

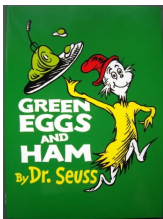


Discovery Zone Gazette

March 2011

Preschool 11 Celebrates St. Patrick's Day!

Spring is here! Preschool 11 is so happy that the warm weather is slowly on its way! Preschool 11 started off the month of March with a one week theme on Dr. Seuss. During this week the children used colored goldfish and sorted them into groups of colors. This activity worked on their sorting & math skills.



They also worked on A, B patterning skills when creating white and red Cat and the Hat, hats! Finally the children got to work on their science skills

by cooking up some green eggs and ham! Yum!

During the second week of March, Preschool 11 learned about the importance of keeping teeth clean and healthy. To help strengthen the children's fine motor skills and show them the importance of brushing teeth, they had yellow paper teeth and painted them with white paint (toothpaste) with a toothbrush! Preschoolers also did a creative art project called "Fancy Floss." During this project the child dragged dental

floss through several colors of paint and then dragged the painted floss over white paper leaving very interesting markings on the paper.

Top of the morning to ya! The third week of March was a St. Patrick's Day theme. During this theme the children learned about St. Patrick and why we celebrate him. The children worked on their math skill while doing a "sizing shamrocks" activity. The children also did sensory shamrocks where they decorated large paper shamrocks with all different textured pieces of green materials! Finally they had a healthy green St. Patty's day party on Thursday March 17th!

The fourth week of March, Preschool 11 learned about Language and Literacy. During this week everyday was revolved around a specific story and corresponding activities. Some of the books we read were Mrs. McNosh Hangs up her Wash, The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Caps for Sale! The children seemed to really connect to



the stories after doing projects that related to them.



Finally Preschool 11 finished March with a theme on weather. During this week the children learned about the water cycle by using their sequencing skills to order the process from numbers 1-4. The children also practiced their cutting skills by cutting different lightning patterns. The zig zag pattern helped strengthen the children's fine motor skills. Preschoolers also created a class tornado using two liter bottles of soda and glitter water!

Preschool 11 just wanted to take a moment to thank all of the families for their donations to the class parties.

Next months themes consist of five senses, Earth Week, Easter and Spring! Enjoy the sunshine and warm air that is on its way!



Discovery Zone Learning Center

Important Dates:

- 4/20 Special: Comedy Show
- 4/21 & 4/22 : Fun Days

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Center News

- If your child is going to be out or coming in late please call or email the center to update us.
- Tuition is due by Wednesday 9:00AM in order to avoid a \$20 late fee.
- Please make sure to check the door as you walk in for important updates and notices.

Toddler 2 Gets Creative With Art!



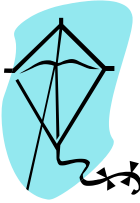
Toddler 2 began the month of March with a theme on "Clouds." The children learned several new songs pertaining to clouds. During circle time, various types of cloud books were read.

To enhance the children's math skills they counted out cotton balls and glued them onto paper. Science was explored when the children painted rain clouds. They learned when you mix white and black paint together you get the color gray. Toddler 2 also engaged in gross motor activities such as: jumping over clouds and "Ring around the clouds." The Toddlers ended the week with a cloudy treat. The children scooped out cool whip onto foil, put blue sprinkles to look like rain and then froze them. Everyone enjoyed the special snack.

The second week of March, the children explored a theme on "Literature." The first book read was "A Fish Out of Water." The children learned that fish must have water to stay alive. The children's math skills were enhanced when the children participated in a sorting activity using big and little fish. For project the toddlers were able to create their own colorful fish while exploring with paint and glue. After reading "Caps For Sale" the toddlers loved trying on

different types of hats while balancing them on their heads as they walked around the room. We ended the week with the book Sand. This gave the toddlers an opportunity to explore sand with touching, scooping and dumping. We also created sand pictures with glue.

