

Welcome to our first issue! Nuestros Niños FCC is very excited to launch this newsletter, which will inform and inspire you on a monthly basis with all things early childhood education and what's happening with our family child care programs.

Our goal for these publications is to share with you the fantastic work being done by our providers, "Mother's Home" as they used to be called. Our issues will also showcase the implementation of NYC Department of Education curriculum "Let's Play." Let's Play! It is a relationship-based Family Childcare Curriculum. It's designed specifically for mixed-ages in a family child care setting and supports children's development through responsive care and play-based learning. We are all enthusiastic about the many possibilities the curriculum has to offer our family child care programs.

# NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE! OUR CHILDREN WERE REALLY BUSY EXPLORING WITH OPEN-ENDED MATERIALS!



Amid this pandemic, our providers have been focusing daily on providing every child in care with positive and meaningful interactions. In addition, following all State, City, and Federal health & safety guidelines in caring for children during this global health crisis.

We couldn't be prouder of the fantastic work our team and program providers have been able to accomplish during these challenging months.



He was amazed by his building abilities! This picture captures his fascination with what he was able to accomplish.

Open-ended materials like blocks provide children with endless possibilities to practice critical thinking as they experiment and create.

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"You may think I'm small, but I have a universe inside my mind."

- Yoko Ono



When given the appropriate materials, children will amaze you and themselves with their creations.

# STACKING, PULLING, POKING AND KNEADING!





There is power in using open-ended materials; children will develop various skills through its use. But as integral as these materials are in developing young minds, exploring alongside their provider/parent is just as critical. Watching, listening, role playing, and asking open-ended questions will expand their experiences, in addition to provoking critical thinking and curiosity.

Example of open-ended materials:
paint, blocks, water, sand, play dough, magnetic tiles,
loose parts and natural items.





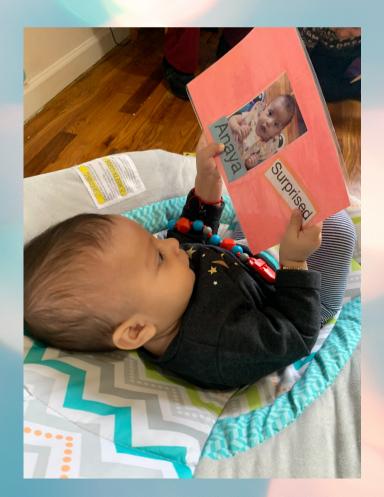


# **OUR CHILDREN ACTIVELY LEARNING & EXPLORING!**





Our children were busy this month learning about their provider's home environment, making new friends, and exploring various materials. These meaningful play episodes were accomplished while keeping their curious little minds incredibly active.









It's important to let children select materials/toys they are interested in. By doing so, you are acknowledging their interests.

This provider is assisting and explaining to her children their activity using open-ended materials. These opportunities are instrumental in language development.





One of our providers was able to make blocks using empty boxes, construction paper and tape.

Her children loved it!



# Nuestros Niños Family Childcare Network

The entire FCC team, NYC DOE Department of Early Childhood & our Board of Directors, want to acknowledge our family child care providers for the incredible work you do every day. We know the last few months have not been easy, and understand the many changes you had to make to reopen your home during this pandemic.

For that, we, our families, and our children are forever grateful!

## **Family Childcare Team:**

Miguelina Duran, Network Director
Zoraida Olivo, Assistant Network Director
Ingrid Matias Chungata, Educational Director
Janimary Hernandez, Educational Specialist
Nuerky Espinal, Bookkeeper
Amanda Muñoz, Family Worker
Arelis Rodriguez, Home Monitor
Johanna Valladares, Home Monitor

## **Administrative Directors:**

Edna Feliciano, Executive Director Denise Basilio, Assistant Executive Director

# Thanks to the providers who contributed photos:

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