

Chebeague Pre-K and K News – January 7, 2011

We are off to a great start to 2011. Miss Sally read with them on Monday, and Anna Maine whom many of them remembered from summer swim lessons volunteered to read with them on Friday morning. Reading to your child is one of the most important activities you can do with your child.

Monday's weather was perfect for us to visit the nature classroom. I had a mitten in the feely box. The words they used to describe it included fuzzy, squishy, and soft. All great adjectives that I hope they will someday use in their writing.

On Friday we sang songs from our pre-vacation concert to the residents at the Island Commons and played the game "Snow bear, snow bear, who has the snow bear".

On Wednesday the K's joined their upperclassman in a GPS treasure hunt. Ask them about the equator and latitude (reminders include like a ladder or latitude/flatitude) and lines of longitude. We mentioned the Prime Meridian in the morning lesson but that is tricky to remember. Just important to know that there is a 0° line for longitude as well.

Snow is our new theme for the month. Spirit week crept up on me and I forgot to talk about it with the children but a note went home in their BEAR books. Monday is Animal Day and is open to interpretation. Of course they will need to remember to be polite, helpful, safe, and kind.

Following are some new works that have been rotated in.

Practical Life/Art

- Squeezing - clothesline hanging - swapped out to matching and hanging mittens
- Squeezing - baster
- Squeezing - medicine measurer transfer
- Spooning - snow themed objects to transfer and sort

Language

- Snowman puzzle
- In handwriting Pre-K students are working on writing numerals while the K's continue working on lower case letters.

Math

- New estimation jar item- glass beads
- New sorting and counting items
- I have started doing the midyear math assessments

History

- We swapped out our calendar to January. One child noted how few "x's" there were (stay home days) relative to December.
- Our calendar pattern this month is white/tan/white/tan as well as odd/even

Cultural

- Making an arch puzzle. I shared some images of famous arches in Europe.

Peace

- Our new peacemaker is Rosa Parks. The story was excerpts from If a Bus Could Talk by Faith Ringgold



K popcorn word this week: *them*
K spelling: *them* and *when*

Calendar updates

Jan 10-14: Spirit week

Jan 17 - MLK holiday

January 27: Report cards come home

Feb. 4: Island Commons visit



A moment of quiet listening in the nature classroom



Making various numbers between 10 and 99



Counting by fours with bead bars



Helping a peer learn embroidery



Math - new items sorting and counting



Making large numbers with base 10 materials

*Thank you for sharing your children
Miss Nancy*