



Discovery Zone Gazette

Preschool 12 Gets Colorful

Preschool 12 is excited and ready for a new school year! Preschool 12 started the year with a week theme on "Welcome Back to School." During this week, preschoolers were reminded of the rules and routines. They enhanced their language and literacy skills as they began to learn the Letter of the Week "A." At the new Alphabet center, the preschoolers also learned what an uppercase and lowercase letter looks like. Preschoolers practiced their social relations and sharing experiences during our new weekly activity called Show and Share. Fine motor dexterity was also enhanced as they began to write their names. Their creativity and expressions of friendship were practiced in the art center as they made friendship bracelets for their friends. In the science center, Preschool 12 explored Acorns with magnifying glasses and compared and contrasted an Ape from a monkey. We were amazed to discover that an ape doesn't have a tail but a monkey does.

For the second week of September, Preschoolers learned how special they are with a week theme on "All About Me." At circle time, they enhanced their vocal chords as they learned a new song "I Am Special" and "If You're Happy and you Know it." Preschoolers were also engaged in a visual discrimination activity as they took turns identifying their friends' baby pictures. Gross motor skills were enhanced as they identified their

body parts through dancing to the song "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes." During project time, Preschoolers were engaged in a sensory activity as they decorated their names with pizzazz by gluing all sorts of colorful crafty items to each letter. Preschoolers also practiced their critical thinking skills as they completed the sentence about them that said, "I am special because..."

For the third week of September, Preschoolers learned all about the colors around them with a week theme on "Color Recognition." Math skills were encouraged as they made a graph and matched, compared and counted several different colors. Gross motor skills were enhanced as the class played musical colors.

In the science center, preschoolers were engaged in a sensory, finger paint mixing activity where they discovered how to mix two different colors to make one. Fine motor skills were being developed as the preschoolers made a creative art yarn sculpture.

To finish the end of the month, Preschool 12 enjoyed sampling different types of apples during our "Apples" theme.

The senses of smell and taste were enhanced as the children made yummy crock pot applesauce and applesauce cake.

Preschoolers were engaged in another science project where they compared and contrasted three different types of apples, red, yellow and green. Then their math skills were challenged as they made a graph and counted which apple was the



favorite. They discovered that the red apple was their favorite.

Social relations and sharing experiences were practiced as the preschoolers participated in being an apple farmer at their apple stand in dramatic play. During center choice activities, Preschoolers were engaged in a sensory experience as they bobbed for apples with slotted spoons and sieves in the water table. Preschoolers also practiced fine motor skills as well as positional words while they manipulated pipe cleaner worms and styrofoam apples. Language and literacy skills were being developed as preschoolers learned how to identify words that rhyme. Our favorite rhyming book was Ten Apples Up on Top by Dr. Seuss.

Lastly, Preschool 12 friends would like to welcome Jakob Z. and his family into our classroom.

Discovery Zone Learning Center

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Special points of interest:

- ☺ 10/7 Preschool Field Trip to Hurst Farm
- ☺ 10/8 Firefighter visit to DZLC
- ☺ 10/11 & 10/12 Fun Days for School Agers
- ☺ 10/29 Annual Halloween Parade

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Preschool 10 Heads "Back to School"

September was a fun month for Preschool 10. It was sad to see our kindergarten friends leave but we're happy to welcome in our new preschool friends! Preschool 10 started off the month by heading "Back to School" for 2 weeks. The third week science was the focus and the last week of September was fire safety week!

During first week of "Back to School," Preschoolers learned math and colors. The children used fine motor skills to cut out circles and ice cream scoops which were glued in order 1-5. The class also experimented with patterns with pattern bears. Then the class jumped into colors and talked about primary colors and what happens when colors are mixed. The children were amazed at the colors made with just red, blue and yellow. Together the class then made a rainbow with all the colors.