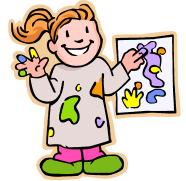
Next, Toddler 2 learned all about "Kites." The week consisted of learning new songs, hearing several books, and doing unique projects all pertaining to kites. Some interesting projects included making kite sandwiches with cheese and bread (which the children loved), making a kite mural, and doing windy paintings. The windy paintings were made with watered down paint and a blow dryer. Outside the toddlers had some windy weather, which they learned was perfect for flying kites. They also practiced shape recognition when talking about the shape of a kite.



The last full week of March consisted of a theme on the, "Zoo." The children spent each day at circle learning new songs and hearing zoo stories. The children all learned and practiced the sounds of many zoo animals. The toddlers did a taste testing experiment to determine which foods zoo animals might enjoy. The children enjoyed gross motor activities as they played follow

the leader and pretended to be zoo animals. Toddlers really worked on their math skills as they played an animal lotto game, matched cookie shapes and matched zoo animal babies to their mothers.

To finish off the month of March, the children did a theme on, "Art." Toddler 2 was very busy working on their fine motor skills as well as experimenting with their creative expression. The bulletin board for this month contains many of the art projects they did throughout the week, take a look! The toddlers drew pictures with rainbow crayons, made a paint collage and used many different craft items to make a mixed media collage. The children also learned new songs at circle time involving colors and sign language. Toddlers learned how to sign many of our basic colors. The children played one of their favorite games at circle time called "What's in the box?" They found different items in the box that could be used during art projects.



We look forward to the month of April to share themes on cooking, clothespins, dirt, and the farm with the children!

Toddler 1 Tells A Story

Toddler 1's first theme was, "Stories." Our first story was, Have You Seen My Duckling? The children sang about Five Little Ducks to enhance their language skills. The class enjoyed creating a pond with grass and ducks as their project to working on their creative expression. To explore their sensory the children played with rubber ducks in the sensory table. The next story was, Three Little Pigs. To work on their dramatic and social skills the children pretended to be the wolf, trying to see what they could blow down. Toddler 1 had fun experimenting with a hair dryer and various objects to see what items the hair dryer could blow over.

"Dr. Seuss" was a fun week! The children read many of his books during free play and read them as a class over and over again. Another story read was, I Wish I Had Duck Feet. The children added duck feet, a tail, a whale's spout and an elephant's trunk to photos of the



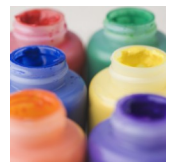
children. This allowed the children to make silly creative art! The children worked on spatial awareness and guessing when seeing which eyes and feet went to each animal. They also worked on colors and patterning when putting red and white strips on The Cat in the Hat's hat!

"Leprechauns and Shamrocks" kept the children busy for the third week. The class enjoyed a finger puppet glove and the poem, "Five Little Leprechauns." The children did a science activity by mixing blue paint and yellow paint to make a new color. They also stamped with green peppers and had fun with play dough.

The fourth week found the children's imagination soaring with "Kites." The children made their own kites and tried to fly them. They also took wind testers outside to see the streamers moving when the wind was blowing. The children matched color blocks on kites and even made edible kites. At circle time we used our glove puppet to do. "Five Little Kites." Toddlers also did the song

"There's a Kite on my Nose" for body part recognition.

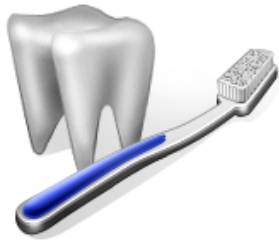
Toddler 1 finished March off with a unit on "Colors." One activity they enjoyed was picking a colored paint can and then looking around the room to find something else that was the same color. After reading Mouse Paint, the teachers gave the children red, blue and yellow paint. They were then given cotton balls to be the mice dancing in the paint. Fruit Loops in the sensory table was another fun activity. They practiced scooping, pouring, identified colors and tasted a few too!



We would like to welcome Brady and his family to our room. In April we will be doing some fun themes- Rain and Clouds, Music and Movement, Rabbits, and Pets.

Preschool 10 Enjoys Rhyming!

