

# Centro Las Olas Padres

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### Traveling by boat

Posted by [Bethica Quinn](#) on March 13, 2015 at 7:15am

Hola todos! This week there was some wonderful constructive and imaginative play in the bosque. As we discussed at our parent meeting last week, this kind of play is the heart of where learning happens at Las Olas. Children develop their communication skills as they talk with each other and with the teachers about their ideas. They practice symbolization as they pretend and let one thing stand for another. They sharpen their reasoning abilities as they compare, predict, and solve problems in the play. And they learn about relationships as they exchange ideas and negotiate. These four foundational capacities are the base for academic, career and life success, and this type of complex social play is the best way to grow them. Here it is, as captured by Rosalina:



Cruz stood the curved boards on their sides. "Es un barco!" he exclaimed. Sonny came to join him and they happily set sail.



Santiago and Lucia wanted to get in the boat too, but there was no room. Sonny had an idea: they could make the boat bigger by adding a hollow block at the back.



In fact, he liked this idea so much that he added many more blocks, creating a veritable ship with four seats inside.



With the addition of a captain's chair, the ship was ready to sail. Sonny navigated while Cruz, Lucia, Santiago and Tori rode behind.



Soon the boat reached the sunny beach of Hawaii. The passengers happened upon a traveling seller of toy airplanes (any resemblance to the ship's captain is strictly coincidental) and Cruz and Santiago bought planes to play with on the beach.



Lucia had other ideas about what to do on the beach: lounge time!



Victoria's plane explored the beauties of Hawaii....



... and Santiago discovered that his plane could slide down a ramp and spent the time in Hawaii investigating angle and velocity.



The next day, the boat was again the focus of play. Sonny and Lucia returned with a new cast of characters, including Lucía Inez and Adela. As you can see, oars have now been added as well. On this day the boat revisited Hawaii and also went to Spain and Mexico.



On day 3 of the boat play, Marlise and Océane joined the crew. Yulissa watched as they prepared their cameras in case of any glimpses of aquatic life...



Look! Off the port bow! It's a great white shark! Abdiel posed for the cameras.



Cameras were raised as the sighting was recorded for posterity.

This was yesterday, and the boat then had to be put away for the weekend. I wonder whether it will be built again next week, or whether the same blocks and loose parts will be repurposed for a different adventure. Either way, another round of communication, reasoning, symbolization and relationship-building is sure to ensue.....

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