

OCTOBER (OCTUBRE) 2014 ENRICHMENT NEWS

Our first weeks together have gone by so quickly. The children have made many new friends, and have become comfortable with our daily routine. Here are a few things we did this month.

September's (Septiembre) Thematic Unit was "Farm and Farm Animals". We talked about many farm animals and learned animal facts and their food products. We learned the names of both the mother animals and their babies. We played many games such as Animal Matching, Animals Sounds, and Animal Colors.

In language arts, the letters "P", "C", "G", "S", "T", "D", "H" were introduced. We identified items with the same beginning sounds of each letter. The items were then placed on the correct letter card. We enjoyed many stories about farmers and farm animals. We created our own story using the flannel board. The children took turns selecting a flannel piece and adding on to the story. We are such great storytellers! We even acted out the story "The Three Little Pigs".

In math, farm animals were placed in the corn table. The children rolled the dice, determined the number, selected the corresponding number card, and picked the correct number of animals. We sorted the animals by color and counted them. The children counted and placed black spots on cows and wheels on tractors. We estimated how many pigs (children) could fit on a mud puddle.

In science, we examined corn on the cob and named the parts. We learned how farmers grow the corn and what animals eat it. The children grew corn from a dry cob and monitored the progress. We compared brown, white, and blue eggs. Why are they different colors? We even turned an ordinary egg into a bouncy, rubbery egg (placed in white vinegar). After, we made "clucking hens" (vibration/ sound experiment). The children grew garden gloves with radishes and lettuce and charted their growth.

In the kitchen, we cooked corn on the cob, made pigs in the blanket (hotdogs and crescent rolls), and chicken feed (cereal, marshmallows, chocolate chips).

We have been working daily on the English/Spanish book "What is in the Barn?" The children cut the animals and glued them into their barns. We read them daily. This was a fun way to learn the Spanish names for the farm animals. Please have your child read their books to you. You will be amazed! We are blessed to have Senora Ruby in the afternoon on Tuesday and Thursday to help us with our Spanish. We are learning many new things.

Thanks for supporting Market Day. We see many of those products in the children's lunch boxes. They really are a hit! The monies earned from this fundraiser will be used for Gymster classes.

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The children are welcomed to bring in a movie for our "quiet time". Please make sure it is a "G" rated selection.

October's Thematic Unit is fall (Otono).

It has been a great beginning,

Barbara Conti

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