

**October Pre-School Theme:**
Community/Recycling

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

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**Focus Books**

- *Franklin's Neighborhood*
- *Tortoise Brings the Mail*
- *Michael Recycle*
- *Compost Stew*

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**Extended Morning Teachers:** Mrs. Bird, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Myers, and Mrs. Opferman
The children are working with the teacher to locate the placement of a small toy using a homemade map of the Green Room.

Gardening requires the use of tools and the teamwork that comes with group responsibility.

Trying new things on the playground is fun when we are with friends.

During activity time, we often use the Red Room for movement through an obstacle course.

Pushing this huge ball is a great opportunity to use large muscles in our legs and arms.

There is coordination involved with striking a musical instrument with a mallet.

The library opens during activity time for some quiet space or reading time.

This board game provides opportunities for letter recognition and comparison as the children match their pieces to the corresponding spot on the board.

Our iPads use the “Message From Me” app in which the children send a photo and verbal message.
Science

Bulbs are planted in the fall and after we wait for a very long time, they bloom in the spring!

Worm exploration is life science, right under our nose!

Our hillside is the best place to test frisbee flight. It takes time to learn how to send it through the air.

Math

Flying circles made from cloth make for some fun hillside physical “math”.

Counting pegs to match the number on the peg board is a way these children are using daily opportunities for math.

Building with wooden blocks into a square structure allows for shape recognition with large muscles.

Social Studies

We practice planting and harvesting our crops to better understand from where our produce comes.

We learned about recycling by acting as “Michael Recycle”.

This game teaches children about helping friends and neighbors who need support.
Bubbles are simple, in terms of technology, but often are an activity that contributes to wonder.

The process of making paper allows children to better understand how paper can be made again after being recycled.

The light table has many uses, such as acting as an x-ray station!

Creatively using recycled materials such as recyclables for sculptures, is one way to reuse materials!

Dramatic play is enhanced with theme-related props, such as this pretend fire extinguisher.

Michael Recycle picks up trash and sorts it. This friend is trying to follow in his footsteps.

Creatively using recycled materials such as recyclables for sculptures, is one way to reuse materials!

Children are encouraged to use gardening gloves as they learn to safely use the gardening tools.

“Dig and place” is our safety mantra in the sand box.

Children scoop dirt and plant bulbs as they anticipate the springtime transformation!

The process of making paper allows children to better understand how paper can be made again after being recycled.