During the second week of "Back to School" Preschool 10 focused on writing, a,b,c's, and shapes. Learning letters and shapes was all about hands on

fun. The children used gross motor skills to play shape hokey pokey. The children had so much fun dancing around with their



shapes. The class also played ABC bingo, where the children had to identify the letter that was picked and if they had it on their board. The children also built fine motor skills as they did lots of writing including writing their full names, favorite colors and ABC's.

The third week Preschool 10 blasted off into science. The children experimented with vinegar and salt and watched dirty pennies become clean and they learned how to make bubbles in the sensory table. The children also got

to watch raisins bob up and down in soda. The children really enjoyed the hands on science activities.

The last week of September was a fire safety week. The class discussed the safety spots and everyone went home and found out where theirs was in case of an emergency. Preschool 10 also practiced a fire drill to refresh the children's memories on where to go at school if there ever was a fire. Everyone got to practice dialing 911 and learned what to say if help was ever needed. The children demonstrated stop, drop and roll to practice safety as well as a gross motor activity. In dramatic play, Preschoolers used their imaginations and pretended to be fire fighters. The children made fire hats with fire safety rules on them so not to forget the things we need to do to keep safe.

September was a very fun and exciting month! Happy birthday to Mason T. and Brady M. Preschool 10 is excited to go on a field trip and learn about apples, pumpkins, and more.

Infant 5 is the Apple of Our Eyes

During the month of September the infant room would like to wish Ryder a Happy 1st Birthday!

We would also like to give a warm welcome to our new friend Shawn!



The theme of the infant room this month was apple pick-

ing. The babies made their very own apples by using their palm prints. An apple was cut also in half for the babies to explore and dip it in paint and put it on a piece of paper. The infant room enjoyed a sensory experience with applesauce. The babies got to touch and smear the applesauce and the older infants that have already eaten it before got to try some again. Pictures of the fun experience were taken, check them out on the bulletin board.

To increase language and communication skills, the Infants practiced babbling sounds, bumped

up and down, and dressed to go outside. The cognitive development was dropping toys over the edge, finding toys, and picking which two toys are the same. The social and emotional development for the infants were making sounds, making music, rolling the ball back and forth, and solving problems. Lastly, for physical development the babies practiced rolling over, propping themselves up, holding on to fingers while standing, and letting go to develop muscles.

During the month of October the infant room will focus on Halloween!

Toddler 3 Is Off to Work

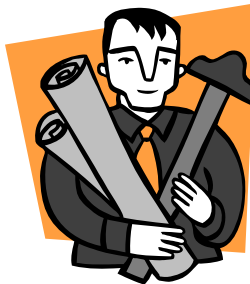
Toddler 3 started out the month of September with a theme on "Leaves." Through this theme the children also worked on a seasonal bulletin board. Fine motor skills were developed when the children made leaf rubbings, leaf mosaics and painted the tree trunk for the bulletin board. Spatial awareness was enhanced when the children collectively made an owl for the board as well. Be sure to take a look at the fall bulletin board!

For the second week of September, the children engaged in activities about "Friendship." At circle time, the children participated in several activities that were geared towards enhancing interaction with each other. The children played a "Roll the Ball" and "Shoe Match" activity. Sign Language was enhanced when the children sang "The More We Get Together." Toddlers enjoyed a sensory experience when they made a friendship wreath. Fine motor was enhanced when the children made a friendship quilt. Fine motor was again enhanced when the children made a friendship mural. All the children worked on this mural collectively and the finished product came out beautiful! Social development was worked on, when the children were put into pairs of two and worked together to make "Friendship Art." Through this project

the toddlers were encouraged to work as a team through sharing and interaction to create their finished piece of art.

For the third week of September, children learned all about "Fruits." At circle time, the children explored their sense of taste when they enjoyed a taste testing of different fruits. The children also enjoyed a game of "Pin the Stem on the Pumpkin." Fine motor was developed when toddlers made fruit prints by painting with strawberries and sponge painting pumpkins. Toddler 3 participated in a sensory experience when they used their creativity to make their own clay fruits. Fine motor was again developed when the children made shake confetti fruits.

