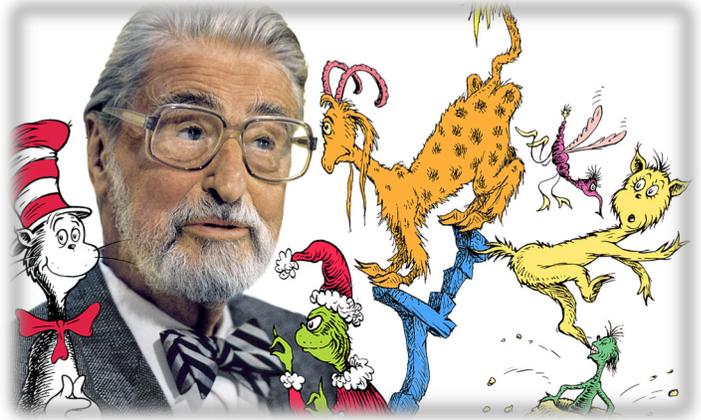




Offering Exceptional Educational
Childcare for Young Children
since 1982



LET'S READ

March has been and will continue to be a busy month!

This month we celebrated the works of Dr. Seuss in honor of his **March 2nd** birthday. From Monday, February **25** through **Friday, March 1** MMO focused on a different Dr. Seuss book each day and invited students and teachers alike to dress according to each day's theme.

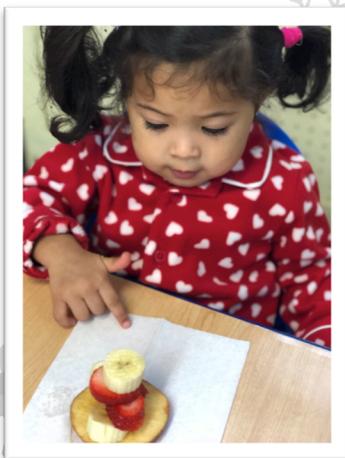
In keeping with the reading focus this month, MMO will partner with Watchung Book Sellers for our annual book fair which will run from **Monday March 18** through **Friday March 22nd** and will feature books for children of all ages. We are so excited to team up with this independent book store that so many of our families know and love for the first time. To kick off our book fair please join us for a special pajama story time and hot cocoa with our very own Miss Jan on **Saturday, March 16**.



Upcoming dates

Children want the same things we want. To laugh, to be challenged, to be entertained, and delighted."

Dr. Seuss



Reading and learning never has to end. You as parents are invited to partake in the first installment of our Parent Association sponsored "Parent University"; a program that brings in experts to address many timely, important topics around parenting. Our first conversation will take place on **April 4**, from 7-8:30pm, and will feature Yael Lipton, a public health expert and educator focusing on Gender and Sexual Identity in children.

- **3/16:** Book reading and hot cocoa with Miss Jan at 10 a.m.
- **3/18-3/22:** Watchung Booksellers Book Fair
- **3/20-3/28:** Mixed Bag Fundraiser
- **4/19:** Closed for Good Friday
- **4/22:** Closed for Easter Monday
- **4/30 & 5/1:** Picture Days
- **4/4:** Parent University with Yael Lipton 7-8:30 p.m.

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

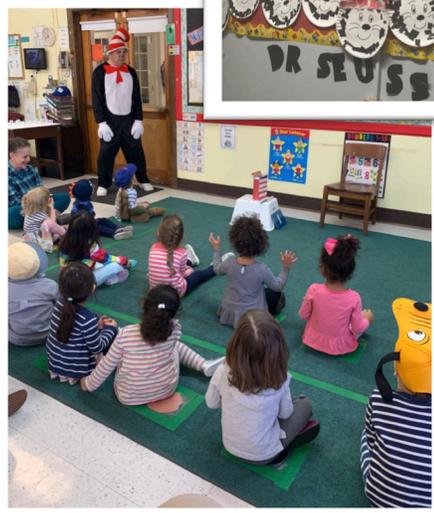


“Today was good. Today was FUN. TOMORROW is ANOTHER ONE.”
One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish
by Dr. Seuss





**On Tuesday
February 26 we
got a special visit
from the Cat in
the Hat!**



You Want Me To Read To My Baby?

In a word: YES! As your child's first teacher, there are few things you can do with your child that offer as many social, emotional and cognitive benefits as reading with him. Reading aloud with your child from infancy promotes language, and lays the groundwork for future reading and writing success.

