



# News You Can Use

January 24, 2020

## Large Group:

Tuesday/Thursday: This week we focused on direction following with location concepts. First, we sang the preposition rock song on our Tuned into Learning cd. The children moved scarves up, down, on, behind, in front, next to, and over. Then we read a book called “Where is the Mitten”. The children each had their own book and they manipulated the mitten to follow a variety of directional concepts including: over, between, beside, under, and on.

## Music and Movement:

Tuesday/Thursday: This week we had fun playing with our winter movement cube and shaking snowball on our parachute.

Wednesday/Friday: This week we had fun as we moved through the obstacle course.

## Literacy:

We enjoyed reading “The Mitten” by Jan Brett. The children had fun playing with the animal characters and placing them in a large mitten. The children practiced retelling the story, predicting which animal came next, and responding to “wh” questions. The children had so much fun after putting all the animals in the mitten---the bear sneezed and all the animals went flying out!

## Small Groups:

Cassi Small Group 1: This week the children had fun exploring the difference between hot and cold.

Cassi Small Group 2: In this group we gave each child a cookie sheet sprinkled with salt. We then gave them penguins frozen in colored ice. We were able to watch the ice cubes melt as the penguins skated on the cookie sheet.

OT Small Group 1: This week students worked on pre-writing strokes of drawing circles and crosses through painting with halved q-tips to promote a more mature grasp. They also worked on picking up pom poms using “pincher fingers” and glueing to the top of a winter hat. Great job everyone!

OT Small Group 2: This week students used various types of paint brushes to decorate a winter hat. We explored colors red, yellow, and green and worked on filling our winter hat with color, leaving less open space. Students were more focused and more independent this week with painting. Great work!

Speech Small Group: This week the children created marble painted mittens. We placed paper mitten into a gallon sized baggie. Then the children added paint coated marble to the bag. We zipped the baggie closed and then used our fingers to move the marbles all over our mittens within the baggie. During this activity we targeted direction following, expressive language skills, and increasing the communicative functions of requesting, commenting, and responding to questions.

## Choice Time Activities:

**Dramatic play:** Children continue to enjoy playing with the dress-up clothing. They are working on fine motor skills while putting on the boots, jackets, hats and scarves.

**Blocks:** The children have been busy building with the different types of blocks- wooden, Duplo and mid-size Legos.

**Feeling Table:** We continue to have the pretend snow available for the children to explore. We have added different items to keep it interesting for the children.

**Science Area:** This week we took advantage of the 'natural' snow. Children were able to use a scale to work on weighing the snow and magnifying glasses to take a really close look at the snow.

Your Team:

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