



# Infant Room Newsletter



## September 2011

September's word of the month was "milestones." All the children of the Infant Room were accomplishing motor and cognitive milestones that enthused both parents and staff. With so many 1-year-birthdays at the end of the summer, it was only natural to see so many busy bodies trying to walk. This month, the infants worked extra hard on the obstacles we set in the room to encourage walking and drinking from sippy cups. We invite you to view the new pictures on our wall that portray these images showing dedicated students marching forward in their quest for growing up.

Jack is not only army crawling in his crib. He's also doing it during Tummy Time. All it takes is a little motivation using a rattle or bright-colored teething ring to get his motor skills rolling. This baby gets very upset if he sees the bigger kids go to the table and we leave him behind on an Activity Mat. Once at the table, he reaches and knocks over his neighbor's lunch plate. Jack's vocalizations are drawing more attention not just because of how loud he talks but because it sounds like he's singing.

Lyla is the newest student in our class. She turned 3 months old just a couple of weeks ago. This notorious social bug loves being talked to and that's why Circle Time is her favorite. Her preferred position is reclining at 45 degrees either on someone's lap or a bouncy chair. Tummy Time is still a little hard for her to tolerate but she stays busy playing with the other kids who walk up and offer soft toys and rattles. If you see her at the table facing the opposite way of the entrance please don't disturb her, she's busy supervising.

Campbell has not only increased his milk intake but is also starting on rice cereal. His distinguished screech serves as competition to the opera singers we hear on the radio during Nap Time. Campbell is able to sit up in an exersaucer with limited interest for the toys set in front of him. He prefers to check out the atmosphere and comment about it. His smile wins over all the teachers that come to visit. We pair up Campbell with Jack for Tummy Time but they both end up gossiping the whole time. We presume it's about the menu.

Josh is fairly new to taking steps. His best motivator to walk is hearing the song "One Foot in Front of the Other." He's improving his body awareness during Free Play. Josh impresses his teachers with this distinguished ability to be gentle with the smaller and fragile babies of the room. As the day is about to start, we know we're running late if Josh starts to make the gestures of the "Good Morning Song." Josh announces it's time for Circle Time when he starts tapping his knees.

Brady is comfortably taking steps around the room. He explores his climbing and balancing skills on almost any piece of furniture in the room; tea set, playhouse, you name it! Brady sits without interrupting Circle Time as he used to in the months prior. With his ability to make fine motor gestures to many of our books, Brady knows he's keeping up with the bigger kids in the room. His favorite sound to make is "dada."

Leah has acquired a confident and secure stance. She is hesitant about taking steps and thinks it's funny when we help her practice. She shows her dominance as the Alpha Bear of the room with her territorial side. As soon as she sees a teacher take the stroller out, Leah gets upset just thinking we might leave her behind.

The one-year-olds in the room successfully perform, in unison, the famous Downward Dog Yoga pose. It's a great way for them to receive praise, work together as a group and get some exercise in the process. Transitioning from Free Play to a structured task such as Circle Time is easily done as long as they hear the words "Sit Sit." Long gone are the days where we had to lift them manually to sit together. During Story Time, they all react with the same enthusiasm when they hear the words "Where is. . . ?" They just love to discover images behind the flaps of the pages. Stay tuned as we explore with the infants the different textures of harvest foods and dress up for Halloween.