

Chebeague Pre-K News – December 2012

The time between Thanksgiving and our holiday break sure went by quickly! Happy New Year to All! Our investigations transitioned from plants to learning about animals. First we sorted vertebrates and invertebrates and they then chose a vertebrate group - reptiles! Lucky for us Wyatt was able to share his sister's Russian tortoise, which was hugely inspirational.

Works in other areas of the classroom took on holiday colors and themes as we learned about St. Nicholas Day, Hanukkah, St. Lucia and Christmas. They made paper slippers which they left out for St. Nicholas, lit a menorah with yellow tissue paper every school day of Hanukkah, made and shared a baked treat for St. Lucia day and had a manger scene for retelling the Christmas story.

The children enjoyed being elves making a placemat and napkin rings for their families and on the last day before vacation decorating a cardboard gingerbread house.

Since it has been 4 weeks I am opting to share some images of them at work vs. listing new works or works refreshed with new themes.

Calendar updates

Jan. 10: Island Commons visit

Jan. 21: No school MLK holiday

Feb. 1: Early Release 11:30



Fine motor fun - Insert a golf tee into Styrofoam then add a marble to the top.



Our new author/illustrator is Lois Ehlert and they have absolutely loved Chicka Chicka Boom Boom



Pattern blocks- Visual discrimination & geometry





Care of the Environment and language (labels) -
Practicing table setting



Assembling a flashlight - sequencing and fine
motor twisting practice - so rewarding when it
lights up



Matching and Fine motor squeezing practice. A
miniature clothesline



Matching and fine motor squeezing - Match the
star clips to the correct color on the chip board.



Care of the Environment - We harvested the last
of the carrots. We twisted off the green tops,
composted the tops and then gave the carrots to
Mrs. Summa to fix for lunch.



"Snake dressing" A squeezing fine motor activity
using hair stretches and a rubber snake. So cute
to hear them saying "I am dressing the snake, I
am undressing the snake".



The children thoroughly enjoyed Wyatt Englund telling them about the Russian tortoise. They got up close looks, touches and then each drew a picture of Oliver, the turtle.



Elf work - stamping our holiday gift bags



St. Lucia, star girls and flag bearer bring back the light on St. Lucia day, December 13th.



Visual discrimination - Eight pairs of trees, each with a different arrangement of ornaments



Cultural - We found Sweden on the globe and they made their own little flags of Sweden



Thanks to the Birkett family for sharing their manger scene so that after a reading of the Christmas story the children had some 3-D materials to manipulate.

*Thank you for sharing your children!
Miss Nancy*