

The page is framed by a decorative border featuring various colorful illustrations of frogs, dragonflies, and flowers. The frogs are in various poses, some green and some yellow. The dragonflies are blue and white. The flowers are pink and purple. The background is a light blue color.

APRIL (ABRIL) 2015 ENRICHMENT NEWSLETTER

Springtime (primavera) is always a welcoming sight. The sunshine lifts our spirits! We will go outside as much as possible. Please send your child to school prepared (coats, outdoor shoes, ect.).

March's Thematic Unit was Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's Day, and Lent/Easter.

Dr. Seuss: The children enjoyed many Dr. Seuss books. While reading "Green Eggs and Ham", the children listened for the words "green eggs and ham" and marked their papers with green dots turning them into eggs. How many eggs did you count? After, we made scrambled green eggs. In the book "Ten Apples on Top", it was a challenge balancing the apples. Before reading the story, everyone tried balancing a book on their head. We extended the story by counting (Spanish) and gluing ten apples in order (one through ten). We even played an alphabet game after reading "Dr. Seuss ABC". Dr. Seuss is a great tool reinforcing rhyming words. Using the laminate eggs (programmed with the letter "e"), the children held them in the air every time they heard a beginning "e" sound during story time.

St. Patrick's Day: What a wonderful opportunity to explore rainbows (arco). The children did many science experiments to find the color prisms. We learned about the order and colors of the rainbow, and even wore 3-D glasses to see the spectrums! We made rainbows with Fruit Loop cereal by sorting the colors and placing them in the correct order. Of course, we ate them too! It would not be St. Patrick's Day without the Leprechaun. We played many games in math by counting the gold coins from the pot of gold. We matched the lower and upper case coins and identified the sounds. We played a game by tossing colored lettered and numbered beanbags onto the correct color of the rainbow. In art, the children made rainbows by weaving the colored strips of paper through a cloud. In science, the children had fun changing ordinary water to green by melting blue and yellow ice cubes.

Lent/Easter: Our theme for Lent is "Jesus is in our Hearts". The children painted rainbow hearts for our religion board and hallway display. We discussed how we could be helpful and kind. We brainstormed many vocabulary words to guide us through Lent. Every Monday and Tuesday during Lent we gather together in the atrium to celebrate. Mrs. Critell along with the Kindergarten children lead us in song and prayer. This is a wonderful community builder. We have shared many Bible stories. We learned about Jesus and how He died for all of us, and how we should always have faith and trust in Him. The children are excited about the Easter Bunny. We have gone on many egg hunts. We counted, tasted, sorted, and patterned with jellybeans and eggs.

In addition to our regular sensory centers (dirt, water, sand, kinetic sand, corn, play dough), I have introduced filled balloons, sand foam, dirt dough, and water beads. The children love these centers and how quickly they became the favorite.

We learned the letters "E" - Easter Eggs, "G" - Green, "L" - Leprechaun, Lent, "J" - Jesus.

April's Thematic Unit is spring.

Happy Spring!

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