Next, Toddler 3 learned all about "Occupations." Through this theme the children learned all about different professions that people hold and what those jobs entail. The class measured their height like doctors, wrote on a chalkboard like teachers and sang a "Construction Worker Song." Toddlers, also developed



their vocabulary and learned about the different occupations their parents have through letters that were written to the classroom. The children used their cognitive thinking skills when they participated in a worker's matching game. Fine motor was developed this week when the children painted a house and made fire, marble paintings in honor of firefighters. Cognitive thinking was again enhanced upon when the children fixed a wound and had to think about what had happened to cause the wound. Cooking and math skills were increased when the children made muffins this week as well.

To finish out the month of September, Toddler 3 ended the month with a theme on "Night Time." Science was enhanced when the children learned about the various animals of the night. They also learned about some of the people who work when it is night time. Fine motor was increased when toddlers made night time pictures, moon dust pictures and designed their own pajamas. Toddlers expressed their creativity during this week by creating their own shadow puppets. To end out this week, the toddlers enjoyed a "Pajama Day" and wore their pajamas to school. The classroom enjoyed relaxing in their pajamas for the day!

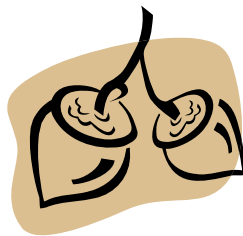
Toddler 2 Goes Nutty About Acorns

To finish off the month of August and start off September, the children in Toddler 2 learned all about shapes. During this week, they practiced using the shape sorter several times. All the children in Toddler 2 did great with the shape sorter! The class did a couple art projects involving painting shapes and lots of gluing. At circle time, the class enjoyed books about shapes and also played a "find the shape" game, where the children had to locate shapes all around the room. The children also

did a variety of puzzles involving shapes which not only taught shape recognition but problem solving skills as well.

Throughout the week, the children learned a lot about all the different kinds of shapes there are and all the everyday objects that have a certain shape to them.

During the second week of September, Toddler 2 slowly started learning about fall with a week on Acorns. The children



are now familiar with a popular song called "Acorn Brown." They really enjoyed singing it while holding an acorn they picked out of a bag. Toddler 2 went on an acorn hunt this week outside and the children found so many acorns that were used to play a tossing game during circle. On the bulletin board, the children made a lot of acorn artwork. The children learned about what sinking and floating is as we filled a bucket with water and had the children toss in an acorn to see if it would sink or float. They made and wore acorn headbands

Toddler 2 Continued

later in the week. The children read plenty of books about fall to give the children some knowledge of the upcoming season. To finish off the acorn theme, Toddlers made acorn bottles using the acorns they collected during a walk. The children really enjoyed playing with them during outside recess.

As we approached the middle of September, Toddler 2 did a theme called "All About Me." During this week the children learned a lot about themselves and their friends. At circle time, the children learned the song "Head, shoulders, knees and toes" and loved it! They also heard songs about being happy and being kind to friends. The children made their own finger prints and paper plate faces which we displayed on the bulletin board. In order for the children to learn about some things that their friend's liked, we created an "I like" collage as a class. To finish off the week on "All About Me," the children had their bodies traced and then got to color them in. The children had a lot of fun learning more about themselves and getting to know their friends much better.

Towards the end of September, the Toddler 2 class had a Teddy Bear Picnic theme. Each child brought in a favorite teddy bear or other animal of theirs to share with the class during the theme. Throughout the week, the children learned many new songs and games involving teddy bears. The children absolutely loved having a teddy bear picnic outside. We ate fruit and other healthy snack foods outside on a blanket near the pond. We also had a wonderful circle time outside. Jane found a baby snapping turtle by the pond and brought it in for all the children to enjoy! The children enhanced on their gross motor skills as we did activities such as the teddy bear crawling race and jumping on and off the teddy bears. They also improved their shape and color recognition this week.



