

KINDERGARTEN NEWS!

SEPTEMBER 14, 2007

THIS WEEK IN KINDERGARTEN WE WERE BUSY LITTLE BEES, HERE IS A BREAKDOWN OF THE MANY WONDERFUL THINGS WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING...

RELIGION: This week we learned...

- How to describe the way we use our five senses (smell, taste, touch, see, and hear) to learn about God's world.
- That God's love is shown in the beautiful things we discover (with our senses) each day in the world.
- How to celebrate and appreciate God's gift, our five senses. At the closing of the second chapter in our religion book, we had a celebration of our senses with a prayer of thankfulness to God, our Creator. Miss O'Rourke led us in a prayer thanking God for the healthy foods we see, taste, touch, and smell each day.
- That God created the land, water, sun, moon and stars. We began our third chapter, "God Gives Us The Earth."
- About God's gift of day and night.

******Mom and Dad, most of us still need help with the "The Sign of the Cross" prayer (making sure to use the "right" hand). We should also continue to work on showing reverence to God when we pray.

MATH: We have been learning some new vocabulary:

- "same" and "different" - comparing objects by color and shape.
- "sort" - how to group objects by color, shape and size.
- "small," "medium," and "large" - how to sort common objects like scissors, staplers, and toy cars into "same" and "different" groups by size.

LANGUAGE ARTS: This is what we learned this week...

- We heard the story of The Enormous Turnip and learned about turnips. We liked that story!! Ask your child what the story was about!
- The rhyme, "Pease Porridge Hot." Miss O'Rourke made it really fun each day by changing the first consonant letter of each word with letters like the blend "ch," "g," and "j," as in "chease chorridge chot" or "gease gorridge got." Ask your child to tell you what the rhyme would sound like with the "ch" sound (/ch/). For some reason this substitution made the children giggle the most. Maybe because it sounds the silliest!
- We made silly rhymes out of "Little Miss Muffet" by changing the first consonant letter in "Muffet" to "F," "T," and "W."
- We continued our learning adventure revisiting stories that Miss O'Rourke had read to us such as, *The Little Engine That Could*, *The Tortoise and The Hare*, *The Lion and The Mouse*, and *The Enormous Turnip*, while comparing and contrasting them.
- In Handwriting we practiced writing the "big" or "uppercase" letters we learned last week like B, P, R, D, N, M, F, and E.

SCIENCE:

The children reviewed some of the words they learned last week to describe common objects, like color, shape, size, texture, and weight. They were able to identify the common words used to categorize (like our Math lesson when we learned to "sort") the physical properties of objects.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

- We are all still trying our best (and making progress!) to learn the "Pledge of Allegiance," so that we can say it properly with the school each morning. Only a very few of us need to be reminded of the hand we are supposed to use for the "Pledge" (Great job Kinders!)
- We began our lesson on what it takes to be a good citizen and learned a little about two great citizens of our country, Abraham Lincoln and Ruby Bridges. We are all very interested in learning more about these two people. Your child might enjoy a trip to the library to check out age-appropriate books on these two wonderful citizens who made a difference in our country!

Notes from Miss O'Rourke:

- In this brown envelope you will find some of your child's work from the week and an alphabet letters page (for practicing letter recognition of the letters A through E) to be done with your child (the instructions are attached to the worksheet). Please read the directions and see what knowledge your child can demonstrate. This worksheet gives your child extra practice on letter recognition and serves to reinforce what they already know. Thanks!
- Please continue to work with your child printing the letters of the alphabet. It will be a great asset as they learn to read because reading and writing go hand-in-hand.
- Please try and teach your child how to write his/her full name (not just his/her nickname), making sure to point out that the first letter of his/her name is an uppercase letter or "big" letter and the others should be lowercase or "little" letters. I understand how difficult it can be to learn, but it is something they need to know. Thank you!
- I also ask that you practice writing the numbers 1 through 10. The handwriting sheet I sent home last week includes the proper way to write numbers.

By the way, the class did a great job during the school wide fire drill on Wednesday. Mrs. Zappelli complimented the class telling Miss O'Rourke how brave they were not getting scared or crying when the loud alarm and flashing lights came on.

Have a beautiful weekend!

Sincerely,

~Miss O'Rourke