



# Beth Emeth Early Childhood Center

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## OUR COMMUNITY IS ALL WIRED UP!

Keeping with our intention of Inspiring Deeper Connections, the teachers and I were inspired for our Back to School Social to host an event that would not only help deepen the connections amongst the members of our community, but simultaneously create something tangible together that would represent our connection.

What is the biggest factor that connects all of us at BEECC? The children of course! So we thought it would be fitting that this representation would focus around the children. After thinking about our community, the material we chose for the parents to work and create with was wire. It's flexible yet sturdy, colorful, open-ended, a conduit for energy to spread, and it's easy to attach to each other – essentially we saw wire as a great metaphor for BEECC! After doing an initial activity where parents had an opportunity to think about their child, we asked them to write down a word that best described the essence of their child. Words ranged from “curious” to “shine” to “assertive” to “sweet” to “spitfire” to “effervescent” – what a variety of children we are blessed with!

Next we invited everyone to make a representation of their child using wire. On the center of each table was wire of varying shapes, sizes, thicknesses, and colors along with pliers. The ultimate goal was to create a community connection piece by taking each individual creation and connecting them all together on a circular base. After all, our school wouldn't be the same without each and every one of these children, and they are what make up the beautiful unique school and community we are.

To watch parents light up as they thought and talked about their child, spend time working with a material that some of them have never used before, laugh, talk and socialize as they created, and watch a one of a kind unique wire structure organically come together representing our BEECC children was an amazing experience.

To me, this is such a fabulous portrayal of who we are:

- We recognize and appreciate each child as an individual, while also seeing them as part of the larger group
- Every child makes a difference and is an essential contributor to the “whole”
- Children are “wired” with the potential, desire and ability to construct their own knowledge -the connection to their peers is powerful and essential in the children's growth and learning
- Our community is everchanging, welcoming and open to change and growth (Of course, as new families join, they will be invited to add a representation of their child to our collaborative structure.)

In Judaism there are many rituals we do on a daily basis, thus providing a sense of Jewish identity and bringing the sacred into everyday life. In that spirit we are delighted to display this piece, along with the words that inspired it, in our foyer so we can have a daily reminder of our school's identity which values and respects each and every child as a sacred member of our community.

-- Robin

## Tot Shabbat

Saturdays 10:45-11:45 AM

Fall Dates: October 12, November 16 & December 14

*Children are naturally inquisitive, joy-filled, and excited about life. They often love hearing stories, including stories about their own families. They are also often deeply spiritual beings who are filled with wonder and awe at God and the world.*

Our Tot Shabbat service is a child-focused, music-filled, and joyful experience recognizing the unique perspective children bring with them to synagogue.



Join us each month for a musical and meaningful trip through the (abbreviated) Shabbat morning prayers, a Torah parade, a story, an activity, and snack. Our monthly service is led on a rotating basis by our Rabbi Michelle “Mina” Goldsmith, lay leaders, and parent volunteers.

Questions? Contact [rabbimina@bethemeth.org](mailto:rabbimina@bethemeth.org) or (703)860-4515 ext 104.

## Introducing... CBE Clubhouse!



Join other young families for monthly playdate right here at Beth Emeth! Geared for families with newborns through pre-school aged children. No need to be a member of Beth Emeth or attend BEECC to participate.

**Sundays from 8:00 to 9:30 AM:**

**2019 dates: 10/20, 11/17, 12/15**

**2020 dates: 1/12, 2/9, 3/15, 4/19, 5/17, 6/14, 7/19**

Join us for the whole time or stop by as your schedule allows. If the weather is nice we will meet on our beautiful playground! Only \$25 per family for the year! Join us the first time for free!

Register at [bethemeth.org/clubhouse](http://bethemeth.org/clubhouse).

Email Sara Pollack at [pollack.sara@gmail.com](mailto:pollack.sara@gmail.com) with questions