



# News You Can Use

October 25, 2019

## Large Group:

This week we continued to work on our phonics awareness and number concepts as we sing and dance to our favorite songs. We are exploring patterns as we fill in the calendar (ABABA). We have worked on the letter L (Thank you for sending in all the pictures). We sang some festive songs this week as well.

What do you get when you mix red and yellow paint? See if your child knows. We made pumpkins by adding the paint to ziplock baggies. Children had to mix it up to see the color change. They also were given a little cup and both colors of paint. Using a Q-tip they mixed the paint and then colored in a pumpkin. Some chose to use the pointillism technique while others filled in the entire pumpkin. Either way they did a great job.

During large group we took part in the Halloween Parade. We really lucked out with the weather being so nice.

## Literacy:

This week we read several stories: Trick or Treat Countdown by Patricia Hubbard, We're Going on a Ghost Hunt by Susan Pearson and Five Little Bats Flying in the Night.

## Speech Corner:

This week a pumpkin was hid in the mystery box. We created a visual map on the dry erase board with words describing the pumpkin such as: orange, round, bumpy, and

hard. Next, we tapped syllables of Halloween words such as pumpkin, jack-o-lantern, skeleton, and scarecrow. Finally, we made rhyming jack-o-lanterns. Each facial piece of the jack-o-lantern had a word on it and the children decided if it went on the -ig, -at, or -op.

## **OT Corner:**

This week we continued with our fine motor coordination and strengthening activities and continued with our Handwriting Without Tears writing. This week we learned how to correctly write the letter “F”. Students learned that an “F” is formed first with “Big Line down, then little line, little line”. Don’t forget, “We always start our letters at the top”. Students are also working on self-regulation, and learning body awareness keeping in mind their own personal bubble.

## **Choice Time Activities:**

**Kitchen/Dramatic play: Apple pie making.**

**Blocks and Cars: We measured using non-standard measuring tools (mini pumpkins and gourds and we made a class scarecrow using newspaper as the stuffing.**

**Feeling Table: In this area we explored floating items and non floating items. Children used scoops and strainers to gather floating apples and pumpkins.**

**Quiet reading: New Halloween and fall 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. Lincoln Logs, bristle blocks, magnetic ‘paper dolls’, apple sorting activities and lacing cards.**

## **SEL (Social Emotional Learning):**

We continue to work on self-control, taking turns, sharing and being kind to our friends.

### **Notes:**

\*We did not carve the pumpkins on Thursday as planned. After seeing the kiddos in their costumes, I did not want to get them dirty. We will carve the pumpkins next week.

\*Note all, but a few of our friends tried the applesauce we made on Wednesday.

**Important Dates: No School on Friday November 8th.**

**Have a great weekend!!!!**

Your Team:

Cassi Williston, Classroom Teacher  
[Cassi.Williston@cusd200.org](mailto:Cassi.Williston@cusd200.org)

Nicole MacKinnon, Classroom Speech Language Pathologist  
[Nicole.MacKinnon@cusd200.org](mailto:Nicole.MacKinnon@cusd200.org)

Dawn Kraus, Classroom Occupational Therapist  
[dawn.kraus@cusd200.org](mailto:dawn.kraus@cusd200.org)

Susan Simnick, Classroom Physical Therapist  
[Susan.Simnick@cusd200.org](mailto:Susan.Simnick@cusd200.org)

Denise Cullen, Teaching Assistant

Courtney Twilley, Teaching Assistant