The Extended Morning Program has a weekly Focus Book that expands on the Pre-School theme of the month. The teachers support the stories through related activities that include experiences in each of the Developmental Domains. The story is further enhanced by experiences in our make shop, with woodworking, exploration in the reflection garden, and cooking activities in the kitchen. We also enjoy daily music with Mrs. Bird. A brief description of the focus book is included in each Monday's email, and a list of available activities each day. The newsletter for each theme recaps the related activities through text and photographs, with captions highlighting the developmental emphasis.

September Pre-School Theme: Friendship & Community

A picture is worth a thousand words. These photos tell the story of our Friendship & Community theme at the Children’s School and express just how much we learn from our explorations!

Focus Books

Extended Morning Teachers: Mrs. Bird, Miss Dzina, Mrs. Loomis, and Mrs. Opferman
Children practice using manners and conversations with their table mates during lunch.

Scooping mud involves fine motor skills!

Helmets keep us safe while we ride around the big bike trail. Our teachers assist as we grow strong enough to pull.

Construction vehicles double as transportation! Steering is a learned skill.

Words are posted around the classroom.

Recognizing letters in various places provides opportunities for the building blocks of reading.

We extend our book comprehension through activities like cooking.
“When I pull this lever, the shovel can pick up the sand!”

“I wonder what lives in here.”

Can you kick the ball hard? Can you kick it softly?

When comparing the pieces, some are the same size and color.

Pulling the needle up and down can create a pattern.

How many levels does this garage have?

How far apart do you live from your neighbors?

We like cooking food and taking care of loved ones in our dramatic play.

When the puzzle is complete, the pictures will reveal some daily life activities.
A half-pipe has no electronics, but is fun to roll with man power!

During easel painting, children practice hand-eye coordination, and fine motor control. These skills are building blocks for future technology use.

It is great to squeeze floam into shapes and then add extra loose parts.

The paint feels cool and slippery.

Choosing colors is part of the process.

We wash our hands so we don't spread germs.

Extra outdoor time promotes good health through gross motor play.

In the kitchen, children often prepare healthy snacks.