



Classroom I Newsletter

April 2009

Spring is in the air!! The children are filled with anticipation that we may get to play outside between April showers!

The Latest

Mrs. Young continued lessons on love, peace and self value. These lessons are a favorite of the children and a most popular choice during work time. Several children have made peace flags. They start by stamping a peace dove in the center of their flag and then drawing pictures around it symbolizing what peace means to them. We discussed how important it is to love and respect ourselves. "In order to love others, all of us must first love ourselves." This is a quote by Aline D. Wolf from *Nurturing the Spirit*. To help the children be aware of their own self worth they were introduced to the "value box." They were told when each of them looks inside the value box he or she will see the most wonderful person in the world. Inside the box, of course, is a mirror that tells each child of his or her own importance. As an extension to this lesson the children were introduced to the "love box." This lesson was presented beginning with a short poem written by Aline D. Wolf. "I want you to fill your heart with love for all the people and animals in the world. Can you see your heart getting bigger and bigger?"



It's expanding because you have so much love in your heart for all these people and animals, and of course for yourself." The children were invited to trace a heart and then fill the heart with all the things they love...beginning with a picture of themselves.



Mrs. Spencer continued her year long theme on gardening. She began by teaching the children parts of the flower. As a group, we planted another amaryllis bulb. The children used rulers to measure the growth and record the progress on their own growth chart. After the Amaryllis bloomed the children were able to study the flower and identify its parts. Mrs. Spencer also introduced garden insects. She taught about bees and their importance to flowers.

We had the privilege of having Jake's Dad, Mr. Kolasa, who is a bee keeper come to our classroom and share his knowledge of bees. He brought in live specimens which created quite a "buzz" in the classroom!!

Last month, Mrs. Kessinger and the children studied the human body. She discussed healthy habits and healthy food choices. Using vials of fat she showed the children the fat content in some popular fast food choices. She also introduced a body measurement lesson. The children chose a partner and learned to use a tape measure to measure different parts of the body i.e. arm, foot, waist, etc. We even provided a scale so they could weigh in! They absolutely loved this! Mrs. Kessinger recently concluded a lesson on rocks and minerals. The children learned classifications of rocks (igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic) and how to identify types of rocks. The children learned about gemstones and their own birthstone. Each child made a birthstone bracelet!



We are currently doing lessons around our "Earth Day" celebration! The children are learning to take part in the responsibility of caring for planet Earth and all its living creatures. These lessons will have an emphasis on recycling and air and water pollution.

Fiona Farrer, a former student of Classroom 1, returned to school last month to give a presentation to the children. Fiona and her family had recently taken a trip to Canada. Fiona put together a beautiful array of pictures and artifacts to give the children a glimpse into the beauty of our Canadian neighbors. This was truly a wonderful treat for the children and teachers!

Thanks to You

To the Dharwad Family for sending in much needed boys under attire!

To the Rodgerson Family for donating a patio umbrella. This will be wonderful for days when we are able to use our patio for outdoor work choices.

To the Stohner-Brooks Family for the many gifts given to enhance our patio and garden! We are so appreciative of their time spent to beautify this space!

To Mrs. Monarch for sharing her "friendship soup" recipe with us!

Reminders and Requests

April 24th is our Earth Day celebration. School will be dismissed at 11:00 a.m. and our picnic will follow from 11:00- 1:00. The weather looks promising so please bring your picnic lunch to enjoy at Masterson Station Park. Also, don't miss our book fair that will be set up in Haley Hall.

No School for Primary children on May 11th! This is Visitation Day for the 3rd year students only.

May 21st is the last day of school!

May 22nd is our annual picnic at Masterson Station Park. This is a wonderful end of year celebration.

Group picture day has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, April 29th

Joan, Christie, and Diane

Classroom Quotes

A boy said to a girl, "I'm going to marry you when I grow up!"
The girl responded, "I might not recognize you when I
you're all grown up!"

- 2nd year boy to a 1st year girl

During our ocean studies we had shell tracing as a choice.
A boy asked, "Where's the work with the sea money?"
He was referring to the sand dollar!

- 3rd year boy

During lunch one Friday a girl said, "I don't like pizza day
because that means the next two days there is no school!!"

- 3rd year girl

A parent was in our observation room one morning and was
discovered by one of the children who ran out to tell the others, "We
have a customer!!!"

-1st year boy

