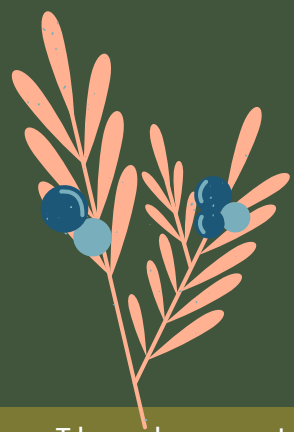


# LITTLE GREEN EXPLORERS

## BOMBECK FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



Thank you to all the staff, parents, and community partners who helped make our Preschool Recycled Art Show such a success! The creativity and effort put into each child's project were truly inspiring. It was wonderful to see how everyday materials could be transformed into beautiful and meaningful creations, teaching our children the value of reusing and caring for our planet. Your support, guidance, and enthusiasm helped make this experience both educational and fun for our young artists. A special thank you to our community partners for their contributions and collaboration in making this event possible. Together, we are fostering creativity, sustainability, and a brighter future for our children



## COMPOSTING

As we kick off our composting program at the Bombeck this February, we encourage parents to support this initiative by trying composting at home! It's a fun, hands-on way to teach children about sustainability and the natural world while reducing waste. Here are a few tips to help you get started and reinforce what your child is learning at school:

- **Create a Compost Bin:** You can start small with a countertop compost container or a designated area in your yard. Involve your child in choosing or decorating the bin to spark their excitement.
- **Talk About What Can Be Composted:** Help your child sort kitchen scraps like fruit and vegetable peels, eggshells, and coffee grounds into the compost bin. Teach them to avoid items like meat, dairy, or anything processed. This mirrors what they're learning at school and reinforces good habits.
- **Observe the Process Together:** Encourage your child to notice changes in the compost over time. They'll love seeing how food scraps turn into soil, especially if you connect this with what they're seeing in our school composting program.
- **Use the Compost for Gardening:** If you have a garden or even a small potted plant, use the compost to enrich the soil. This full-circle moment shows children how composting helps plants grow and supports the environment.

By incorporating these practices at home, you'll not only reduce your family's waste but also strengthen your child's understanding and enthusiasm for composting. Together, we can nurture their love for sustainability and the environment!

## SUSTAINABLE ACTIVITIES

### DIY UPCYCLED SNOW GLOBES

Collect old jars, small toys, biodegradable glitter, and natural elements like pinecones or leaves. Let the children decorate and assemble their own snow globes, encouraging creativity while reusing materials that would otherwise be discarded. It's a fun craft and a great way to talk about recycling.

### WINTER NATURE WALK AND SCAVENGER HUNT

Bundle up and take a nature walk to observe how the winter season changes the environment. Prepare a scavenger hunt list with items like pinecones, animal tracks, and fallen branches. Talk about how these items are part of the natural cycle and help reduce waste by gathering things that have already fallen to the ground.

### UPCYCLED WINTER FASHION SHOW

Have a fashion show where kids create clothing or accessories from recycled materials like old fabric, cardboard, or plastic bottles. This can be a fun way to learn about reusing materials while staying warm and cozy in winter.

### WINTER WILDLIFE HABITAT CRAFT

Teach kids about the habitats of animals during the winter months. Use materials like cardboard boxes, sticks, and fabric scraps to create cozy "homes" for toy animals. This activity can spark conversations about how animals adapt to the cold and the importance of preserving natural habitats.

### GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Participate in the [Great Backyard Bird Count](#) this February! This annual event encourages families to observe and count birds in their backyard or local area. By recording the number of birds and the species you see, children can learn about local wildlife, biodiversity, and how to contribute to citizen science efforts. You can use a simple bird guide or apps to help identify different birds and discuss the importance of protecting their habitats. It's a wonderful way to connect with nature and help track bird populations while practicing sustainability and stewardship of the environment.



## SUSTAINABLE SWAP

TIP: As the winter months continue, consider donating any gently used winter gear—such as coats, hats, gloves, and boots—to your child's school. This helps ensure that all children have access to warm clothing and can fully enjoy outdoor play, even if they forget their gear at home. It's a simple way to support the community, reduce waste, and ensure that every child has the opportunity to play and learn outside during the winter months. Plus, your donation could make a big difference for a child who might not have access to warm gear!

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