

Rosemary Room Reflections

This month in the Rosemary Classroom we have focused on fostering self help at the snack table, including snack table manners, how to serve oneself, and how to clean up after oneself when finished. The children have been given a couple of formal lessons during our morning gathering in order to introduce these ideas precisely and offer modeling for the children. They have been particularly interested in recreating service of the appropriate amount onto their plates, and going back for seconds! They have also enjoyed practicing proper use of utensils while eating brown rice and fruit. During clean up time they have learned to clear their plates independently, washing and rinsing their dishes, as well as drying their dishes and returning them to the appropriate place upon completion. While this process seems typical and automatic to an adult, mastery of each unique step by a toddler takes a great amount of initiative, practice, and determination. Mastery of everyday self help skills fosters great pride and confidence in the toddler classroom and prepares them to take on new challenges every day.

