



# Discovery Zone Gazette

## Infants Dress as Leprechauns!

March has been a very busy and exciting month. First, the infants learned about shamrocks and the color green, followed by a theme on St. Patrick's Day. The



children enjoyed many projects such as shamrock handprints and Leprechaun footprints where the children experienced sensory play. Infants also worked on language skills by listening and dancing to "Dancing Leprechauns" and listening to the book, Horary for Saint Patrick's Day. The children really enjoyed dressing up in a hat and necklace that showed off their St. Patrick's Day spirit, while enhancing emotional development. At the end of the

month, the older infants also enjoyed Dance with me in Ireland which featured Irish step dancers.

The last two weeks of the month, the infants focused on Easter and Eggs. The children enjoyed egg painting, (which you can enjoy around our classroom,) as well as, bunny faces which they used their hands to make. The class sang songs like, "Easter Time" and "Two Little Eggs" and read the book Happy Easter Biscuit. The children also played fun games such as bunny hops, find the egg and playing with a stuffed bunny. The infants enjoyed cuddling the bunny and the



younger infants worked on emotional development when the teachers used the bunny to "get" the children's bellies.

The children have also been busy decorating the classroom windows and doors for the new theme of "April Showers bring May Flowers!"

The infant room wishes Jenna and her family luck as she starts transitioning into the toddler classroom. We would also like to wish Tiernan a Happy Birthday on April 9th!

The infant room is sad to say that Josie will be leaving DZLC. Her last day will be April 9th and we all wish her the best of luck in her future!

## Discovery Zone Learning Center

### March 2010

#### Important Dates:

- Schools April Vacation is 19- 23. Don't forget to sign up for Fun Day by April 9th!!
- 4/30- Special at 11:00- A Punch and Judy Show

## The wind carried the Toddlers away

March came in like a lion and went out like a lamb. The first week, toddlers enjoyed a theme about Lions and Lambs. The children used motor skills to decorate lambs with either cotton balls or black dots that represented the songs "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Baa Baa Black Sheep." Toddlers also played games



such as throw the cotton balls into the box, to encourage physical development and search for lions and lambs in the sensory table using trial and error. The class sang the songs "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Baa Baa Black Sheep" and used alternative colors in the songs to build color recognition skills. The children also sorted and matched lions

and lambs as they built pre-math skills.

The second week of March, focused on animals. The children worked on taking turns as they made animal prints. The class also worked on following directions as the toddlers hunted for and identified animal in the sen-



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# Toddler News Continued

sory table. The children used fine motor skills as they decorated a brown bear and worked on new vocabulary words as the class sang "Brown Bear, Brown Bear" following along with the corresponding movements.

For the third week, the toddlers used creativity to decorate the classroom for St. Patrick's Day. This included counting coins into a pot for the end of the rainbow. The children worked as a group to put together Leprechaun faces to hang on the window for all to enjoy.



The class also made shamrock hats where the children glued decorations on the hat and added rainbow colored streamers. Language skills were built as the children were introduced to the song, "Five Little Leprechauns."

Next, toddlers blew into a theme of wind and rain. The children sorted pictures of clouds, rain drops and the sun. The children built math skills as they counted raindrops and glued them onto clouds. The class also used



household items to make rain and rain sounds. "Raindrops" and "Rain, Rain Go Away" were two favorite songs.

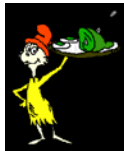
The last week of March, the toddlers enjoyed a theme on spring. The children worked as a group to put a rabbit puzzle together. They also used fine motor skills to paint a bunny picture with a koosh ball. At circle time the children shared and took turns passing around a plastic egg and a ball, then discussed what they felt like.

In April our themes will be Spring, Flowers, Shapes, Insects and Fruit and Vegetables.

Happy Birthday to Casey!

# Preschool B Hunts for Shamrocks

During March, Preschool B spent two full weeks learning about Dr. Seuss. The children enjoyed Green Eggs and Ham and talked about where they might enjoy eating their own. The children were also able to make green eggs and ham for snack. This activity allowed the children to interact with peers while working on their math and cutting skills.



During the second week of Dr. Seuss, the children had so much fun reading The Foot Book. After the story, the children worked on trying to color with their toes and their hands. This activity allowed them to work on their fine motor skills as well as have silly

fun! During the week of St. Patrick's Day, a Leprechaun was on the loose in Preschool B. The children worked very hard on making the Leprechaun a home to stay in. They used creativity to build a home out of a box. Leonard (The Leprechaun) left Preschool B a green footprint trail leading to his house where he left a note. The children really enjoyed going on a shamrock hunt and eating green muffins for snack.



Community Helpers was the theme for the last week of March. The children went on a walk around the school and even helped to

identify and clean up litter. The children got to wear gloves and pretend to be garbage workers. This activity helped the children to learn about cooperation and social responsibility.

During this week, the children also pretended to be bakers. They made banana bread together. Baking is a great way for children to learn a variety of skills from science to literacy.

In April the children will learn about Easter, Spring, Plants, The Earth and Bugs.

The children from Preschool B would like to wish Nathan a Happy Birthday on April 7th!



## Preschool A found the end of the rainbow!

During the month of March, Preschool A learned all about Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's Day, animals and dinosaurs.

During Dr. Seuss week, the children enjoyed a variety of books. For each book read, the children did a corresponding project. To practice fine motor skills, the children made Dr. Seuss hats by cutting the stripes and gluing them on the hat. This activity built fine motor and patterning skills. The children also created two of their own story books to practice number and letter recognition. The project the children enjoyed the most was a scavenger hunt. The class practiced rhyming words and following clues.



For the second week of March, Preschool A learned all about animals. To

practice spatial awareness the children made owls using different sized hearts. The children really enjoyed getting messy in the sensory table with shaving cream and ice cubes as they made polar bear homes. A lacing project was also done with the children to enhance fine motor skills. The class marble painted jellyfish, then laced their tentacles.

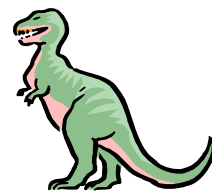


Preschool A loved the St. Patrick's day theme! The children made different patterns using peppers and paint. On St. Patrick's Day the children enjoyed a leprechaun hunt with Preschool B. Preschoolers followed his footprints and searched for shamrocks. Gold coins were also created by the children using lots



of different materials. They got to make patterns and use scissors and glue.

For the last week of March, Preschool A went back in time and learned about dinosaurs. To exercise imaginations, the children made dinosaurs and created their names too. Take a look on our bulletin board! One of the favorite activities was making dinosaur soap. Fine motor skills were practiced as the children traced and cut out dino eggs and used water colors to paint them, those are posted above the cubbies.



For the month of April, Preschool A will learn about Easter, two weeks of spring, recycling and weather!

Happy birthday to Ciara and Brandon!

## Center News

A reminder to parents for birthday treats. Please remember to send in a healthy snack to celebrate your child's birthday!

Classroom sign in and out sheets need to have times and initials everyday, thanks! Also please do not allow your children to write on the sheets.

Please remember to call the center if your child will be out for the day so that we can be properly staffed.

Mr. Sun is getting stronger as the warmer days approach. Please provide your child with a spray sunscreen and the sunscreen form. Sunscreen should be applied in the morning, before coming to the center, as it takes about 20 mins. to set in.

All blue sheets regarding your child's summer and fall schedules are due by April 23rd.

The offered CPR course for parents will be held Thursday April 15th from 6pm-9:30pm. If you have not handed in a \$35 payment to sign up, please do so!