Learning the function of the book ("book-handling:" holding it, banging it, mouthing it, turning it over) is even a pre-reading skill. These are *typical* infant behaviors, and your infant needs access to books that are safe to begin to develop this comfort level with books. Provide board books, plastic books, touch 'n' feel books, and integrate them into your daily life. Make them available in various rooms, take them along to your doctor's visits or house of worship, spread out a blanket with some books outdoors and create a "catch-your-breath" place for your active older child.



Reading with your young child often resembles a conversation more than a verbatim speaking of the words on the page. Pointing out familiar objects, connecting to the child's life ("see the dog? Where is our dog?"), using descriptors ("the blue ball rolled under the table!"), naming new items and asking questions ("Can you point to the truck? What is this?") are all part of early reading aloud together. Books with rhythmic cadence (such as a Dr. Seuss book, or Alice Schertle's Little Blue Truck, an MMO favorite) are fun to read word-for-word. As your child grows and develops language, inviting your child to tell *you* the story also promotes language and reading readiness.

One guiding factor in reading with your child should always be this: Reading with children of any age should be *fun*. Who is this for? The child! When your toddler or preschooler indicates that she is done in the middle of the story, follow her cues and let it be done. It is also *very* important to continue to read aloud to your child after she becomes a reader. Long car trips, cozy bedtimes, and other opportunities in between may be seized to create memories together by reading to your readers—this is also a fun way to promote family time together among differently-aged siblings. Many children (and adults) report that favorite memories of times with their parents are of reading together.

It is never too soon or too late to read to your child! Need some suggestions? Your child's teachers and I are glad to help. Enjoy this time together and the special bonding it creates between you and your child.

"The more you can make reading books part of every day, the greater the likelihood your child will develop into a great reader." – "Babies on the Homefront," www.zerotothree.org



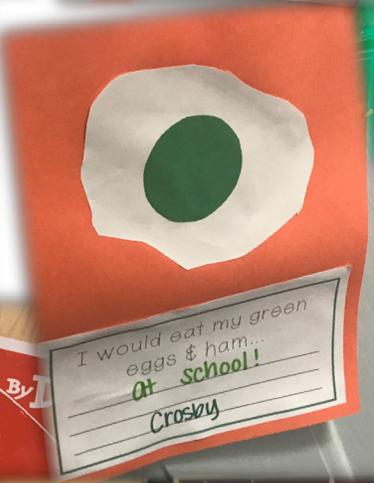
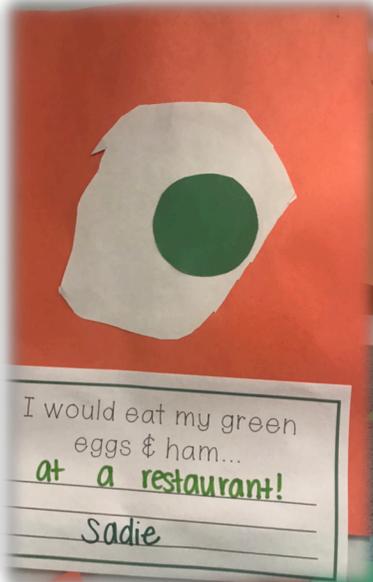
Jan Burgess – MMO Assistant Director & Infant/Toddler Coordinator

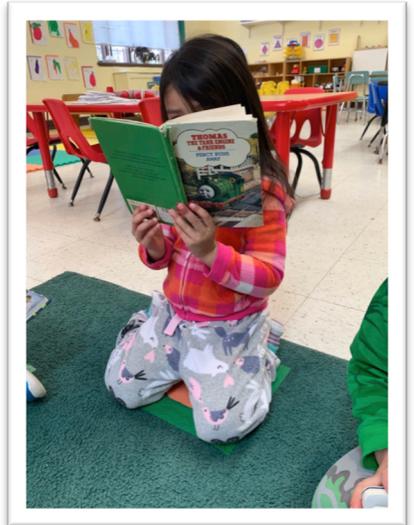


**WaCkY
WeDnEsDaY!**



Green Eggs and Ham!





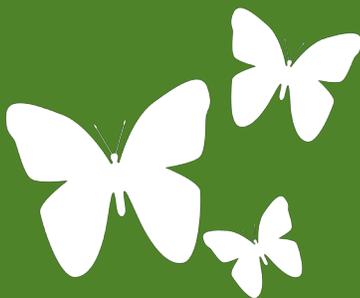
Spring is almost here!

Save the date for our 3rd Annual Spring Fling Saturday May 11

MMO Preschool Programs

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Tadpoles (to stay in touch
with your child's teacher)

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