



Preschool Update:

January

“Encouraging a child to go outside in all weather builds resilience, but more importantly it saves them from spending their life merely tolerating the “bad” days in favour of a handful of “good” ones – a life of endless expectations & conditions where happiness hinges on sunshine.” – Nicolette Sowder

Seasonal Fun:

- Although the cold weather kept us inside more than usual, the deep snowfall let us dig, climb, and do even more snowshoeing. The deepest drifts were favourites on our hikes because we could bury ourselves – sometimes right up to our shoulders.

Our Learning Adventures:

Imaginative Play:



Blasting off to Jupiter!
Space was a big interest this month.

Science and Technology:



Investigating how an accordion makes noise.

Sensory Experiences:



We mixed colours inside in ice cube trays and brought them outside to make bright frozen ‘jewels’.

Mathematics:



How many snowshoes will we need for our hike today?
Let’s see, how many feet do we have here?



Creative Art Experiences:



Using watercolour paints and straws we made some neat designs.

Language and Literacy:



Many stories are created during play. Here the squirrel and beaver family find berries for their lunch.

Gross Motor:

Climbing in the slippery snow.



Fine Motor:

We made a new batch of play dough and have been rolling, cutting, and creating.

Blocks and Construction:



Working to put together a new snow friend took problem solving and teamwork.

This Month’s Favourite Stories, Rhymes and Songs:

- *Harry the Dirty Dog*, by: Gene Zion
- *There was an old lady who swallowed a fly*, by: Pam Adams
- ‘*Button Factory*’, classic children’s song



Nature Observations and Discoveries:



Despite snow and cold temperatures, seeds were an important part of one of our snowshoe hikes. A few children noticed the cones (female catkins) on the alder trees in the wetland out back and many stopped to pick the 'tiny pinecones' so they could look at them up close. Later, when the children buried themselves in the deep snow, they pretended to be seeds that would grow into funny plants – such as the bunny candy tree.



A quinzhee was built at the beginning of January. We climb it and slide down it almost everyday and we have been able to see just how strong snow can be when it sinters.

Happy 2019!



We have welcomed many new preschoolers this year and we have a new adult too! Serena is a Canadore student who is doing a placement with Nature & You. She will be joining us weekly.

A very Happy Birthday to all the January babies!



Notes for Next Month:

Possible activities:

(As always activities depend on interests, weather, and energy levels)

- More snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.
- Bringing in branches and (hopefully) watching their leaves grow early.
- Building more ice blocks and 'jewels'.

What to wear:

As hard as it is to believe now, February may bring some days with warmer temperatures - temperatures approaching a balmy 1°C. On these warmer days the snow will be wetter and a pair of **splash pants** worn inside the snow pants (or outside if they are big enough) can help a child to feel dry while they are crawling, climbing, and generally exploring.

We will have the dryer on the ready when we get inside but, splash pants can help to keep comfortable outside.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns:

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