



News You Can Use

October 11, 2019

Large Group:

Tuesday/Thursday: We continued to enjoy our autumn leaves songs this week. The children also practiced the concepts : same and different during a leaf sort activity. They decided if the leaf pair was the same or different. We also did an adapted writing activity. First the children listened to a book called “Leaves” that can be found on Tar Heel Reader. This book focuses on the different colors of autumn leaves. Then the children created the sentence “I like ____ leaves” using symbols. They placed their sentence on the chart next to their name. On Thursday, the children glued their sentence on the bottom of a book page and colored their leaf the same color that they wrote about. The children will enjoy reading their book during quiet reading at the start of the day.

Wednesday/Friday: This week we worked on greeting, singing our core songs and the songs that go along with our unit of study. We also worked on color identification. Children were able to pick a color (red, orange and yellow) to go with our fall colors.

Music and Movement:

Tuesday/Thursday: We continued with our movement activities from last week: freeze song with leaves on the parachute, leaf action song, and scarecrow action song.

Wednesday/Friday: We started out with kiddie yoga and even did some wheelbarrow walking. We then sang and danced to the STOP song. We also played with the parachute and when we finished with the stop and go song we pulled the parachute over the heads of the children---they loved that!!

Literacy:

This week we read the book "The Leaves Are Falling One by One" by Steve Metzger. This children enjoyed singing the book and talking about the numbers, colors, and action words within the text. We practiced labeling the pictures and responding to simple yes/no and wh questions.

Small Groups:

Cassi Small Group 1: In this small group we explored different textures. The children were each given a dollop of shaving cream. We practiced making straight lines, circles, X, as for some we worked on writing letters and their names.

Cassi Small Group 2: In this group we made fall trees. Children cut the trunk using appropriate scissors, then glued the trunks onto the paper. Using brown paint the children made the branches and finally added the fall leaves with dot markers.

OT Small Group 1: This week we worked on our bilateral hand coordination and hand strength by snipping with loop scissors, marking with dot markers, and removing and placing small leaf and apple stickers onto a construction tree. Those stickers really made our hands work! Great work kids.

OT Small Group 2: This week we worked on coloring and decorating a construction tree by using finger paint and dot markers to work on tolerance of using classroom tools and tolerating sensory stimuli. Although messy and having Miss Dawn step onto the plate of paint, oops, we had a lot of fun and students did great!

Speech Small Group: This week the children made sun catchers. They put yellow, red, and orange tissue paper onto clear contact paper. When the paper was covered, we added a black frame onto the contact paper with a cutout of a maple leaf. They are currently decorating the window in our classroom. During this activity we practiced following directions, expressive language, and waiting our turn.

Choice Time Activities:

Kitchen/Dramatic play: This week we enjoyed playing with the food/baby dolls.

Blocks and Cars: In this area we worked on building trees with blocks (wooden, Legos, cardboard blocks) to top the trees off we added crumpled green tissue paper for the leaves.

Feeling Table: In this area we explored popcorn kernels and plastic fall manipulatives. We had cups, scoops and other fun things to transfer the corn and objects from one container to another.

Quiet reading: New fall/tree books were added to this area. Children are always welcome to go to the reading area during choice time.

Table Toy Activities: As always, the children are drawn to the Manga Tile pieces (if you are looking for a holiday or birthday present for your child---I would recommend getting a set of tiles). They also played a matching game with animals that live in trees.

I want to thank all of the families that sent in food for the Parent Teacher Conferences. Both nights were wonderful. Thank you for your continued support.

Important Dates:

Your Team:

Cassi Williston, Classroom Teacher

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Nicole MacKinnon, Classroom Speech Language Pathologist

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Susan Simnick, Classroom Physical Therapist

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Janice Jacklich, Teaching Assistant

Denise Cullen , Teaching Assistant