

Panda Bear News

We wish all of our Panda Bear families a wonderful holiday break, with experiences that build lovely memories.

November 21, 2014



Dates to Remember

November 26 - 28 NO SCHOOL:
Thanksgiving Break

December 17 Last Day of School Before
Winter Break



Classroom Happenings

“Time flies when you’re having fun” is a saying that definitely applies to the Panda Bear classroom. We followed up our exploration of shapes with a study of opposites. Listening and responding to books, games, and song, the children developed a better sense of this concept. For example, to the tune of “Shoo Fly,” we sang “Call out the opposite, call out the opposite, call out the opposite, the opposite of _____.” It was hard for the teachers to stump this smart class of Panda Bears. Opposite week ended with pajama day, full of tent and flashlight fun.

This week, we prepared for Thanksgiving (and Dad and Special Visitors’ Day) with all things turkey (or, as Miss Marsha likes to say, “turkey-lurkey”). With freshly washed hands, Panda Bears had the chance to sift, crack eggs, stir and fold in various ingredients for a special snack.

The children continue to enjoy the outdoors when weather permits; some are even getting the knack of bundling up themselves. We appreciate you sending your child in warm clothing—we try to the best of our ability to dress them with all their cold weather gear.

Next Up:

The Panda Bears will begin a short study of nursery rhymes as we head into our Winter Break.



Enrichment for Panda Bears

One of the many components that makes WUNS a high-quality preschool is its specialist curriculum.

In addition to all of the play materials and experiences indoors and out, Panda Bears enjoy four specialists throughout each month. Recently, Miss Liz from “Nature on the Move” visited and talked with the children about Native Americans and natural resources. Miss Liz always brings several artifacts that supplement her presentation; buffalo fur, deerskin, and antlers were available for children to see and touch.

Miss Laura, our music specialist, provides a wonderful time for children to explore rhythm, instruments, song and dance. When she visits (every other week), Panda Bears are eager to immerse themselves in this multisensory experience.

Miss Suzy, our art specialist, has met monthly with the children in her studio. Line and shape have been the focus of these lessons, and you will see the beautiful creations that come from her time with Pandas.

And finally, Señora Colleen has introduced Spanish to the children in weekly sessions. Through song and games, Panda Bears are learning to count, identify colors, and learn several food names. More information about all of the specialists’ lessons can be found on the WUNS website:

<http://nurseryschool.wustl.edu/curriculum/enrichment-programs/>

Until next time,

Colleen & Marsha

Books we’ve enjoyed during read-alouds:

Look Around: A Book About Shapes by Leonard Everett Fisher

Perfect Square by Michael Hall

The Shape of Things by Dayle Ann Dodds

Pick A Circle, Gather Squares by Felicia Sanzari Chemesky

Olivia’s Opposites by Ian Falconer

Hot, Cold, Shy, Bold by Pamela Harris

The Foot Book by Dr. Seuss

I’m A Turkey by Jim Arnosky

A Plump and Perky Turkey by Teresa Bateman

The Night Before Thanksgiving by Natasha Wing

