

I Climbed the Tree!

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Today on our nature walk you were all wearing your heavy winter boots and snow gear. This can make things harder for you as you are trying to navigate your play. At the hill, Penny expressed an interest in climbing onto the lower branch of our Climbing Tree. She began by trying to pull her body off the branch and then pull her knee onto the branch. This was difficult for her began there wasn't a secure place to hold onto to balance her body. After a few attempts, Sydney confidently offered to show her how she climbs. Penny stepped back and watched as Sydney held onto a cut piece of branch sticking out of the tree and she pulled her left leg up high enough to place her foot on the branch. This gave her enough leverage to pull the rest of her body up to grab the branch above as she stood up. Once Sydney had safely made her way back to the ground Penny continued to try and climb up. She seemed to get flustered but she was persistent. After a few minutes of trying out different ways to climb, she was successful! Penny and Sydney were both excited as they smiled at one another and Penny exclaimed, "I did it!". She was so excited that she continued to swing down to the ground and climb back up, over and over again.



Lilly watched Penny as she was standing on the lower branch and expressed that she wasn't sure how to climb up there. Penny was excited to take this opportunity to teach her how she just had learned to climb the tree. Lilly watched each step that Penny was showing her and then approached the tree. It took her a few tries to be able to grasp onto the tree and pull her body all the way up to standing. Penny shouted, "You did it!!" and Lilly's face lit up with a big smile. She said, "I can climb the tree now!". Sydney, Penny, and Lilly took turns climbing up to the first branch and swinging down to the ground. It was a great learning experience for all of them!



Ms. Jamie

What learning is happening here?

There is a lot of learning happening as each girl is listening to one another, describing their climbing process and then encouraging each other. They are learning to be patient and show compassion for others. It is also a great opportunity to gain confidence in their own abilities as they take on a leadership role and successfully accomplish their goals. Climbing a tree helps to develop fine and gross motor muscles, coordination and balance. While sharing in this experience together they are building stronger relationships with one another and communication skills.

Habits of Mind (2000)

Sticking to task at hand.

Follow through to completion.

Can and do remain focused.

Take time to consider options.

Remain calm when stressed or challenged.

Thoughtful and considerate of others.

Pay attention to and do not dismiss another person's thoughts, feeling and ideas.

Tell others when I can relate to what they are expressing.

Seek to put myself in the other person's shoes.

Consider the input of others.

Generate alternatives.

Weigh options.