

Chebeague Pre-K News – March 23, 2012

Signs of leprechaun activity met the children on Monday. They eagerly followed the leprechaun's instructions to each find seven shamrock numerals strewn about the classroom. At circle we cooperatively sequenced them.

We have been reviewing the two dimensional shapes: triangle, circle, square, oval, and rectangle with Hap Palmer's song "The Shapes That Surround You". It works out perfectly for each of us to represent one shape. We have also been exploring the base cards for geometric solids. You can follow this up at home by looking at the bottom of a can (cylinder) or cone and noting a circle, or a box of cereal and noting a rectangle. Prisms are less common but great if you have them. Spheres, ovoids, and ellipsoids would only make a dot and are not considered to have base shapes.

We had a great visit to the nature classroom on Monday where we listened for birds and looked for holes in trees where birds have been poking around for food.

Other activities this week focused on birds. They wore their wings outside on Monday and later in the week each helped invert, stuff and color a life size model of a bird of their choosing. Two chose female cardinals, one the male cardinal, and one a red-bellied woodpecker. Showing them how I stitched them together on a sewing machine inspired them all to "write" a multi page story that they stitched together with the machine. It also inspired me to bring out an embroidery for them which they have enjoyed.

We had a special share on Friday when a student shared his pet parakeets.

Practical Life/Art

- Embroidery
- Pouring into multiple small opaque containers

History

- First day of spring - spring equinox

Math

- Many explored the bead chains this week. The 10 chain (counting by tens) has been especially popular in anticipation of 100 day.

Language

- Handwriting: P, R, K
- Two Little Blackbirds poem retelling
- Five Little Ducks story retelling
- We continue with Dr. Seuss as our featured author

Music

- Beethoven was introduced. I shared the intro to his 5th symphony and shared that due to a childhood ear infection he ended up going deaf. This was a new word for all of them and it sparked a review of our five senses. It also made me curious about bird ears. They have ears covered by a small skin flap and feathers on either side of their head. On Friday I shared a U-tube clip an orchestra playing part of Beethoven's fifth symphony.

Calendar updates

March 25: Our 100th day of school

April 6: Early release - teacher in service

April 13: Early release. - Conferences. Please fill out the form in your child's B.E.A.R. book.

April 15-19: Spring Break

May 7: The Pre-K's will have slightly extended days on both Monday, May 7 and Tuesday, May 8 for rehearsals. My best guess is 1:30 departure from hall both days.

May 8: Arts Night 5:30pm at the hall

*Consider putting sunscreen on your child, as the sun is high at recess time.

* Please continue to send slippers with your child so that we are not tracking mud into the classroom.

* Tick season has begun.



Concentrating on embroidering a circle



I am learning about the mommy cardinal



Trying out their wings. Many are also wearing their beaks.



The bird I chose is the daddy cardinal.



Teamwork exploring the base shapes of geometric solids



Listening to various bird sounds - Thanks to Bev Johnson for sharing this tool with us.

Thank you for sharing your children
Miss Nancy