

1000PLUS Volunteer Day

On Saturday, April 8th, nineteen CMU student volunteers worked with Miss Hancock to prepare the playground and hillside garden for the spring. The students pulled weeds, removed leaf debris on the hillside, pruned our perennials, and turned over the soil in the garden beds to prepare for our spring planting days in May.

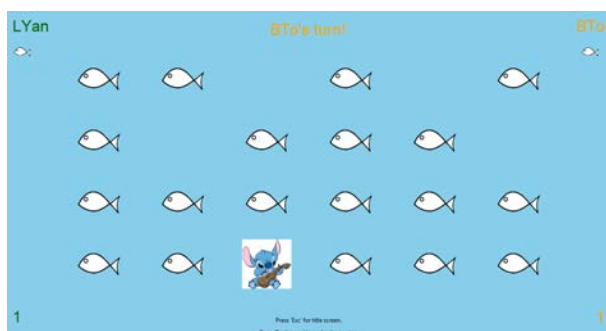
Norah Gruber (Kindergarten) and her family also stopped by and helped with some spring cleaning on the playground. Thank you so much to these hardworking volunteers!!



Research Spotlight

Facilitating Memory in Preschool Children

Junior Lauren Yan, one of the Children's School student employees, has been awarded a Dietrich College Honors Research Fellowship to conduct research at the Children's School, beginning in the summer and continuing next spring after she returns from her study abroad program in South Korea. Lauren will work at the Children's School during June and July to conduct a literature review on young children's memory, observe children playing a variety of memory games during camp, and refine her hypotheses and procedures for testing whether varied types of teacher prompting can successfully facilitate children's memory in the context of games played with the prompting and children's use of memory strategies across subsequent games even without continued prompting. Lauren will also submit her final research proposal to CMU's Institutional Review Board for approval so that she can conduct her study during her senior year at the Children's School. Lauren is hoping to recruit students from a preschool in South Korea to participate in the study as well so that she can include a cross cultural comparison.



In the context of a technology course, Lauren already developed a computer version of the traditional "memory" game in which players flip two cards to see if they match and, if not, return the cards back to their original positions while trying to remember the card locations for use on subsequent turns. In the case of the screenshot to the left, players click on two fish to reveal hidden images that may or may not match. Players accumulate miniature fish in their scoring column for each match achieved.

Lauren will share the results of her research at CMU's "Meeting of the Minds" in May of 2018. This Undergraduate Research Symposium is an annual university-wide celebration of undergraduate research, with oral presentations, poster sessions, art displays, and live performances. The event includes optional competitions, some of which even have cash prizes. This year's event, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Wednesday, May 10th.