March was filled with learning. The first theme the class learned about was dental health. The class had a lot of fun using their imaginations in dramatic play pretending to be dentists. The children learned about the different teeth they have in their mouths and used their math skills to count how many teeth they have. Preschool 10 turned a yellow tooth white by using a toothbrush and white paint ("toothpaste") and brushing the yellow tooth. The class



loved.

The next week, Preschool 10 celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday by dedicating a week to him. The children brought in their favorite Dr. Seuss book and were able to read them over the course of the week. The children created their own Cat in the Hat hats and used their math skills by counting the red and white stripes on their hats. The class got to make and taste test green eggs and ham. They used their cognitive thinking to imagine any place they would like to go and draw it.

During the third week, the class celebrated St. Patrick's Day. The children made sensory shamrocks by cutting out a

Infant 6 sang "Happy Birthday," to our friend Brodie who turned one on March 4th.



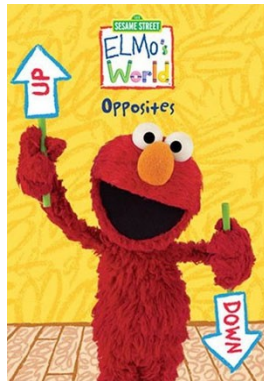
The infants learned all about St. Patrick's Day with a wide varieties of activities and projects. The feel of paint being spread on the infants palms brought many expressions to their faces.

The older infants developed their physical skills when practicing tossing flow-

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

shamrock and gluing different objects of the child's choice that were green. The children used their math and sorting skills by sorting the different marshmallows out of lucky charms. They grouped them by shape, glued them to their papers and counted how many they had. They also got to size shamrocks, by putting them in order from largest to smallest or smallest to largest. Preschool 10 ended the week with a green party that the children enjoyed! Thank you to everyone who made it possible, we really appreciate your donations.

For the fourth week in March, Preschool 10 enjoyed learning about opposites. The children got to think of things that were



to draw on top of the table and then underneath the table. Using their fine motor skills the children strung large and small beads onto strings.

Infant 6 Begins Babbling!

ers into a basket during our spring theme.

As always the infants are working on their social/emotional skills when learning to "play" with others. They are working on their Physical development when learning to roll over, crawl or walk and the nice weather will bring curiosity to the windows!!



Infant 6 wishes the best for Brady who graduated to the toddlers. The theme

The last week of March the class talked about rhyming and sequencing. This week the children worked on sequencing with different pictures that they had to put in order from beginning, middle and end. As a class, preschool 10 used their rhyming words to put together a rhyme. The class also worked hard on matching rhyming words throughout the week.

The month of March was a very busy month. In the month of April the children will learn about Kites, Weather, Earth Day and Easter. As the weather is starting to warm up, please clean out your cubby of winter gear and replace it with weather appropriate clothing. Thank you!!

opposite and as a class, made a song pertaining to opposite. They sang the song throughout the day. Each child experimented with large and small cups and used black paint on white paper to make different size prints. The preschoolers got to see what it was like

for next month that Infant 6 will be focusing on is, "April Showers." The infants will learn about clouds, rain, and umbrellas. Parents, please remember to remove your shoes outside of the classroom, and please make sure all of your child's clothes still fit. Thanks!!!

Spring Has Sprung in Preschool 13

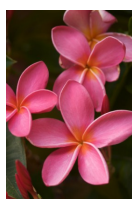


As the warm weather approaches, Preschool 13 is getting in a buzzing mood about outdoor activities. Soon we will enjoy long mornings and afternoons full of discovery. The children will be able to explore their surrounding through play and motor development. The preschoolers will go out to enjoy a symphony of buzzing bees, singing birds and colorful flowers.

Preschool 13 entered the World of Dr. Seuss, as they celebrated his birthday for the first week of March. The children worked on phonological and print awareness as they practiced listening to rhyming words. The children also learned to identify the sound in the beginning of the word. As always, literacy has been a subject that the children enjoy the most. Preschool 13 had the opportunity to express what they learned through books by creating their own version of the "Cat In The Hat." After reading the book, Oh the Places You'll Go, Preschool 13 used their creative expression as they drew a picture about the places they would like to go. The

children had many interesting ideas about where they would like to go and how they would get their.

