

Classroom VI News
Winter, 2012

Winter Weather

Old man winter has come with a vengeance! Since it has turned cold, it is imperative that your child have appropriate clothing - a coat, hat (or hood) and gloves. We like for the children to exercise and get fresh air but they **MUST** have these items (plus boots if there's snow) before they are allowed to go out. Also, please be sure **ALL** items are labeled.

Areas of Study:

As you know, we completed our Native American study in November. Thanks to those of you who helped during this project. From there, we began our study of the human body. We were blessed with a life size skeleton which was a great aid in learning about the skeletal system. A study of the digestive system and healthy eating habits are next on the agenda.

Botany is also a focus this month. The children are learning about seeds, fruit, flowers and plant reproduction. We will be planting bulbs in jars so we can watch them germinate and grow.

We have been working with Trout Unlimited on our "Trout in the Classroom" project. Our third-year students are taking turns monitoring the conditions and feeding the fish. They are enjoying the responsibility and take pleasure in watching the growth process.

After our break, the second-year students are now getting back to their zoology studies. Our first-year students will be involved with the "Horse Park Literacy Program" beginning February 29.

And, of course, you all know about the "All About Me" project. The children love being the "star" and talking about themselves and we love learning more about each one of them. The food choices have been outstanding and, with the cookbook we will make with their recipes, you will have a wonderful selection of hors d'oeuvres and meals to make at home.

The national program, Junior Master Gardener (JMG), will begin on Friday for our third-year students. In addition to enhanced botany studies, the children participate in community service activities. One of these activities will be to collect cell phones, accessories and other small electronics to recycle. They will appreciate your help in making this endeavor a success!

Upcoming Events:

We know you've seen mention of the Breakfast Café on Friday, February 10. Please be sure your child is back in the classroom by 9:00 to begin work. On Tuesday, February 14, we will be celebrating Valentines Day in our classroom. Each child will make his or her own "mailbox." Your child may bring in valentines to distribute to classmates. If you need a class list, please refer to the snack calendar. Earlier this week, you should have received the new calendar for the remainder of the year.

April 26 - 27: All three lower elementary classrooms will go to 4-H camp.

Amy and Mary