Toddler 2 ended the month of September with a theme on sensory. During this week, the children learned

many new songs and poems about the five senses. Each day of the week consisted of learning all about one of the five senses. We read stories to the children each day to introduce each of the five senses. Musical chairs was played to demonstrate the importance of hearing. To teach Toddlers about seeing with eyes, the children were encouraged to match colored eggs. The children got to play with sand in the sensory table outside when it came time to learn about touch. Different objects with different textures were also explored and the children were asked to describe object felt like. Toddler 2 finished off the week focusing taste and smell. During circle time, the children were able to smell several different types of extracts and spices. It was interesting to see which smells the children liked and which they didn't. The theme on sensory was ended with a taste testing activity using lemons, pickles, onions, limes and cotton candy. The results were recorded and posted on the bulletin board so you can see what your children thought of the foods they tasted!

Toddler 1 Builds Lifelong Friendships

September is the beginning of a new school year and this is the time where Toddler 1 starts to introduce some new ideas and goals. The children will be exposed to new learning styles and old favorites. This is why we find it important to emphasize developing relationship with new class mates as well as strengthen the bonds that already exist. This is why we choose to work on family for the first week of September. The children explored with dramatic play as they cared for the toy babies in the room. It was exciting to see that prior knowledge was available by watching the children feed the babies and change their diapers. Something that was very surprising was the gentle way

in which the children treated their babies. The class explored new songs that introduced a variety of vocabulary that was used through out the month.

Words like gentle and kind were just a few that were used to describe appropriate behavior towards their parents, teachers and friends. To end the week, Toddler 1 shared a delicious snack in which we used apples and biscuit to create individual pies.



Toddler 1

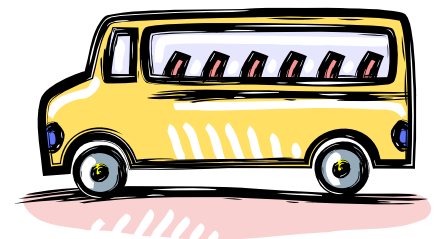
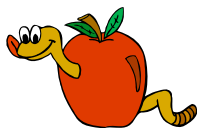
kicked the second week off by celebrating friendship. The children used creative art to make a friendship quilt. They were able to add their individual pieces which made it extra special. Cooperation and working together were major themes this week and a new game called "Roll the Ball." The children enjoyed playing with each other and participating in a group activity. At circle, the children were encouraged to help their peers to sing the song and do the signs to "The More We Get Together." To further emphasize friendship the children practiced their pre-literacy skills as they wrote a letter to a friend which was mailed to the chil-

Fire Safety Heats Up in Preschool 11

Preschool 11 traveled "Back to School" during the first week of September. During this time the class settled in with new and old friends alike and began a fresh start to the 2010-2011 school year. This week consisted of making new friends, remembering and learning the rules of Preschool 11 and DZLC and refreshing on the basics of Preschool. The class reviewed colors, numbers, letters and shapes. The children worked on fine motor skills while writing, cutting and gluing. Preschool 11 enjoyed the the transition into learning and consistently looked forward to what was next. The second week was a blast as Preschool 11 learned about science. During this week, the children did 5 science experiments. They saw the reaction between salt and vinegar while cleaning pennies during the "Pretty Pennies Experiment." They created bubbles using detergent, hand soap, water and powdered soap to see what

bubbles would work the best. The children also experimented with solids and liquids to see what could be created when you mixed the two. The class also participated in a Sink and Float experiment and painting over oil to see if the oil would resist the paint. We found that in some cases it did and in others it did not. The third week of September, Preschool 11 got into the spirit of fall. During this week the children learned about Apples. They dissected an apple using fine motor skills and with using math skills they counted the number of seeds in the center. The class discussed the core, stem and the shape the seeds inside. The children made applesauce and ate it for snack after reading the book, "Applesauce!" The children again focused on science when they left apples exposed to air and used creative art skills to paint apple prints and seeing the "star" like shape they left on the paper.

