



COUNTRY CHILDREN'S HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Enjoy Fall Break with your families!

OCTOBER 2011



MATH & SENSORIAL

"S" & "#3" WEEK-Our number of the week was tres in Spanish and our color we reviewed was green, pronounced verde in Spanish. We reviewed the shape star. In math, some choice works included: sand sea shells-counting sea shells with a friend, spiders on a web and counting spider legs. In sensorial, we matched the different sounds using the sound cylinders and we talked about our 5 senses.

"L" & "#4" WEEK-Four in Spanish is cuatro and our color white is blanco. The shape we reviewed was a rectangle. Some choice works included: counting ladybugs & a lady-bug picnic # recognition work and a leaf matching. In sensorial we did the color links with the pattern cards.

"C" & "#5" WEEK-Five in Spanish is cinco & our color purple is purpura. Some choice works: a cake and candle number recognition game and a carrot counting game.



SCIENCE & GEOGRAPHY

"S" WEEK-We learned that spiders are not insects, they are arachnids. Every spider has 8 legs. Some have as many as 8 eyes. Spiders spin silk that weaves their homes or webs. We learned that a skeleton is not a scary thing, but just our bones in our bodies. We studied about our solar system. We learned a song that helps us learn our planets (with no more Pluto). We talked about the sun and learned that it is larger than any other planet. We learned there are 8 planets & we live on Earth.

"L" WEEK-Our planet is made of 2 parts-land & water. Land can appear as mountains, plains, deserts, forests & glaciers. We studied the landforms -lake, mountains, islands & valleys. We studied leaves and their many shapes, sizes and colors. They change looks for each season. In the Fall they change color and begin to fall from the trees. We read "Fall Leaves Fall" by Zoe Hall. We studied lizards and learned they are a part of the reptile family. We studied ladybugs and learned they are insects. They go through metamorphosis, the way butterflies do. We studied liquids vs. solids.

"C" WEEK-The land on our Earth is divided into 7 parts called continents. We enjoyed learning our continent song. We live on the continent North America. We studied clouds and the different shapes they make & the names given to those shapes. We learned that animals camouflage themselves by blending into the environment around them.



LANGUAGE & PRACTICAL LIFE

We worked on name spelling and name recognition. Here are a few suggestions to help with practicing this at home:

1. Have your child spell their name as you write it.
2. Have them write their own name. Teach your child to write their name with a capital letter first followed by lowercase letters. (This is expected in Kindergarten.) It is normal in the beginning for their name to be all over the paper. Encourage them to write it left to right, but don't discourage progress.
3. If your child has mastered their first name, start on their last name. *Remember this takes time.*

As many of you know, CCH has used a program called "Handwriting Without Tears" for the past six years as a part of our hand writing program. The entire state of Indiana has adopted this program to teach handwriting as well. This program complements the Montessori approach because it is a hands-on technique that the children build on depending on their level of learning. Visit their website to learn more about it at "hwtears.com".

As well as the sound box and letter gluing each week, we also did the following:

"S WEEK"-We will learn the letter of the week in sign throughout the year as well as some new songs and other new words. In Practical Life we practiced sweeping, scooping, setting and using scissors. We enjoyed sand paper letters & a match & spell game.

"L WEEK"-In Practical Life we worked on lacing, lock & key & laundry ironing. We read: When the Leaf Blew In.

"C WEEK"-In Practical Life we hung clothes out on the clothes line hanging (a favorite) and cleaned many different things in Practical Life. Practiced our letters in cornmeal. We read: If You Give A Cat A Cupcake & Curious George.

Art & Music



"S" WEEK-We created self portraits this week. We created sculptures together and sang songs. We enjoyed listening to the symphony in class all week. We created sunflowers like Van Gogh's famous sunflowers. "L" WEEK-We enjoyed creating leaf art. We created line art/drawings. This form of art reinforced what we learned about abstract art during "A" week. Created landscape art. "C" WEEK-We enjoyed classical music all week. We studied color all week by mixing primary colors together to create secondary colors. We experimented with the color paddle work. We made Cézanne watercolors.

MONTESSORI CORNER



Montessori method: A stimulating environment is created which allows children to absorb new experiences and knowledge through exploration in each child's individual interests & abilities. This type of environment allows children to learn unconsciously & without effort.