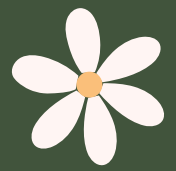
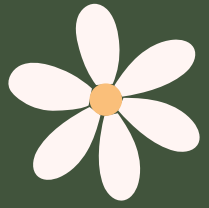


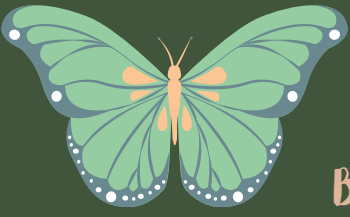
LITTLE GREEN



EXPLORERS



BOMBECK FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



We're thrilled to launch our Center-Wide **1000 Hours Outside Challenge**, encouraging classrooms to explore and enjoy outdoor time as part of their learning experience. Teachers and students will track their hours outdoors, and we invite parents to support this initiative by encouraging more outdoor play at home. Spending time outside helps children develop physical, social, and cognitive skills, while also fostering a love and respect for nature. Check out the tracker at the entrance to see our progress and join in the fun—let's inspire our kids to grow through outdoor play!

SPRING SCIENCE + DISCOVERY



March is a vibrant month of transformation in nature, and it offers an exciting opportunity for children to experience firsthand the changes occurring in the world around them. As winter melts away, signs of spring start to emerge, making it an ideal time to engage children in scientific observation and discovery. Encouraging children to explore these changes through hands-on experiences fosters curiosity and helps them develop a deeper understanding of the natural world.

- **Observing the Changes in Nature:** Spring is full of new growth. Watch as buds, blossoms, and green shoots appear. Encourage your child to observe and track these changes, helping them understand growth and renewal in nature.
- **Insects and Animals:** Spring brings new animals and insects. Observe ants, bees, and frogs with your child, using tools like magnifying glasses to explore their behavior and role in nature's cycles.
- **Sounds of Spring:** Spring is full of sounds. Help your child listen to birds, insects, and the wind, teaching them about sound waves and animal communication through nature's symphony.
- **Discussing Growth and Renewal:** As temperatures rise, plants and animals thrive. Discuss how spring brings new life—flowers bloom, animals wake from hibernation, and trees grow new leaves, showing your child the interconnectedness of nature's cycles.

March's arrival of spring offers endless opportunities to explore, learn, and appreciate the world around us. By engaging in these science-based activities, children not only gain a better understanding of nature but also develop an appreciation for the changes that each season brings. This fosters a sense of wonder and curiosity that will last a lifetime!



LEAF AND FLOWER PRESSING:

Take a walk and collect leaves, flowers, or petals that are beginning to bloom. Then, press them between sheets of paper to preserve their beauty. This activity teaches children about the preservation of nature and offers an opportunity to explore the different types of plants and flowers that grow in your area.

WATER PLAY EXPERIMENTS

The changing weather often brings rain, puddles, and flowing streams—perfect for water play! Encourage your child to experiment with water by splashing, pouring, and observing how water behaves. Simple experiments like testing which objects float or sink, or using different containers to compare how water flows, can teach children about buoyancy, surface tension, and the movement of water in nature.

Reusing Water:

After water play, consider ways to reuse the water creatively and sustainably. You can collect the used water in a container and use it to water plants or your garden, helping children understand how water is a precious resource. Another idea is to use the leftover water for cleaning outdoor toys or equipment. If the water isn't too dirty, it can also be used for future water play, making it a great example of reducing waste and reusing resources. Discuss with your child how reusing water helps the environment by conserving water and reducing the amount of waste that ends up in our drains and water systems.

NATURE WALK WITH LITTER PICKUP

Take a nature walk and bring along a bag to collect any litter you might find. Discuss the impact of waste on the environment and how we can all do our part in keeping nature clean.

PLANT A POLLINATOR GARDEN

Planting flowers that attract bees, butterflies, and other pollinators is a wonderful way to teach children about the importance of these creatures. Use native plants to support local ecosystems and encourage hands-on learning about the environment.



SUSTAINABLE SWAP

TIP: Instead of using disposable plastic wrap, try using beeswax wraps or fabric wraps to store food. Beeswax wraps are reusable, washable, and a great eco-friendly alternative to plastic, helping reduce waste in the kitchen. They're perfect for wrapping sandwiches, covering bowls, or keeping fruits and vegetables fresh. By making this simple swap, you can reduce their plastic usage and embrace a more sustainable way of storing food!

**CHILDREN WHO LOVE NATURE WILL
ULTIMATELY GROW UP TO DEFEND IT**