Preschool 11 finished up September with a one week theme on Fire Safety. During this week the children learned about the ways to keep them and their families safe. They learned how to Stop, Drop and Roll in case of their clothes caught on fire. They practiced dialing 911 on the phone ONLY if there is a very serious emergency and no adults could help. They worked on their fine motor skills and while making Fire Badges that they colored and cut out. Finally, the children worked on how to evacuate DZLC in case of an emergency, The children did a fantastic job! Next month we will learn about Fall, All about Me, Art and Colors and Halloween. Enjoy the Fall!



Toddler1 continued

dren. "How are you feeling?" was the question of the week when Toddler 1 worked on emotions. The children practiced sign language for happy, sad, angry, and excited. They also worked on spatial awareness while making sad or happy faces. "If Your Happy and You Know It" was a class favorite song.

Toddler 1 was busy with dinosaurs for the last two weeks. The children built math skills with the finger-play 5 Little Dinosaurs which required the children to count how many leaves the dinosaurs ate. Small motor development was used when the children created dinosaur fossils. The created their own dinosaur skins by painting on dif-

ferent textures and then rubbing papers over this.

We would like to send a warm welcome to our two new friends Grace, Khris and their families. During October, Toddler 1 will focus on Apples, Pumpkins, Costumes/ Imagination and then Fall.

Infant 6 Welcomes New Families

Welcome to all the new families who have joined our new infant room that has just opened this past month. Over the past month infant 6 went from having 2 babies to now 8! Are family is growing and we are learning so much about each other. During this past we have spent lots of one on one time together, getting to know the children and letting them get to know us also. One of the ways that this was done was by allowing the children to touch and



explore their new teachers, by having the children touch our faces, smell our scent and hear our voices. The children are getting to be very comfortable in their new environment.

Over the past few weeks the children have started to find themselves and have started to settle into the own schedules. During the day the children enjoy lots of floor time, stacking blocks, rolling balls, using mirrors and most of all... lots of cuddling! Learning about communication and language is so important even at this age and knowing this the children get read and sung to though out the day.

This month, Infant 6 enjoyed some art projects that involved the beautiful fall weather. The children explored paint and made green handprint appletrees. While the weather is still nice out, the infants have been cruising around outside in our stroller. Together we talk about

the leaves, trees, and the other children outside.

For the month of October the infants will continue the everyday activities that we do now. Our theme for the month is Halloween. Together we will make some fun and exciting projects that both your children and you will enjoy. Also this month Discovery Zone is has a Fundraiser called "Original Works." This fundraiser is like nothing you have seen before. As a parent myself, it is my favorite. Through out this month your children will create a project then it will get sent home for you to see and order items with your child's artwork on it. One last reminder to parents, please remember the weather is starting to change, please make sure your child has the right clothing in their cubbie for the weather.

Center News

DZLC is always trying to serve our families better. To that end, we will begin electronic check in and out. We hope to be up and running with our new system as of 11/1/10. We will let everyone know all the details as the time comes closer.

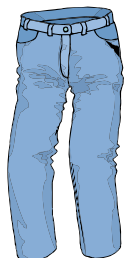
Please remember to send your child with utensils if his/her lunch requires them.



DZLC always attempts to be as flexible as possible. If you must change child's drop off or pick up times for

any reason, please be sure to call and speak with Robin, Christine or Stacey. We must be made aware of schedule changes to make sure our Center is appropriately staffed.

Please make sure your child has at least one complete set of clothes in his/her cubby. You never know when and accident, spill or general childhood messes will strike! Also, any donations of extra clothes to DZLC would be greatly appreciated. We are in need of pants size 2T and up. Please, no Infant



clothing. Finally, if your child has used clothes from DZLC please return them promptly so another child may use them if needed.

Original Works is back!!! DZLC will do it's annual fundraiser with Original Works. Be on the lookout for your child's artwork that can be changed into a variety of items from potholders to mouse pads. Makes a great Holiday gift for Grandparents or other loved ones!

