

# Chebeague Pre-K News – November 2, 2012

On Monday the 22 we explored what wakes up yeast and watched it bubble and then on Tuesday we made pretzels to go along with Eric Carle's story Walter the Baker.

Later in the week we harvested bean plants from the garden and they had a blast hulling them. I thought the work might be out for a few days but they hulled them all immediately after the lesson. We also soaked some seeds and looked inside at the parts of a seed and planted seed garlic.

Last Friday was our fire safety day. Ralph Munroe (captain for Chebeague) brought Engine 4 and talked to the students about fire safety. We will be doing more with this over the next week. Please read the information that came home in your child's B.E.A.R. book about how best practices for fire safety.

Practical Life/Art - these works help develop hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills, and concentration:

- Food Prep - making pretzels, picking and hulling dried beans, planting garlic.
- New lacing works - colors onto pipe cleaners and lacing an apple shape
- Black was added to the easel with the message that it is a very strong color.

Sensorial - using the senses to discriminate:

- We continue to match sounds, and learn about shapes.

Cultural - science, history, geography, peace:

- Seeds - we soaked bean seeds and then pulled off the seed coat and found the little embryo. We have a seed/not a seed sorting work and another seed sorting work with 5 different types of seeds. We planted some bean seeds in soil and have some in a clear jar with water pressed against the side with paper so that we can watch them sprout.

- Our peace circles have focused on how children are the same and different all over the world. We read The Colors of Us and compared skin tones. This past week before I read them a story about Harriet Tubman I asked them about the pictures and they noted that the people in the story had dark skin. We talked a bit about how slavery was not very nice. More to come.
- Although we missed seeing the full moon with super storm Sandy it has been beautiful the last few nights. We will be talking about the night sky and the big dipper in the next week.

Language:

- Our handwriting lessons over the past two weeks have included P, B, M, S. and the number 9
- We are still reading stories by Eric Carle along with some seasonal favorites like The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything.
- The children are exploring syllables and are working on beginning sound sorts and rhyming.
- A new work is matching words to objects. An extension is that I then write one of the words for them on a little slip of paper and fold it up like a secret message. They love to unfold these and match them to the word.

Math:

- Making teen numbers
- New counting works - counting pumpkin seeds, matching ghosts and numerals, and fire themed counting.

Music:

- We explored how loud (fortissimo) and soft (pianissimo) influence how we feel about music. We have been singing and dancing to some Halloween themed songs.

## Calendar updates

Nov. 12: Veteran's Day/No School

Nov. 13-15 Pre-K parent teacher conferences



Pre-K bakers working on making pretzels. An extension of the story Walter the Baker



Matching numbers (on the clothespins) to the number of ghosts



Bean hulling - great fine motor work. Anyone have a bunch of beans they need hulled?



Look at the beans!



We planted seed garlic with Celia



Lacing the apple



Visual discrimination - matching silly ghost faces



Each disc has a quantity of fire related images (helmets, hydrants, trucks, axes, etc.) They count and then find the matching number card.



Matching of words to objects - all are 3 or 4 letters and phonetic. Then I write them a secret message for them to decode by matching.



We learned about fire safety and that fire people are our friends



Seed sorting. Visual discrimination and learning about different seeds. You can point out seeds that you use in cooking or that you can find outside.



After Ralph showed them all around the truck they broke out into a spontaneous 911 dance.

*Thank you for sharing your children!  
Miss Nancy*