The second week brought the children closer to their 5 senses as they explored their different functions and what they are needed for. The week started by getting down and dirty as they explored silly putty and bugs. This was an experiment that the children enjoyed very much. The children encountered many mysteries as they attempted to predict what they were feeling in the different slots of the guessing box. To end the week, Preschool 13 used their sense of taste as they ate different food items. They were able to judge which ones they liked and which one they did not.

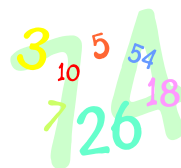


Now that Spring is finally here, Preschool 13 will explore all the different changes that spring brings such as, the beautiful flowers and warmer weather. The children were very excited to learn about how flowers grow. To further emphasize this lesson each child had an op-

portunity to grow their own green bean plant. They also had a great time pretending to be gardeners in the sensory table, which allowed them to use their imagination to create an incredible flower garden.

To end the month, spring literacy was the final topic. The children were able to listen and look at books such as My Little Seed, The Crunching Munching Caterpillar and The Very Greedy Bee. As the week went on, a popular book we read was My seed. The children were able to explore, with sequencing as they made their own mini book about the events that happened through out the book. It was really nice to see how well the children comprehended and remember the character in the story.

For the month of April, Preschool 13 will get serious about Science and Math, Insects and Eric Carles literacy. I would like to wish Camden Caitlin and Izabella Happy Birthday!



Toddler 3 Dances To Music!

For the first month of March, Toddler 3 learned all about, "Families." Fine motor skills were improved upon when the children made a family tree. Toddlers enjoyed several sensory experiences when they were able to have dramatic play in the sensory table and give their babies baths. They also made handprint pictures and used their cognitive thinking to discuss what they liked to do most with their families. Cognitive thinking was enhanced again when the children created their own family portraits.



For the second week of March, the classroom learned about the world of, "Weather." Science was explored through various activities at circle time such as: blowing water, flashlight shadows and a tornado in a bottle. Fine motor was increased when the toddlers made tissue paper suns and cloud pictures. Shape recognition was enhanced when the children created their own kites and discussed how we need the wind in order for them to work. Toddlers expressed their creativity through, "Rainy Day Pictures." The toddlers also enjoyed a sensory experience when they played with strainers in the water table and simulated the rain.

Toddler 3 learned about, "Nutrition" for the third week of March. At circle time the children discussed different foods that were healthy choices and foods that were better to have once in a while. The children learned about this through a number of songs and through the, "Tongue and Taste" activity. Through this activity, the children learned about where the different taste buds are located on the tongue and which foods could be tasted where. When putting the different foods up in the correct area of the tongue, the class also discussed whether they were healthy choices or treats. Fine motor was enhanced when the toddlers made their own soup creations. Math was increased when the children made watermelons and counted the seeds and when they made their own muffins to eat later for snack time. The children enjoyed eating their healthy snack! Lastly, toddler 3 used their imaginations and pretended they were bakers when they manipulated the play dough and created different foods.

Toddler 3 loves listening and dancing to music, so to further this interest, the toddlers delved into a theme on, "Music." Gross motor was increased through scarf dancing. The toddlers participated in several songs such as, "Ring Around the Rosie" and, "My Body Action." The children had to work on their listening skills when the class played a

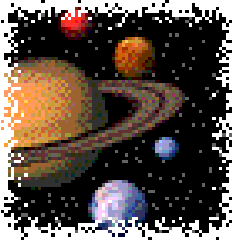
game of musical chairs. Toddler 3 was introduced to many new instruments when they chose some to use in a musical parade. Fine motor was increased through a music drawing and tiger tambourines.

To end out the month of March, toddlers learned about all types of, "Birds." At circle time, the children learned about the life cycle of a bird, increased their vocabulary by discussing the various names of birds and learned several new bird songs. Fine motor was improved when the toddlers painted with feathers and made dove hands. Toddlers played in the sensory table with bird seed and discussed the texture of it and what it was used for. Lastly, science was enhanced when the classroom made their own bird feeders to put out and created their own bird nests with items from nature that they collected on a walk.

