



Preschool Update:

March

Seasonal Fun:

- We found patches of ice for slipping and sliding on in the cold mornings.
- We rolled many snowballs on the warm afternoons.
- We found puddles to splash in.
- We built forts and houses inside and outside.
- We looked and listened for signs of the coming spring.

“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
(I have used this quote before, but it is a favourite. In the coming months, as we live through this uncertainty, we will all need resilient spirits. I truly believe that time out in nature can help to develop and replenish our emotional strength. I wish you all many fun, silly, and, healing moments in the great outdoors over the days and weeks to come.)



Our Learning Adventures:

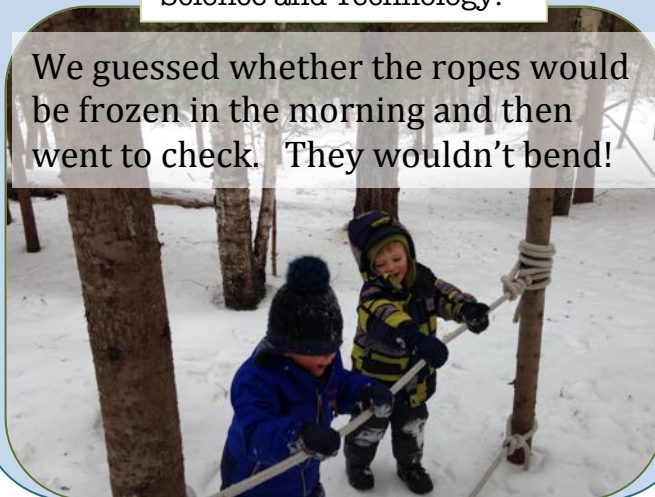
Imaginative Play:

This is an octopus arm reaching out to tickle the snow.



Science and Technology:

We guessed whether the ropes would be frozen in the morning and then went to check. They wouldn't bend!



Sensory Experiences:

The start of splishing and splashing in puddle season.



Mathematics:

How many people can we fit in the snow house?



More Learning Adventures:

Creative Art Experiences:

Drawing to plan the shape of the snow house.



Language and Literacy:

“Don’t eat the hard part.”

“The hard part is the rind. That’s what we say at my house.”



Gross Motor:



Climbing in trees.

Fine Motor:

Connecting all the pieces to build marble runs.

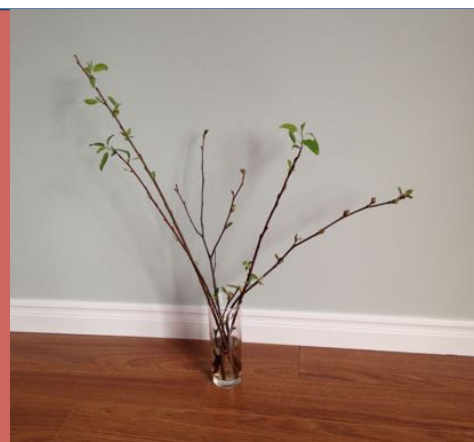
Construction:

This construction worker is digging a road for a dump truck.



An exciting event:

We brought in willow and poplar branches from the wetland and have been watching for leaves. There were just a few leaves at the beginning of the month, but now they are leafy green.



Some Favourite Stories, Rhymes and Songs:

- *Should I Share my Ice Cream?*, by: Mo Willems
- *Busy Busy Town*, by: Richard Scarry
- *This is a nest for a robin*, fingerplay rhyme



Nature Observations and Discoveries:

With all of the warm days we have been seeing a lot of springtails – a.k.a. snow fleas – out on the snow. One warm afternoon a pair of explorers discovered a river of springtails (all the black streams in the photo are these tiny hexapods.)



The explorers called their friends over and tried scooping up and moving the springtails out of the water.

Winter to Spring?



Notes for April:

We may not get to play together, but here are some ideas to explore spring:

- Puddle-jumping
- Visiting creeks close by to watch the changes in the water.
- Planting seeds or taking cuttings to grow inside.
- Watching and listening to see what birds you notice.
- Hunting for bugs and digging for worms.

A rhyme for April:

Splish Splash Splish Splash

Here's how we walk in the rain. *(March in time to the rhyme.)*

Splish Splash Splish Splash

Here's how we walk in the rain.

And SPLASH we run through the puddles. *(Mime jumping and then running.)*

And SPLISH we skip through the rain. *(Mime jumping and then skipping.)*

And SPLASH we turn around corners *(Mime jumping and then spin in a circle.)*

Until we come home again. *(Raise the arms above the head to make a roof.)*