

Sun Bears Newsletter

January 19-30, 2015



Ocean: Week #2

The Sun Bears were so interested in learning more about the ocean, we continued this theme a second week! They experimented with dark oil and water to discover how oils can sadly pollute the sea and harm its creatures. They also learned some whales have teeth and others baleen, and then used a variety of materials to determine how baleen works- a fine toothed comb was among the most effective! The Sun Bears enjoyed some special snacks this week- they had fun making a whale out of a banana and crackers, and went fishing for goldfish with a pretzel rod. Lovely under the sea pictures were created by drawing bright creatures with crayon, and then covering the whole paper with blue watercolor. The kids found it magical that the wax repelled the liquid and showed boldly through the painted ocean water. We also added little blue whales to our ocean scene that were created with folded origami techniques. Finally, the Sun Bears worked for days on creating personal dioramas of the ocean. This required several steps of painting the blue water inside their boxes, making little creatures out of a variety of materials, and gluing together rather realistic ocean scenes with sand, shells, seaweed, fish and much more. Our bears are now ocean experts!!

OCEAN BOOKS

Commotion in the Ocean

Oil spills and taking care of the ocean

Sharks

Big Al

Humphrey the Lost Whale

Difference between whales and

fish



Community Helpers

The Sun Bears enjoyed learning about many different jobs and how each of them is very important to make our world function effectively and positively. Our room experienced a day of construction (and deconstruction!) as our bears created structures of all sizes ranging from stacking and balancing small plastic cups to showing great teamwork making a sturdy building out of big blocks with ramps and towers- hard hats were a must! On doctor day, the kids had fun being vets taking care of hurt and sick stuffed animals, giving each other eye exams by reading a posted letter chart with one eye covered, and slipping on white coats, rubber gloves and stethoscopes to provide human check ups. There were many shots, bandaids and stitches, but we all went home healthy at the end of the day! The Sun Bears learned the importance of brushing teeth when they observed two eggs that had soaked in coffee overnight- one was stained brown and one was still sparkling white because it had been coated with toothpaste before it's coffee bath. Tooth brushing is important to clean and also protect! The kids learned how to write a letter, address/stamp an envelope, and how mail gets from one place to another. We now have a class mailbox from which our designated mail carrier can distribute letters and notes to each SB's personal mailbox. They all love getting mail! Finally, we had a terrific team of Sun Bear firefighters at the end of the week. The kids were outfitted head to toe in firefighter gear with hoses in hands, and came to the rescue to put out multiple "fires." They also made little painted handprint camp fires with roasting marshmallows, and enjoyed a tasty snack of pretzel sticks stacked to make ladders and cups of fire colored jello. Our Sun Bears had a wonderful week being very impressive little "workers!!"

Community Helpers Books

The Little House

A Bad Case of Stripes

Moose's Loose Tooth

Miss Bindergarten Takes a Field Trip

The Gingerbread Man: Loose on the Fire Truck

Reminders

F 2/13 Class Valentine Celebration

*an email with details will follow

M 2/16 No School for Presidents' Day

A special welcome to Sabrina Perng who is our new Sun Bear! We are all happy she is part of our afternoon group :)