

October 21, 2011 - Mrs. Slyman's Classroom

Dear Parents of Preschool Children,

Reminders:

Field Trip: Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Boston Children's Museum.

Parent Teacher Conferences - November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

We participated in many activities this week - some of them are stated below! Some fall into more than 1 category.

**Health** - Ms. Schenk read some books about taking care of our skin - for example, being sure we wash our hands often in order not to spread germs. She did a fun activity where the children drew a picture of what they thought a germ would look like on the dry/erase board. She then had the children pretend to wash their hands - she swiped the dry/erase board with an eraser to show the children a visual as to how most of the germs "disappear" when hands are washed!

**Math** - We continue to work on concepts such as one-to-one correspondence. The children who have mastered this benchmark worked at putting numbers 1-20 in the correct sequence. The children also were introduced to geoboards and had some opportunities to use them!

**Science** - We read and discussed our Weekly Reader, "Fall Fun." We continue to read books about tools. The children participated in an activity in which they chose a problem card (e.g. a boy with long messy hair), a tool (e.g. comb and scissors) and the solution (someone cut the boy's hair and combed it). The children did a great job deciding what tool was best to solve the problem! We explored and experimented with some tools and machines such as pulleys, gears, and levers too!

**Social Studies** - We read, Some Kids Use Wheel Chairs by Lola Schaefer. Each child also had the opportunity to use a real wheelchair! We also had a discussion about the importance of being kind to everyone, including children who must use a wheelchair. We read, Rolling Along with Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Cindy Meyers. A wonderful book with a different version from the original. In this story, Goldilocks meets a bear who must use a wheelchair because his legs do not work very well. Goldilocks learns about wheelchairs, being kind, and also about what a physical therapist does as well! We cut out and put together a social skills booklet, "Cleaning Up Your Room." We discussed the importance of being responsible - if you make a mess, you should be responsible to clean up the mess! We also practice this concept in preschool and the children really are proud of themselves after cleaning up a mess! Thank you parents, for *expecting* your children to clean their rooms! We also watched a brief DVD about firefighters and read, Corduroy goes to the Fire Station by Don Freeman.

**Mrs. Stefon** - Mrs. Stefon conducted a fun activity using pumpkin flannel pieces and a flannel board - She had the children learn a poem using words verbally and sign language!

**Language Art** - From our Reading Street program, we read, A Rainbow All Around Me by Sandra Pinkney. The children also practiced retelling stories and sequencing events (e.g. what happened first in the story, next, and last). We also read, What Do You Do With A Tail Like this? by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page. This is a wonderful book about how various animals use their body parts. For example, a platypus uses its nose to dig in the mud and a gecko uses its sticky feet to walk on ceilings. We made a booklet, "My Body" and discussed how we use parts of our body. Some of the children were able to read some of the words in this booklet, especially some of our sight words! We listened to a DVD "Listening Lotto: Where is Puppy?" - the children had to match what the person was saying to a picture on their card (e.g. The puppy is *inside* his doghouse; The puppy is *walking away* from his doghouse.)

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns!

K. Slyman, Preschool Teacher

Snacks for week of October 17, 2011`

Monday - Cheerios; Tuesday - Yoplait yogurt; Wednesday - Pepperidge Farms cheddar goldfish crackers; Thursday - cheese crackers with peanut butter; and Friday - choice