We gave each child an opportunity to paint with a small paint brush and paint. The children could paint on paper or a ceramic pot.

Iris (1.7) used her right hand to make lines and dots on the paper and the pot. Mary Davis (1.7) lightly dipped her brush into the paint and made marks on the top of the pot and the paper. She mixed the paint in the container. Amelia (1.5) used the paint brush with a closed fist grip in her right hand. She made a few marks on the pot before she moved away.
Benjamin (1.10) used a static tripod grasp with his right hand to make lines, dots, circles and marks on the pot and paper. At one point he switched hands and used a closed fisted grip. Claudia (1.2) used her left hand to dip the paint from the container onto the paper. She tried to taste the paint, but decided it was not tasty. She made a few marks before she walked away.

Harrison (1.9) used his left hand to make marks on the top of the pot. Olivia (1.9) used a tripod grip with her right hand to make lines and move the paint around. She went up and down on the side of the pot with the brush.
After we painted the pot, we used it to plant paperwhite bulbs. Paperwhites are a relative of daffodils and produce a small, white, star-like flower. These bulbs grow relatively easy indoors. To start, we added soil to our pot. Each child took a turn scooping and pouring a cup of soil into the pot. We talked about the way the dirt felt and smelled. Next, we examined the bulbs. Each child got to hold and feel a bulb. Several of our friends noticed the paper-like skin that the bulb has around it and they pulled it off to examine it more closely. Some of the bulbs had one green sprout coming out and some had as many as three. Once everyone felt a bulb, each friend took a turn placing their bulb in the pot. Lastly, the children watered our new plants with a small watering can. We placed the pot inside the room and hope to see growth in about a month.
Our plants have started blooming! We have taken turns watering and caring for the plant and we have had at least one bloom. We talked about the way it smelled, the colors of green and white, and how it needs water, just like us.

We planted one bulb in rocks and the rest in soil. Even the bulb in the rocks has sprouted. The one growing in the vase is unique because we’ve been able to see the root system grow.

Growth after 3 weeks

The children felt the stalks and took turns watering the plant.

Growth after 4 weeks