With the change of the season, the morning 3’s classes transitioned into our next unit, Building. Throughout the month of October, the Red Room and Blue Room friends explored a variety of concepts to help them to better understand the wonderful work of building. The friends began with discussing **What is a Building?** and how to build up to create **Towers**. Through the use of different building materials, ranging from foam blocks, wood blocks, rocks, bricks, shaped blocks, and more, the friends discovered that their hands can work as a tool to help them build. Friends worked individually, with partners, and as a group to create a variety of unique buildings.

Jackson builds up!  

Emmet explores how to use a hammer.
After exploring their hands as a tool, the friends were eager to hear about what tools one would find in a Toolbox and how a Carpenter would use them to build. The friends enjoyed using plastic tools throughout their play to mimic how tools are used, as well as having the opportunity to use real tools in the Makeshop. The friends were delighted to learn how Construction Vehicles help get the job done when on a Job Site.

As the building unit progressed, the friends quickly learned through trial and error that in order to have a building that would proudly stand, the Structure needed to be strong and Stable. The friends listened to multiple versions of the story “The Three Little Pigs”, which encouraged them to use materials that would withstand the “Huff and Puff Test”.

We finished our unit with the exploration of animals that build. We observed and explored how Beavers build up by layering tree trunks and sticks to construct a sturdy dam. We discovered how Bees work together, just like the friends work to do each day in the classroom, to build a beehive. We learned how Spiders use a strong material to spin webs, reinforcing the importance of strong and stable. The friends were excited to see how animals apply the same building concepts that we explored throughout our unit.

**The Red Room Friends build a beehive together.**
LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

Alice K. uses wood blocks to create a city.

Rowan and Drake look at a book on Construction Trucks together.

Atlas builds up with colored cube blocks.

Kiran tinkers with peg building materials.

Livanya, Paloma, and Elliot use clipboards to create “Blueprints”.

Lev and Malina use glue sticks to help create our building city portraits.
Mollie, James, and Jason use puppets to enact the story the Three Little Pigs.

Fitz and Silas explore the Hand Drill in the MakeShop.

Paloma builds a tall tower using foam blocks.

Russell works in the Fix It Shop.

Isabelle, Ava, and Rowan work with hammers.
A special thanks to Carpenter Joe who visited our classroom to share how he uses a wide variety of tools each day to help build houses and offices all around Pittsburgh.

A warm welcome to our Intern, Beatrix (left), who is taking part in the Child Development Practicum course this fall. Carol (right) is currently working towards her Masters through University of Pittsburgh’s Early Childhood Education program.

Reminders:
*CMU Food Drive November 4th-18th
*Thanksgiving Break-NO SCHOOL November 27th-29th