



News You Can Use

January 24, 2020

Large Group: In large group we worked on counting, patterning, letter recognition, rhyming words. As we continue to learn about winter we made some comparisons between hot and cold. We even took a vote, Do you like hot or cold weather? Surprisingly enough we had a majority of kiddos choose hot.

We also talked about what causes ice to melt. We had cupcake tins filled with colored ice rounds. We placed one round into a cup. We then placed the cups in different areas of the room (on the heater, on the table, on the floor and one hanging out the window). We predicted the one on the heater would melt first. Yeah, we were right!

Special Activity: This week our wonderful PTA sponsored Jim Gill to come to our school and sing with the children. We sang, danced and had so much fun. Once again, the PTA has gone over and above to provide our students with quality activities and performances.

Literacy: This week we read the story *The Mitten* by Jan Brett. In this Ukrainian FolkTale a young boy wants his Grandma to make him white mittens. As children often do, Nikki lost one mitten. As the story progresses, different forest animals get in the mitten. As we read the story,

we added stuffed animals into an oversized mitten. The kiddos were very surprised when the animals went flying from the mitten.

Speech Corner:

This week the children were stumped! A scarf was hidden in the mystery box. In the process they came up with excellent describing words including: soft, warm, and long. Next, we answered our question of the day: "Which do you like better, penguins or polar bears". Penguins won by a landslide. We practiced counting the tallies in each column and then had a discussion about more and less. Lastly, we practiced the subjective pronouns "he", "she", and "they" in sentences. We sang a song about winter action verbs and used sentences such as "They are building a fort", "She is building a snowman", and "He is drinking hot cocoa" to describe pictures.

OT Corner: This week students participated in the Jim Gill concert during the typical day when OT is in the room. Jim did an awesome job of having them use their hands and fingers purposely during his songs and finger play. Students seemed to have a blast dancing and singing along. It was fun to attend with the students.

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.

Books: Children have at least one-two opportunities to look through books each day.

SEL:

We will be working on Skill 17: Sharing. Over the next week, please help reinforce this skill with your child.

Important Dates:

Your Team:

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