

MARCH (MARZO) 2015 ENRICHMENT NEWS

There was no mistaking that the Groundhog certainly did see his shadow! Everyone is anxious to go outside and breath the air. Hopefully, we will be able to take a winter walk soon.

February's Thematic Unit was Valentine and God's love for us all.

We talked about the Groundhog and shadows. Using flashlights, we went into the storeroom closet where it was dark. We had fun performing many experiments angling the light up and down and close and far to make our shadows larger and smaller and shorter and taller. We made shapes using our hands.

The letter "V" Valentine: We did many Valentine activities. The children traced their names and the letter "V" with red, pink, and purple pom-poms. The concept of first and last was introduced and developed. The children searched for hearts with their first and last names. They had to identify which heart came first (the left) and which heart was last (the right).

The children also used the laminate mittens and boots to continue the left/right and first/last concept. We played many fun games using left and right along with matching. We even danced the Hokey Pokey!

The letter "D" Delivery: We played postman and delivered letters (the alphabet both upper and lower cases) to the mailbox. The children had to identify the letter, it's sound, and a word that begins with the letter. The children also enjoyed playing our alphabet candy heart letter game. This also reinforces the letters and their sounds.

The letter "R" Red: We made many heart Valentines in art. Again, this is a great avenue to use in order to develop fine motor (painting, cutting, gluing), along with cooperative directional skills (assembly).

The children always enjoy the parachute. This is an activity that exercises great control. We played Hearts a Flutter. The children counted hearts and placed them on the parachute. Next, they followed many directives (fast, slow, up, down, ect) in order to keep the hearts from flying off the parachute. After, we counted all of the hearts that were left on the parachute as well as the ones that fluttered to the floor.

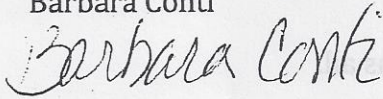
In science we made tube tooters out of paper tubes, wax paper, and rubber bands. We measured sound as to pitch, loudness, and softness. There was much discussion about the vibration (tickling of the lips).

February 18 was the beginning of Lent. We talked about GOD and HIS love for us all. The children have made great friends. The older children have been great role models for our younger students. They are so helpful and set positive examples for all. We work as a team, and the results warm our hearts.

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March's Thematic Unit is Dr. Seuss' Birthday, St. Patrick's Day, and the continuation of Lent.

Barbara Conti



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