

KINDERGARTEN NEWS!



OCTOBER 21, 2011

THIS WEEK WAS SO EXCITING, HERE ARE A FEW OF THE INTERESTING THINGS WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING...

RELIGION: We...

- Discovered that God cares for all creation as we began our new chapter, prayed, and heard the story, "Heavenly Zookeeper"
- Learned that God wants us to care for the creatures that he created i.e., animals that walk on land, creatures that live in the sea, and birds that fly in the sky
- Learned that God created plants and trees that give us food to eat and took turns sharing some of the many fruits and vegetables that help keep our bodies healthy



From our Gospel lesson today we heard a story about the "Greatest Commandment of All." We discussed how we can show love and respect for God and for our neighbor, and shook hands with our classmates and told them the things we like about them.

MATH: We...

- Learned about more and fewer through 20 using the "Fish" more and less sign
- Continued learning about "1 more than" and "2 more than" through 20
- Showed 4, 5 and 6 in two groups and created addition sentences with the information
- Guessed and recorded the number of counters in the estimation jar (1-20)
- Worked on the number words zero to ten and color words
- Practiced joining groups from 0 to 20 (+, =)
- Worked more with the ordinal numbers first to fifth
- Copied and extended clapping/patting patterns
- Counted by 10's to 100

LANGUAGE ARTS: We...

- Concluded our discussion of the story Dig Dig Digging and began talking about a new story called Flowers
- Reviewed the meanings of the vocabulary words *scooping*, *swooshing*, *squelching*, *gobbling*, *spinning*, and *rumbling* and identified the missing action vocabulary words ("verbs") that would complete a sentence
- Were introduced to our new vocabulary words *seeds*, *fruits*, *buds*, *stem*, *bloom*, and *petals*

- Reviewed m and t and words that begin and end with m and t like *moon* and *broom*; *towel* and *hit*
- Began working with the short a sound at the beginning of words and identifying the word out of a pair of words that begins with the short a sound like *alligator*, *alphabet*, *animal*, and *apple*
- Practiced printing upper and lowercase m and lowercase t
- Talked about and practiced identifying the high-frequency words *a* and *to* and reviewed *am*, *I*, *little*, and *the*
- Reviewed that verb is just a fancy word for a "doing" or "action word" and reread a Student Reader with verbs like *eating*, *reading*, *talking*, and *mopping*

SCIENCE: We...

- Participated in a hands-on exploration of different classroom objects that a magnet will and will not *attract* to

SOCIAL STUDIES: We...

- Began our Unit 2 lesson on *symbols*, discussed what *symbols* are, and listened to and viewed the fun "Symbols Song" that helps teach us about the many different California state and American symbols like our state bird the quail and the bald eagle which is our nation's bird

Important Notes for Parents:

- ♥ Wednesday's field trip to the pumpkin patch was so much fun! A big thanks goes out to all of you that helped make this day special!
- ♥ Your children have been learning specific high-frequency words since the start of the year. Knowing these words will help your children learn to read more easily. The words that the children have learned up to now are: ***I, am, the, little, to,*** and ***a.*** Please create a set of flash cards with these words so that your child can practice recognizing each word, and make sure to look for any new words to add to your child's set of flash cards in the upcoming kindergarten newsletters. Thanks!
- ♥ **A gentle reminder about routines and procedures:** As we approach the end of the first quarter, it is important to remember that the children are learning new responsibilities at school and how to grow as independent learners. For example, the kindergarten children come into the classroom each morning, unpack their backpacks, put their envelopes in the teacher in-box, and put their backpacks away independently. With this in mind, we ask that you encourage that growth and independence. Please do not come into the classroom with your child. Thank you for your support!

Have an excellent weekend!



Sincerely,
 ~Miss O'Rourke
 ~Mrs. Raffetto