



NEW ENGLAND
YEARLY MEETING
OF FRIENDS
QUAKERS

Childcare Epistle

New England Yearly Meeting, August 5-10, 2017

The youngest Friends of New England Yearly Meeting had a wonderful time at this year's sessions. Living into Transformation is a theme that is present in every moment of children. The childcare staff were initially met with the challenge of transforming a college suite into a safe and nurturing childcare environment. Children's light and joy filled the rooms throughout the week. Every emotion was present - some of them had never been in daycare or preschool before. Fear and doubt became laughter and new friends. The babies and toddlers enjoyed transforming towers into a crash of blocks on the ground, diapers were changed again and again, children enjoyed creating butterflies, paper airplanes, turning soap into bubbles, combining water, borax, & glue to make slime, and alternating a play structure between a train and a firetruck. To the delight and slight discomfort of the children we observed three frogs living in a puddle next to our outside play space. The song Old Shoes, New Shoes was introduced as a way to become familiar with our friend's names and their shoes which quickly became a favorite. Thank you to all of the support we received from NEYM staff, Castleton staff, and from the families.

In light,

NEYM Childcare