Some of the themes Toddler 3 will be exploring in the month of April are, "Pets" and, "Literature." Thank you to all the parents that brought in a snack for our St. Patrick's Day party!



Preschool 12 Explores Space!

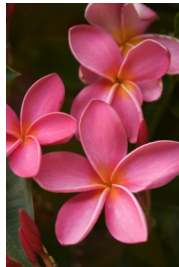


Preschool 12 began the month of March with a theme on Space. The children explored many fun and exciting activities. They enhanced their gross motor skills as they played a game called "Moon Rock Throw." Then in the math center, the preschoolers were engaged in building a puzzle on Space where they practiced their problem solving skills. Fine motor skills were enhanced as the children used their creativity as they made constellations, and alien blobs. Next, Preschool 12 exercised their imagination as they became scary aliens in the block center. Social relations skills and sharing experiences were practiced as the children shared each other's alien toys from home. To end the week, the preschoolers practiced their listening skills as they participated in a group activity called, Astronaut, Astronaut, Alien game.

The second week of March was all about St. Patrick's Day. The preschoolers engaged themselves in a creative art experience as they created their own Leprechauns. Fine motor skills were enhanced as they made tissue paper shamrocks, and a St. Patrick's Day collage. During circle time, the children enhanced their rhyming and counting skills as they participated in a new poem called, "Five Little Shamrocks." Preschool 12 then practiced self control skills as they waited patiently for their turn while playing the Shamrock matching game. To end the week, the

children participated in a fun St. Patrick's Day party. Thank you to all the parents who brought in yummy healthy snacks for us.

Spring has Sprung in the Preschool 12 classroom. The children brightened up the day making beautiful paper plate daisies. During circle time, the preschoolers learned a new song called, "I Can Sing a Rainbow." Language skills were enhanced as the children learned a new poem called, "The Little Caterpillar." The children then learned patterning skills as they made different colored circled caterpillars. Preschool 12 ended the week by learning all about kites. The children were engaged in a creative art project by making beautiful kites with different colored sequences.



To end the month of March, Preschool 12 jumped into the Weather theme. During circle time the children learned that the mailman delivers mail in all types of weather. The children then practiced their safety skills as they pretended that a tornado was in our classroom and crawled under the tables for protection. Then over in our science center, the children learned all about the sun's energy, and how different colors attract the sunlight. The preschoolers were then engaged in a science experiment to find out which color worked. The children then filled zip lock bags with cold water, wrapped them in different colored construction paper, and left them outside for a few hours in the sunlight. Sensory skills were enhanced as the children each touched the different colored zip lock bags and all voted

that the color black was the warmest. In our art center, the preschoolers enhanced their fine motor skills as they created wind art, raindrops and clouds. One-to-one correspondence was practiced as the children outlined the letter X with different colored magnetic pompoms.

For the month of April, Preschool 12 will be learning about Fairy Tales, Pets, Easter and other fun lessons.

Lastly, we are excited to welcome Arianna E, Kyle D. and their families into our Preschool classroom. Happy Birthday wishes go out to Brendan C., Ella P. and Natasia R.



Infant 5 Gets Creative!

We would like to welcome Chloe to Infant room 5! Also, Happy 1st Birthday to Kyle!!

St. Patrick's Day theme was a big hit! The children explored sensory play while using green paint and "full hand" painting. This helped to practice their sense of touch and full arm movement.



The infants learned all about their colors in the month of March. Language and communication skills were focused on when

colors of objects were pointed out to the children. The older infants practiced rolling different colored balls to work on their physical skills, which the younger ones were following the ball with their eyes.

In April the infants will be learning about weather for the first half of the month and about flowers for the second half! They will be making clouds using cotton balls and use their finger prints to make raindrops. When making flow-



ers, they will use their foot prints for the stem and leaf and their hand prints for the petals.



