



Growing Places

Fall 2025

Greetings!

Our classrooms are once again a buzz with new faces as we begin the new school year. Children and teachers are getting to know one another and are settling into new routines. Both of our early childhood sites have done significant work to their outdoor play spaces, truly making them an extension of the classroom.

As we start new adventures here at Growing Places I leave you with a quote from an incredible author. If you get the chance to read his work it really is quite inspiring. "We have such a brief opportunity to pass on to our children our love for this Earth, and to tell our stories. These are the moments when the world is made whole. In my children's memories, the adventures we've had together in nature will always exist." - Richard Louv, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder*.

Warmly,



Amanda Toupin, M.Ed.

Executive Director

Growing Places Early Education and Youth Recreation

Early Education and Youth Recreation

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Updates from our Program Directors



Pinkham Road has welcomed so many new families and siblings this fall! We are in the process of adding music walls to both of the outdoor spaces and have added a quiet nursing area for babies to spend one on one time with a parent while they are nourished.

The Infant room has welcomed a lot of new faces! The babies and staff are getting to know each other and are making new friends. They are learning to move their bodies, some on their tummies and some on their feet! They are enjoying exploring the inside and outside environments and learning how their individual routines all fit together.



The Infant-Toddler room is working on emotions and emotional regulation. They are finding ways to calm their bodies when they are sad or mad and have starting to realize that their teachers love them unconditionally and will take care of all of their needs. They LOVE balls, books and the dramatic play kitchen.

The Toddler room is a buzz with bug identification both on the upper and lower playgrounds. They love looking for pinecones and acorns on the ground and are anxiously awaiting the leaves to fall from the trees! They are learning about self help skills like using the potty, washing their hands, and getting dressed on their own. Have you seen the coat flip trick?



The Preschool room welcomed NINE new friends for this fall! The topic they are currently engaging in is “All About Me”! They are getting to know one another, exploring the inside classroom and outside spaces. They are absolutely in love with music and are really enjoying the circle time songs they sing everyday! In October they plan to learn about and explore everything fall; leaves, apples, pumpkins and more!



The Pre-K classroom is also knee deep in the “All About Me” curriculum. They are learning about each other and friendships, including what makes a good friend. They have been really enjoying the new sensory table, the big light table, and the new wooded food and kitchen supplies in the dramatic play area.

As a center we are talking about and learning why we do fire drills. We are exploring what happens during a fire drill and before we have a “real” one to help everyone feel a little more prepared for that loud noise!

Missy Tucker

Pinkham Program Director



Updates from our Program Directors Continued



Our school year here at Woodside in Durham is off to a great start! We have welcomed many new families into our program and returning ones as well. All the classrooms are buzzing with excitement and everyone seems to be settling in. We have been spending a lot of time getting to know each other, exploring the classrooms and outside area, taking in the last of the summer weather and harvesting the last of the vegetables. The teachers here worked tirelessly to create warm and inviting learning spaces for all of our students. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Becca Kelly
Woodside Program Director

As the warm days of summer turn into cooler mornings, we are so thrilled to start another fall together at Our Time! Early September days of Our Time focus on establishing our community, collaborating on rules and routines, and of course, getting out to explore all that nature has to offer in new and creative ways! This fall we will focus on learning about native to New Hampshire leaves, Moharimet's plentiful nature, starting a rhythm of nature journaling daily, and beginning a pumpkin based curriculum as we head into October in tandem with Moharimet! We are so thrilled to be back and can't wait for more fall adventures with your children.

Erin Evans
School Age Program Director



Find us on Facebook and Instagram!



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members for all of their support!**

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Kyle Kwiatkowski, Member



Thank you to our partners!!! Your support is essential in the success of our organization!!



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